AEEC Spectrum Symposium: Ensuring Future Spectrum Compatibility

Perspective from International Airlines

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Fundamental Challenges on Airline Spectrum Use

Safety is paramount

Protection from harmful interference

Highly regulated aviation environment

- Stringent safety targets needed to be proven.
- Continuing performance monitoring and oversight

Require standardization and Global harmonization

- Aircraft and avionics operate globally
- Global technical interoperability
- Harmonized global/regional deployments and transition plan
 - Often requires continuing commitments from many stakeholders

Require supporting business case

- Operational benefits need to outweigh the cost to stimulate transitions.
- Streamlined and harmonized deployments at regional and global levels.



Recent Lesson Learned from Case on 5G vs Radio Altimeters

- Spectrum is a scarce resource with competing interest.
 - Safety argument is being challenged.
- Unresolved issues resulted in cancellation of flights interrupting traveling public and flow of cargo.
- Safe co-existence between aviation and 5G is possible, but requires
 - Early coordination and active engagements between State aviation and telecom authorities
 - Open dialogue and sharing of technical information and implementation plan
 - Leadership within governments to facilitate the interagency and inter-industry dialogue
 - Different technical culture: Issues on Safety vs Speed must be addressed early
 - Appropriate codified conditions/regulations by telecom authorities under agreement between aviation regulators and operators prior 5G auctions/deployments

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Moving Forward

- Necessary on-going collaboration between regulators, aviation and other spectrum stakeholders
 - Locally and internationally
- Medium-term: Through State regulation, mitigations needed to be in place:
 - ensure aviation safety and uninterrupted flight operations and services
 - supported by State aviation authorities
 - codified by State telecommunication authorities
 - provide stable, known implementation conditions to all stakeholders



Moving Forward

- Continuing engagements needed by both ITU and ICAO
 - Consistency and synchronization between ITU Radio Regulation and ICAO SARPs
 - Aligning ITU WRC Decisions with ICAO Assembly Resolutions
 - Linkage between the relevant works under ITU-R Working Parties and ICAO technical panels (CNS and Spectrum)
- Long-term: Known, stable and plannable global spectrum environment, particularly near frequency band allocated to aviation.

