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ASSEMBLY — 40TH SESSION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 12: Security – Policy

REMOTELY PILOTED AIRCRAFT – SECURITY PROGRAMME

(Presented by India)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	
This paper presents the progress made in the implementation of registration and monitoring Remotely Piloted Aircraft and their security programme in 2018.	
Strategic Objectives:	This working paper relates to Strategic Objectives: Security and Facilitation.
Financial implications:	Nil
References:	ICAO Circular 328 DGCA (India) Civil Aviation Requirements on RPAS Bureau of Civil Aviation Security regulation for Security Programme of RPAS

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1   Unmanned Aerial systems (UAS) which also includes RPAS are increasingly being used in India for various commercial and research activities.

1.2   Inputs from Central Security agencies have indicated that they are emerging as a threat to airports and strategic installations.

1.3   Recently airport operations at some airports came to a halt because of RPAS flying in the vicinity.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1   The increased use of drones for civilian applications has presented the authorities with regulatory challenges including the need to ensure that drones are operated safely, without harming public and national security.

3. RPAS REGULATION IN INDIA

3.1   The requirements for the operation of Civil Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) was issued by Director General Civil Aviation, India vide Civil Aviation Requirements (CAR) Section 3 – Air Transport, Series X, Part I, dated 27 August, 2018, effective from 2019.

3.2   As per the CAR, the owners/operators of Civil RPAS are required to apply for Unique Identification Number (UIN)/ Unique Aircraft Operators Permit (UAOP), as applicable, through Digital Sky (Digisky) Platform which acts as a single window for issuance of UIN/UAOP to ensure end-to-end traceability, accountability and traffic management.

3.3   The Bureau of Civil Aviation Security, the authority for civil aviation security in India has issued an Order for the approval of Security Programme of every registered RPAS in India.

3.4   The Order calls for details of the owner/operator of RPAS as per the template issued for carrying out the background checks of the owner/ operator of the RPAS and security vetting of the Remote Pilot Station and place of storage of RPAS.

3.5   The systems for controlling access to the remote pilot station shall be of equal standard to those already in place in the commercial aviation industry. RPA operator/owner shall obtain relevant permission from local administration, DGCA and Police before operation of RPAS.

3.6   The RPAS operator shall prepare Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), which shall contain the procedures according to the provisions contained in relevant sections of Aeronautical Information Publication (AIP)-India.

3.7   Penal provision against rogue drone operators under Indian Penal Code for violations of laid down security instructions during drone operations have been prescribed.

4. CONCLUSION

4.1   The Assembly is invited to support the implementation of registration of drones / RPAS / UAS and approval of security programme for owner / operator as well as the RPAS stations in other States also, and adopt a resolution for promoting global cooperation in the field of drones.

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