Recommendation ECAC/15-3

Procedures for Obtaining Readout of Flight Recorders when Conducting Aviation Accident and Serious Incident Investigations
RECOMMENDATION ECAC/15-No. 3
PROCEDURES FOR OBTAINING READOUT OF FLIGHT RECORDERS
WHEN CONDUCTING AVIATION ACCIDENT AND SERIOUS INCIDENT INVESTIGATIONS

WHEREAS substantial improvements in flight safety and in accident prevention could be achieved by increasing the effective use of flight recorders;

ACKNOWLEDGING that States conducting the investigation of an accident or a serious incident may not have adequate facilities to readout flight recorders;

CONSIDERING benefits which can be derived from co-operative arrangements;

HAVING REGARD to discussions at and resultant recommendations from the ICAO Accident Investigation Divisional meeting (AIG/92) proposing amendments to paragraph 5.7 and incorporation of a new paragraph 5.7.1 in ICAO Annex 13, both of which could become applicable in November 1994; and

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the findings of a survey among Member States showing the maturity and the feasibility of the above proposals and, therefore, pointing to the usefulness for ECAC to promote their earliest possible implementation,

THE CONFERENCE RECOMMENDS that, as soon as possible, Member States:

1) make effective use of flight recorders in the investigation of an accident or a serious incident wherever it occurred;

2) when conducting an investigation arrange for the readout of the flight recorders and, if not having the adequate facilities to perform the readout, use the facilities made available to it by other States, giving consideration to the following:

   a) the capabilities of the readout facility;
   b) the timeliness of the readout; and
   c) the location of the readout facility.