

Resolution on Necessary Measures for the Safe Transport of Lithium Batteries

Acknowledging that the carriage of lithium batteries on aircraft continues to pose a major risk to aviation safety due to the potential for thermal runaway, and the generation of smoke and fire, *and*

Recognizing that this risk is increasing as the lithium batteries industry continues to boom on account of the increasing consumption of rechargeable batteries in consumer electronics and a rise in the adoption of electric vehicles, *and*

Whilst the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the International Air Transport Association (IATA) have laid down restrictive rules and guidance for the carriage of lithium batteries and battery-powered devices available for shippers, ground handlers, airlines, and passengers, *and*

Witnessing the complexity in existing governments' regulations related to the carriage of lithium batteries leading to confusion in compliance and hence transporting undeclared lithium batteries in some instances, *and*

Commending the efforts of the European Aviation Safety Agency for initiating research to explore the feasibility of screening for lithium batteries in baggage, and including in the research the possibility of using security screening equipment with dedicated algorithms or software enabling for facilitating the detection of lithium batteries, *and*

Supporting the call of the industry through IATA's 2022 AGM for governments to further support the safe carriage of lithium batteries by developing and implementing global standards for screening, fire-testing, and incident information sharing, *and*

Recognizing the efforts of airlines in investing in various ways to mitigate the risks associated with the transport of lithium batteries such as developing safety risk assessments and mitigation measures for lithium batteries when transporting them in aircraft cargo compartments, providing awareness to passengers and shippers, and investigating the possibilities of fire-resistant containers, fire containment covers and bags, and in smoke displacement systems, and others,

AACO 55th AGM adopts a resolution as follows:

- 1- AACO 55th AGM calls upon governments to:
 - a. Increase awareness and training of the security staff at airports to detect and offload lithium batteries from baggage.

- b. Share safety data and information on incidents caused by lithium batteries.
 - c. Invest in technical, operational, and regulatory solutions for detecting lithium batteries.
 - d. Put enforcement measures on shippers and individuals to declare the carriage of lithium batteries.
 - e. Work under the umbrella of ICAO towards developing a legal instrument which allows the prosecution of shippers and individuals who fail to declare carriage of lithium batteries in baggage.
- 2- AACO 55th AGM encourages operators to report all incidents related to lithium batteries to support research in this area, and to provide data for the development of operational, technical, and regulatory solutions by governments.
 - 3- AACO 55th AGM calls upon screening equipment manufacturers to investigate into technology solutions for enhanced security screening x-ray machines at airports' security checks to offer automated lithium battery detection.
 - 4- AACO 55th AGM calls upon relevant technology providers to help airlines in their pursue for fire containment tools such as fire-resistant containers, fire containment covers and bags, and in smoke displacement systems.