



RECOMMENDATION ECAC/15-1

**OBJECTIVE OF AVIATION ACCIDENT AND INCIDENT
INVESTIGATIONS**

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OBJECTIVE OF AVIATION ACCIDENT AND INCIDENT INVESTIGATIONS

WHEREAS improvements in flight safety require a comprehensive and neutral identification of accident and incident causes without prejudging liabilities and apportioning blame; the latter functions being the purposes of legal proceedings;

HAVING REGARD to discussions at and resultant recommendations from the ICAO Accident Investigation Divisional Meeting (AIG/92) proposing amendments to ICAO Annex 13, paragraphs 3.1 and 5.4.1, which could become applicable in November 1994; and

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 Member States ensure as soon as possible that:

- 1) the sole objective of the investigation of an accident or incident should be the prevention of accidents and incidents. It should not be the purpose of this activity to apportion blame or liability, and
- 2) any judicial or administrative proceedings to apportion blame or liability should be separate from any investigation conducted under the provision of ICAO Annex 13.
