COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON MALAYSIA AIRLINES FLIGHT MH17, DESTROYED OVER EASTERN UKRAINE ON 17 JULY 2014

Recalling that Malaysia Airlines Flight MH17, a civil aircraft, was downed over eastern Ukraine on 17 July 2014 resulting in the tragic loss of 298 innocent lives;

Noting Resolution 2166 (21 July 2014) of the United Nations Security Council;

Stressing the need for a full, thorough and independent international investigation into the loss of MH17 in accordance with international civil aviation guidelines;

Noting the crucial role played by the ICAO in aircraft accident and incident investigations;

Welcoming the Netherlands initiative, as the lead investigator in accordance with Annex 13 of the *Convention on International Civil Aviation*, to send an international and independent team for the investigation of the loss of MH17, in coordination with the Ukrainian National Bureau of Incidents and Accidents Investigation of Civil Aircraft, following a request for assistance by Ukraine to ICAO and others; and

Considering the Preliminary Report of the Dutch Safety Board on the crash involving Malaysia Airlines MH17 which identified that the aircraft was destroyed by a large number of high energy objects that penetrated the aircraft from the outside;

The Council:

1. *Condemns* in the strongest terms the downing of Malaysia Airlines Flight MH17 over eastern Ukraine resulting in the tragic loss of 298 innocent lives;

2. *Expresses* its profound sympathies and heartfelt condolences to the families of the victims and governments of the victims' countries of origin bereaved in this tragic incident;

3. *Reaffirms* Article 3 *bis* of the *Convention on International Civil Aviation* and relevant ICAO provisions which condemn the use of weapons against civil aircraft in flight without prejudice to the provisions of the *Charter of the United Nations*;

4. *Welcomes* the leading role and efforts of ICAO, supported by States, organizations and industry players, for further improvement of international standards and sharing of best practices in relation to the safety of civil aircraft at or near conflict zones to prevent recurrence of such tragic events in future;

5. Urges States to take all necessary measures to safeguard the safety of air navigation, including the establishment of robust arrangements to identify, assess and share information and respond to risks to civil aircraft from activities in conflict zones, through, inter alia, effective coordination of civil and military activities within conflict zones and, if considered necessary when the safety of civil aircraft is deemed to be compromised, take appropriate airspace management measures within their jurisdictions such as access restrictions or the closure of airspace, or the issuance of advisories to airspace users;

6. *Supports* the ongoing independent international investigation led by the Netherlands, designated by the State of Occurrence, working in coordination with ICAO, representatives of concerned States and organizations;

7. *Instructs* the Secretary General to facilitate the work of ICAO in supporting the independent international investigation, including as outlined in the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2166;

8. *Calls* on all States and actors in the region to provide all possible support to international investigators, including to provide unimpeded access to the crash site which will be important to assist with the continuation of a secure and safe independent international investigation into the loss of MH17;

9. *Urges* the Netherlands, supported by concerned States and organizations, to continue and finalize the independent international investigation;

10. *Calls* on all States to provide all possible assistance to other investigations related to the loss of MH17 which may be undertaken by relevant national and international authorities; and

11. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

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