

## **U.N.'s Protection Weak**

CHICAGO — US-Citizens Aviation Watch Association is the leading public advocacy group focusing on aviation issues, whose mission is "Protecting the public's health, environment, and property; promoting safety; and advocating a sustainable, equitable and accountable aviation industry."

We are greatly saddened by the loss of life caused by the recent terrorist attacks and express our deepest sympathy to those directly affected by such loss, including the family and friends of the people in and around the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, the rescue workers, pilots, and the crews and passengers of the hijacked airplanes. Though we are often on opposite sides of the table from the air carrier industry on public health, environmental and safety issues, there is no conceivable conflict between our mutual disgust for those heinous acts.

It is in this spirit that we apprise the public of the upcoming International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) worldwide "Assembly" meeting, scheduled for September 25-October 5, and express our strong disapproval for the expected acceptance by the Assembly of a number of key environmental proposals. These proposals include a new but extremely weak "chapter 4" aircraft noise standard, a strengthening of "anti-phase out" provisions related to noisy planes, and a complete lack of any advancements in improved air, water, and also climate change emissions standards.

We intend to propose improvements for consideration for the Assembly meeting. We strongly recommend that ICAO change its mission from protecting the air transport industry, and instead change its mission to protecting the health, safety and welfare of the global populace first, above industry profits. The ICAO should begin to objectively examine the considerable damage that the air industry causes. The U.S. should take the lead on these very important environmental and public health matters.

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Editor's Note:

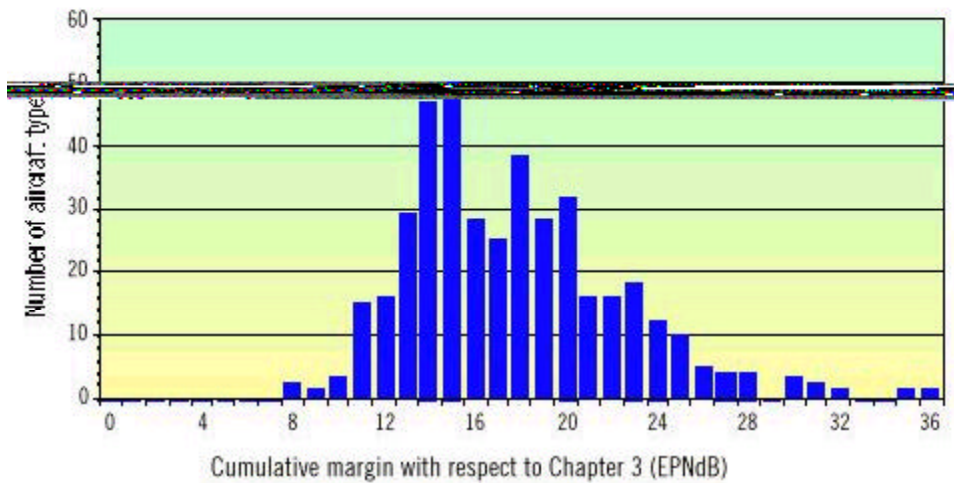
US-CAWA's Chapter 4 decibel suggestions follow the call of the European Union; the phase-out plans are US-CAWA's:

- An 18dB (decibel) reduction with a gradual phase-out:
- 10dB for ALL planes after 2003 (not just new production)
- 12dB for ALL planes after 2006, -18dB for new plane production
- 15dB for ALL planes after 2010, -20dB for new plane production
- 18dB for ALL planes after 2015, -23dB for new plane production

Citizens Aviation Watch Association is the leading public advocacy group focusing on aviation issues. The Association is comprised of local airport affected groups, environmental organizations and civic groups, cities and townships, and Baylor University School of Aviation Sciences who are concerned about noise, environment, public health, and other quality of life issues related to aviation operations. The Alliance is also a non-governmental organization representing member and associate organizations in 27 other countries.

[www.us-caw.org](http://www.us-caw.org)

The ICAO is an autonomous, specialized agency of the United Nations, the aims and objectives of which are to develop the principles and techniques of international air navigation and to foster the planning and development of international air transport. ICAO has a sovereign body, the Assembly, and a governing body, the Council. The Assembly meets at least once in three years and is convened by the Council. [www.icao.org](http://www.icao.org)



**Figure 1. Distribution of margins in aircraft types using today's best noise reduction practices.**

(Source: ICAO)