

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF CHINA
ON THE CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CONTINUING ICAO POLICIES
AND PRACTICES RELATED TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION - CLIMATE CHANGE
AND THE CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CONTINUING ICAO POLICIES AND
PRACTICES RELATED TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION - CARBON OFFSETTING
AND REDUCTION SCHEME FOR INTERNATIONAL AVIATION (CORSA)**

Madam President, dear colleagues,

The Chinese delegation came to Montreal with the greatest sincerity, hoping to bridge differences and build consensus with all parties through communication and negotiation with a view to forming balanced and feasible Assembly Resolutions. Regrettably, no full negotiation and consultation were conducted on the two resolutions on climate change and CORSIA at this Assembly. The two resolutions just adopted remain controversial. In view of this, this delegation would like to make the following statement:

The delegation of China commends the President of the Assembly for the extraordinary leadership and coordination demonstrated during this ICAO Assembly. We thank and salute you for adhering to a Party-driven, balanced, transparent and independent approach to conducting the meetings. This delegation equally appreciates the efforts made by the President of the Council, the Secretary-General and the Secretariat staff in facilitating the deliberations on climate change topics.

China is the largest developing country, and has made sustainable development its basic national policy. Guided and driven by the vision and national goal of carbon peaking and carbon neutral growth, China's civil aviation sector has implemented comprehensive measures that effectively reduce its carbon footprint while meeting people's needs for air travel, resulting in cumulative reduction of 400 million tons of carbon dioxide emission since the beginning of this century. The green ambition of China's civil aviation lies in its actions. We have developed a green, low-carbon circular development goal by 2035, and have identified ten priority action areas including technology, operation, market, and clean energy. With these concrete actions, China aims to make new and greater contribution to the sustainable development of global civil aviation.

The Chinese delegation always believes that emission reduction in international aviation is an integral part of global climate governance; as such it should follow the basic principles of global climate governance, in particular those established by the *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)* and its *Paris Agreement* - the principles of common but differentiated responsibilities, equity and respective capabilities. We should go along with the consensus of the international community on global climate governance modality, allowing States to choose independently their own mid-term and long-term goals and implementation paths that best suit their national circumstances.

Unfortunately, the tasks clearly mandated by the last Assembly, i.e. feasibility study on mid-term and long-term goals and strengthening assistance to developing countries, not only did not fully materialize, but are even in risk of being weakened or rendered void. Such an unconstructive approach is not conducive to maintaining the seriousness of Assembly Resolutions.

This Assembly adopted the two resolutions on climate change and CORSIA without adequate consultation and negotiation, forcing a goal of carbon neutral growth from 2020, rushing a global goal of net-zero carbon emission by 2050 for international aviation, and by way of CORSIA implementation, attributes the above goals to States, placing extremely unfair emission reduction responsibilities on developing countries, while not giving full regard to the legitimate concerns of developing countries on issues of assistance in technology, funding and capacity-building. The two resolutions lack fairness, scientific evidence and operability, and are inconsistent with the basic principles of global climate

governance and the principles and purpose of the *Convention on International Civil Aviation*. This is not conducive to maintaining the credibility of ICAO and the unity among member States, nor to ensuring the effective fulfilment of the mandate of the ICAO Assembly and the Council on matters of international aviation and climate change.

During this Assembly, with a view to promoting win-win cooperation and strengthening the implementation of the goals, the Chinese delegation put forward constructive amendments to improve the said resolutions. However, our reasonable inputs were not adequately reflected in the Assembly Resolutions. In order to maintain the status of the UNFCCC as the main forum for global climate governance, and to uphold the principles and purposes of the *Convention on International Civil Aviation*, the Chinese delegation is left with no choice but to express its reservation on parts of the two resolutions related to the global goal of carbon neutral growth from 2020 for international aviation, the global goal of net-zero carbon emission by 2050 for international aviation as well as the emission reduction scheme based on the above-mentioned goals, specifically operative paragraphs 6, 7, 9 and 17 of the Resolution on Climate Change and the full text of the Resolution on CORSIA. Our statement of reservation will be submitted in writing to the Secretariat after the meeting. Depending on the progress in the feasibility study on the above-mentioned goals, the progress in properly resolving the CORSIA equity issue, and the progress in building assistance mechanism for developing countries, China will decide whether and when to withdraw its reservation.

Meanwhile we must make it clear that China's determination in promoting green aviation development is sincere and unwavering; its actions are strong and consistent. We are not opposed to emission reduction itself; what we are opposed to is an unfair, rhetoric-style emission reduction scheme without feasibility study. We reiterate that, on the basis of mutual respect and mutual benefit, China will continue to deepen our cooperation on the ground with all parties on energy saving and emission reduction in the civil aviation sector.

Finally, this delegation thanks the interpreters for servicing the meeting!

Thank you!