



ASSEMBLY — 41ST SESSION

PLENARY

Agenda Item 8: Statements by delegations of Member States

STATEMENT BY PAKISTAN

(Presented by Pakistan)

1. I would like to express my profound regards on providing the opportunity to speak in front of this esteemed Assembly today. I would also like to express, at the onset, Pakistan's support to the policies and guidelines issued by ICAO relating to all aspects of Civil Aviation.
2. Pakistan also support the initiatives and programs of ICAO to assist all member States for promoting safe and efficient Civil Aviation system. As informed during last Assembly in 2019, Pakistan has gradually transformed its National Aviation Policy as a guiding tool for growth of Civil Aviation in Pakistan. The policy is under bi-annual review to encompass the latest guidelines and best practices particularly to address the effects of COVID 19. The revision in Policy rests on cardinal principles - Ease of doing business at Reduced Cost, Safety of Air travel and Facilitation.
3. Pakistan has undergone a major restructuring process and functionally separated the roles of Regulator and Service Provider, for effective compliance with ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices. In addition, an independent Aircraft Accident Investigation Board (AAIB) has also been established under Federal Secretary Aviation. These measures are testimony of our resolve to strengthen Safety oversight in the country.
4. It would not be out of place to mention that Pakistan successfully resolved ICAO Safety concerns after having qualified the USOAP Audit held during November – December 2021. We achieved 72.31 % Effective Implementation which is well above the industry average. The Corrective Actions are also being taken to address unsatisfactory questions and further improve our implementation.
5. I would like to apprise the esteemed Assembly about our contribution towards Air Navigation Services. Pakistan provided required assistance to Kabul FIR Contingency operation during evacuation of NATO forces from Afghanistan. In order to facilitate the transit flights passing through Pakistan, we extended our existing ATS route T400 reducing the flying distance of 101 NM for each flight.
6. PCAA has made significant progress with regards to Beijing Declaration and achieved overall 88% compliance in terms of transition from AIS to AIM. We have also substantially completed PBN Implementation Approach procedures. Other achievements include finalization of National Air Navigation

Plan 2019 - 2024, upgradation of ATM Infrastructure, installation of Automatic Dependent Surveillance–Broadcast (ADS–B) surveillance system covering entire Pakistan airspace.

7. In terms of infrastructure, a state-of-the-art greenfield airport at Islamabad has been made operational since 2018 in addition to development of International standard facilities at 07 major airports. PCAA has also opened Skardu International Airport to attract International tourism to explore breathtaking Karakoram and Himalayan Mountain ranges, Deosai Plains (World highest Plateau) and serene Lakes. Furthermore, Pakistan has already transitioned towards the liberalized market access and grant of rights to its bilateral Partners. Pakistan, in line with its National Aviation Policy, has encouraged its bilateral Partners to conclude liberal air services agreements.

8. Furthermore, Pakistan is continuing to devise, design and implement specialized measures to enunciate the security of Civil Aviation in the National Policy making. In line with ICAO Annex-17 and Doc 8973, Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority has established Directorate of Security to look after regulatory matters relating to Aviation Security. During USAPE-Audit in March 2021, PCAA secured a Sustainability Indicator score of over 81% which is amongst the highest in the region. In line with ICAO SARPS, Pakistan has been striving to further progress in the areas such as:

- a. Risk-based security
- b. Advanced security screening methods
- c. Continuous Monitoring Approach in auditing and compliance
- d. SeMS (Security Management System)
- e. Aviation Cyber Security Systems, and Insider threats.

9. I would also like to add that all Operators in Pakistan strictly comply with specific requirements set forth by:

- a. Department for Transport-UK
- b. Directorate General of Civil Aviation France
- c. General Authority of Civil Aviation Saudi Arabia
- d. Transport Canada, USA and
- e. European Union / ECAC.

10. This auspicious occasion calls upon the need to thank the esteemed Council of the ICAO, all Member States and Observers in attendance for the historic developments that have taken place in the Aviation Industry since Chicago Convention in 1944. I would also like to appreciate the role and resilience of all member States during the toughest times of Covid 19 pandemic.

11. Last but not the least, I would like to take a moment to thank Pakistan's bilateral Partners for their sheer commitment, devotion and cooperation in continuing to support the development of Civil Aviation in Pakistan in the recent years and rest assured, Pakistan will continue to exhibit its commitment and support to our bilateral Partners in the future.

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