



## **ASSEMBLY — 41ST SESSION**

### **PLENARY**

#### **Agenda Item 8: Statements by delegations of Member States**

##### **STATEMENT BY JAPAN**

(Presented by Mr. TOYODA Toshiro, the Head of the Delegation of Japan)

Distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen.

I am TOYODA Toshiro, State Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan.

#### **1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 On behalf of the Japanese government, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to ICAO Council President, Mr. Salvatore Sciacchitano and Secretary General, Mr. Juan Carlos Salazar for their excellent leadership in developing international civil aviation, and my respect to the Secretariat for their efforts in supporting ICAO activities.

1.2 I am honoured to reaffirm Japan's full support for ICAO's initiatives to pursue the sustainable development of international civil aviation, and to present Japan's overall viewpoint.

#### **2. COVID-19**

2.1 First, international civil aviation is showing a sign of recovery from the impact of the COVID-19, and Japan is also promoting relaxation of border measures, while maintaining a balance between prevention of the spread of infections and socioeconomic activities.

2.2 On the other hand, as threats of new variants and infectious diseases are expected to arise in the future, it is crucial to minimize the impact to international civil aviation, and for that purpose, Japan will actively contribute to ICAO's initiatives.

#### **3. ENVIRONMENT**

3.1 Second, we can afford no further delay in decarbonization of the aviation sector.

3.2 Japan's Mr. YOSHIMURA Hajime has been leading the discussion on "LTAG", a long-term aspirational goal for CO2 emissions reduction in international civil aviation, as the chair of the task group. We strongly hope that this ambitious and globally single LTAG will be adopted at this Assembly.

3.3 In addition, "CORSIA", introduced by ICAO, is the sole CO2 emissions reduction scheme for the international civil aviation. Japan has been participating in CORSIA from the beginning, and through "ACT-CORSIA", we are working to ensure that CORSIA is properly implemented globally. Japan will continue to maintain that framework in cooperation with other Member States.

#### **4. NEXT-GENERATION MOBILITIES**

4.1 Third, I would also like to refer to the new mobilities.

4.2 Japan is working hard to develop a system for aircraft certification and pilot licenses for drone, and to enable flights beyond visual line of sight (BVLOS) over people. In addition, the public and private sectors in Japan are working together to introduce eVTOLs.

4.3 Japan will contribute to the development of the environment for those mobilities, such as establishment of international rules and standards, in order to develop safe next-generation mobilities.

#### **5. AVIATION SAFETY, AVIATION SECURITY AND AIR TRAFFIC SERVICES**

5.1 Besides, it goes without saying that initiatives for aviation safety, aviation security, and air traffic services are of great importance, and Japan will deepen its efforts and contribute to the progress of initiatives in the world.

5.2 Meanwhile, the repeated ballistic missile launches by North Korea threaten the peace and security of the region and the international community. We strongly condemn this violation of relevant UN Security Council resolutions, as well as the significant threat it poses to the safety of international civil aviation. Japan will continue to work with ICAO and States concerned to require North Korea to fully implement its obligations under Security Council resolutions and fulfill its obligations under the Chicago Convention.

5.3 The violation of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Ukraine by the Russian Federation, including its sovereign airspace, is inconsistent with the principles of the UN Charter and Article 1 of the Chicago Convention. Furthermore, the dual registration of aircraft and permitting the operation of those aircraft without valid certificates of airworthiness are fundamental issues for aviation safety, and we strongly condemn all of these.

5.4 We also strongly condemn the series of actions taken by Belarus in May last year regarding the forced landing of a civilian aircraft, which undermines the safety of international aviation.

5.5 It is absolutely necessary to take firm action against acts that threaten the safety of international civil aviation, and Japan is determined to cooperate closely with ICAO and other States concerned.

## 6. CONCLUSION

6.1 Finally, Japan will support substantive participation in ICAO meetings and other activities by all members of the international civil aviation community who are active in the community and adhere to international rules. As the participation of those active members is essential from the perspective of ensuring the effectiveness of global policies such as safety, security, and environment, Japan does not want to see a geographical blank in these areas.

6.2 In addition, since ICAO is tackling various issues with a limited budget and human resources, Japan believes that efficient execution of projects and appropriate allocation of human resources are the key.

I wish you all the best for this Assembly.

Thank you.

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