

International Civil Aviation Organization

WORKING PAPER

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ASSEMBLY — 41ST SESSION

PLENARY

Agenda Item 8: Statements by delegations of Member States

STATEMENT BY HON. DATUK SERI IR. DR. WEE KA SIONG, MINISTER OF TRANSPORT MALAYSIA

(Presented by Malaysia)

President of the Assembly President of the ICAO Council and Secretary General of the ICAO Honourable Heads of Delegation Ladies and Gentlemen

Introduction

1. It is indeed an honour for me, to represent Malaysia and address this 41st Session of the ICAO Triennial Assembly. We are here today in recognition of the leading role of ICAO in ensuring the safe and orderly development of international civil aviation. I take this opportunity to reaffirm the Malaysian Government's commitment to the Organization. Malaysia appreciates the work done by ICAO and we assure you of our fullest support.

Malaysia's Commitment

2. Malaysia will continue to actively support ICAO in its ongoing mission to enable a global air transport network and the strategic objectives on safety, air navigation, security, air transport, and environmental protection. We have always prioritised compliance to ICAO and will continue with this practice. Malaysia also supports new initiatives and the adoption of new standards in shaping the future of global aviation.

Strengthening The Role Of Civil Aviation Authority Malaysia (CAAM)

3. The Department of Civil Aviation Malaysia which was incorporated as the Civil Aviation Authority Malaysia (CAAM) in 2018 pledges to contribute to the development of Malaysia's civil aviation technical sector and mandated to comply with ICAO's standards in order to keep aviation safe, secure and efficient.

4. To further strengthen the role of CAAM, the Government of Malaysia is undertaking a transformation programme to turn CAAM into a sustainable and performance-based organisation. This transformation will allow more flexibility in training and hiring of qualified technical personnel.

5. Beyond the regulatory and oversight functions, CAAM is also committed to encourage, promote, facilitate, and assist in the development and improvement of civil aviation capabilities, skills and services in Malaysia by providing technical and consultancy services relating to civil aviation, as well as providing education and training in this industry and promoting research and development of the civil aviation sector.

Reviving Aviation, Rebuilding Connections

6. As the aviation industry looks beyond the pandemic to survive, all industry players must devise coping strategies to adapt to the new normal. It is equally essential that States take appropriate and coordinated actions to stabilize and support their aviation industries as aviation provides connectivity and drives national prosperity and job growth, and enables broader economic recoveries. Indeed, aviation remains one of the "global" industries that connect people, cultures, and businesses across continents.

7. With the resumption and continuous rise in air travel both locally and globally, a solid understanding of aviation consumer protection and its evolution is integral to the industry's recovery. This is particularly relevant given the rapid pace of digitalisation, which has not only facilitated greater access to information but has also called for the industry to devise new and innovative solutions in air travel to ensure the protection of consumer rights.

Environment

8. Malaysia recognises the importance of environmental sustainability and pledges to fulfil Sustainable Development Goals 13 (SDG 2030) in line with the Paris Agreement towards reducing carbon emissions by 45% by 2030. Malaysia is also one of the earliest states to participate in the pilot phase of the CORSIA voluntarily.

9. Considering the serious impact and the unprecedented challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Malaysia recognizes the urgency to build back through green recovery. As a signatory to the Paris Agreement, Malaysia has committed to reduce its economy-wide carbon intensity (against gross domestic product [GDP]) of 45% in 2030 compared to 2005 level. Malaysia also aspires to achieve net-zero GHG emission target earliest by 2050, pending the completion of its Long-Term Low Emissions Development Strategy by 2022.

10. While Malaysia supports LTAG as a collective global aspirational goal, it should not inhibit the growth of aviation industry and its related business especially in the developing countries. Malaysia believes that promoting cooperation and solidarity among States will ensure that action to combat climate change can be taken globally based on equality of opportunity.

11. Malaysia is of the view that the implementation of a LTAG should recognize the differences in each State's conditions and capabilities. Factors such as degree of development, aviation market maturity, and sustainable growth of international aviation will indicate their ability to respond to climate change challenges. In this situation, capacity building assistance will help to narrow down the challenges.

No Country Left Behind

12. As a testament to Malaysia's support of ICAO's 'No Country Left Behind' and 'Next Generation of Aviation Personnel' initiatives, Malaysia has provided fellowship training to aviation personnel from Member States of regional groups such as Latin American Civil Aviation Commission (LACAC), African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC), Arab Civil Aviation Commission (ACAC) and the Caribbean Aviation Safety and Security Oversight System (CASSOS) to strengthen, promote, and develop through mutual co-operation in the field of training for aviation personnel.

Malaysia Technical Cooperation Program

13. Through the Malaysia Technical Cooperation Program (MTCP), Malaysia has trained more than 400 aviation personnel worldwide at the ICAO-accredited Malaysia Aviation Academy (MAvA). Malaysia, a full member of the ICAO TRAINAIR PLUS Programme, is keen to expand the training programmes in aviation to promote a cooperative and collaborative environment with regional organisations and ICAO in addressing the challenge of continued supply and availability of skilled personnel.

Safety and Security of International Civil Aviation

14. Malaysia is seriously concerned over any activities which could potentially endanger the safety and security of international civil air navigation.

15. Malaysia is committed to the fundamental concept of State Sovereignty in the Chicago Convention and relevant international civil aviation law, Malaysia reaffirms its support for the actions and measures taken in ensuring the safety and security of international civil air navigation.

16. Malaysia is of the view that it is important for all Members to achieve best possible peaceful solution in resolving any conflict.

Malaysia's Re-Election To The Council of ICAO

17. Malaysia is seeking re-election to the Council of ICAO at this 41st Session among countries under Part III. We attach great importance to our role in the Council to achieve the five comprehensive strategic objectives of ICAO for the 2023-2025 triennium. We will work with all Contracting States in representing the interest of Asia Pacific States. Therefore, we humbly ask for your endorsement and support for Malaysia's membership on the Council to effectively serve ICAO.

Conclusion

18. Let me conclude here by once again acknowledging, ICAO's leading role in the global development of aviation and reiterating Malaysia's commitment to the Organisation. Malaysia pledges to make further contributions to ICAO and share our expertise and experiences with other member states. Malaysia reaffirms our commitment to work with ICAO and the international community for global aviation.

Thank you.