



## **ASSEMBLY — 41ST SESSION**

### **PLENARY**

#### **Agenda Item 8: Statement by delegations**

#### **STATEMENT BY THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION**

(Presented by the United Nations – International Labour Organization)

Distinguished Delegates and Observers,

I am presenting this statement on behalf of the United Nations, International Labour Organization (ILO).

#### **1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The ILO was established in 1919 and is a regulatory agency that has tripartite constituency by bringing together workers, employers and governments to discuss the most pressing issues facing the world of work, for example, inclusive growth and decent jobs, protecting workers and sustaining enterprises, social protection, and a just transition to carbon neutrality.

1.2 Aviation has been one of the first economic activities that was hit hard by the pandemic in a very short period of time. And while travel did rebound strongly this summer, shortages were evident across the sector and in a range of occupations. The effects of the pandemic are a constantly moving target because of the latest developments, mutations and changing restrictions.

1.3 The recovery needs to be human-centred and one that is green, socially sustainable and inclusive; one that promotes social dialogue with the active participation of labour as a way to find innovative and socially responsible solutions. The recovery also requires integrated approaches to policy making to ensure enabling environments for aviation enterprises.

#### **2. POLICY COHERENCE: 2022 ILO-ICAO AGREEMENT**

2.1 It really does make little sense for each part of the international system to deal with its own particular mandate in isolation from all the others and this is, of course, the logic of policy coherence. In this sense, on 15 March 2022, ICAO and the ILO renewed their commitment to “Deliver as One” by signing a cooperation Agreement to strengthen decent work in the aviation sector.

2.2 This closer collaboration was formalized in relation to areas of common concern and interest, including: women and aviation, the future of decent and sustainable work in aviation, and data

collection. The Agreement is of course aligned to ICAO's strategic objectives but also to the ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization and the ILO Centenary Declaration for the Future of Work. These all reaffirm the ILO's Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work.

### **3. ENSURING THE LONG-TERM SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY OF THE SECTOR**

3.1 This sector provides an opportunity for a transformative and proactive agenda for gender equality, as progress for women has been slow, because of the gender gaps in a range of aviation occupations. The ILO published in 2020 a Working Paper with a gender and sectoral lens that constitutes a first step towards exploring some of the decent work challenges and to identify opportunities to further diversify this sector and accelerate the achievement of gender equality.

3.2 During this Assembly session, the ILO has also co-sponsored a Working Paper for Agenda item 26 and an Information Paper for Agenda item 21. Attracting and developing the aviation ecosystem's workforce to ensure the industry's long-term sustainability and resilience will require a decent work approach. The ILO stands ready to collaborate with ICAO and aviation constituents to support their efforts and ensure socially sustainable growth and a recovery based on the Decent Work Agenda during these challenging times.

### **4. INVITATION TO 2023 ILO AVIATION MEETING**

4.1 Finally, the ILO will convene a sectoral Technical meeting in April 2023 for the aviation sector. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss opportunities and challenges relating to best practices in occupational safety and health and the promotion of decent work and productive employment to shape a green, sustainable and inclusive economic recovery of the aviation industry beyond the COVID-19 pandemic.

4.2 Distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen: I extend to you my wishes for a successful and fruitful 41st Session of the Assembly. Thank you.

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