

International Civil Aviation Organization

WORKING PAPER

A41-WP/592 P/32 19/9/22 (Information paper) English only

ASSEMBLY — 41ST SESSION

PLENARY

Agenda Item 8: Statements by delegations of Member States

STATEMENT BY JAMAICA

(Presented by the Hon. Audley Shaw, CD, MP Minister of Transport and Mining Jamaica)

ICAO Secretary General, Mr. Juan Carlos Salazar Hon. Ministers and Heads of Delegations President of the ICAO Council, Mr. Salvatore Sciacchitano Members of the ICAO Council Your Excellences, Ambassadors and Delegates to ICAO Members of the media Ladies and Gentlemen

I extend my warmest Jamaican greeting to all. This is, indeed, a moment of great honour to represent the Government of Jamaica at this significant occasion in aviation history.

The Aviation industry continues to navigate these tumultuous times including the continuing international public health and associated challenges. Amidst the turmoil, the strengths of the ICAO and other UN institutions have proven the adage, that unity and collaboration remain the most indefatigable forces. Aviation continues to rise through an unyielding spirit of resilience and collaboration. Indeed, we recognize the importance of an inclusionary, agile, context-specific, but non-standards compromising approach, as we collectively assure and deliver on our trademark safety, efficiency and indispensable value promise.

Distinguished representatives, ladies and gentlemen, the aviation industry is at a most important crossroad, as it confronts economic, sustainability, ecological, value-based and other challenges. Imperative to the survival and welfare of the industry are efforts to facilitate a progressive, united and stable recovery from the ravages of the pandemic.

As indicated by the richness of representation here today, every state, entity and region, are important for the regeneration, strategic pivoting and sustainable growth of the aviation industry. Challenges and environmental issues are not novel for the industry, but form the basis and a necessary catalyst for eliciting common responses and solutions, within the aviation industry and the industries it serves. Jamaica's commitment to the industry's regeneration, stabilization and growth objectives remains clear. With aviation as a bedrock industry for Jamaica, our country recognizes and supports that robust economies and a progressive international community require strong air transport industries for survival and growth. Through careful planning, continued restructuring and development, Jamaica's air transport industry is positioned to ensure sustainability and progress, not only for our nation, but our regional and international counterparts.

Aviation continues to be a business of relationships, and our network extends beyond aviation to include tourism, trade, international connectivity and a variety of high-tech and high-value industries, which are dispersed in nations across the world.

Safety, undoubtedly, remains unchallenged as the transcending and underlying value that guides our region's aviation and air navigation services operations. Jamaica has, therefore, continued to play an active and, often, leading role in regional initiatives, related to the targeted implementation of ICAO's Global Air Navigation Plan and the Global Aviation Safety Plan.

We also continue to assume both vanguard and supportive roles, in the Caribbean Aviation Safety and Security Oversight System. Our participation in these fora has enabled us to support the sharing of expertise and lessons learnt, while standardizing the approaches to regional safety oversight, in areas such as licensing, aviation security, certification, inspection and surveillance.

Reduction of the Region's carbon footprint

Jamaica has further positioned herself to support the acceleration of the world's objective of reducing the industry's carbon footprint. As an island state dependent on the rich flora and fauna of our landscape, we remain committed to the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA), as we collaborate to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from international aviation.

There are ongoing activities to ensure the production of technical guidelines to support national regulations that will streamline operations in our local industry, while contributing to regional and international partnerships for a "green and clean" environment.

As we support sustainability, stability and growth through Air Navigation Services modernization, Jamaica also continues to support regional strategies to accelerate the transition towards what has been termed "a total performance management system" in aviation. This will be critical for facilitating more seamless integration of processes, infrastructure and standards.

As Jamaica prepares to play an even more robust leadership role in efforts to support ICAO's global and regional industry objectives, the nation is seeking to actualize this position by presenting Jamaica's candidature for election to the International Civil Aviation Organization's Council Seat (Part III) for the 2022-2025 Triennium. Through service as an ICAO Council member, Jamaica proposes to harness its expertise, collaborative approaches and successes to be a key enabler of regional and international aviation development.

As Jamaica reflects on the opportunity to preside over the 40th ICAO Assembly as represented by Director General of the Jamaica Civil Aviation Authority, Mr. Nari Williams-Singh, we look forward to another successful ICAO Assembly and triennium, as air transport solidifies its legacy as the safest and most progressive mode of transportation worldwide.

May the collective wisdom emanating from these deliberations constitute valuable material for all participants, as we support the development of an air transport community (that serves all nations and humanity) *that leaves no one behind*.

I close with the reflection that, in aviation, it remains appropriate to liken our need for collaboration to an aeroplane plane attempting to fly with one wing - *we can only fly or achieve common objectives, when we embrace each other*". *One love!*

-END-