

OPENING REMARKS
Presented by Dr. Ali Ariduru
Director General
Directorate General of Civil Aviation, Turkey

Distinguished Participants,
Dear Guests,

First of all, I would like to welcome you with love and respect and by expressing my pleasure to see you in the vanishing point of the continents in Istanbul, the eye of the Turkiye

It is a honour for me and for my country to be selected as the host country for the ICAO Conference, which's the first one was held in Dubai in November. This provides the opportunity to the ICAO Secretariat on behalf of all participants and the country would send my thanks. I would like to thank on behalf of my country and all of the participants to the ICAO Secretariat who provided this opportunity to us.

I would like you to know how happy and glad I am to entertain you in Istanbul which will be the European Capital of Culture in 2010.

International air transport, in addition to ICAO standards and recommended decision, is being carried out by the 4000 Bilateral Air Transport Agreement which regulates the rights of member states and were registered by ICAO.

Thanks to ICAO as we believe it would become a traditional, Member States discovered that by saving money and time they would meet with their existing and potential partners to make negotiations.

Distinguished Participants,

As we all know, the air transport stands out as an important and indispensable service sector as a catalyst for socio-economic development for all countries including Turkey.

This situation of these sectors, will be managed in accordance with international rules and to fulfill the obligation of membership to establish a new organization requires.

This situation makes it necessary to establishment of a new organization that will be administrate the said sector appropriate with the international rules and will fulfill the obligations of membership.

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation which works for the administration and development of the sector and also to ensure aviation security appropriate with the international standarts, was restructured.

In this context, harmonization of the legislation which are published by the organizations such as ICAO, ECAC, the European Union, EASA, EUROCONTROL has been speeded up.

Distinguished Participants,

With the aim of providing Turkish citizen high quality service based on equal opportunity by liberalization of air transport as a result of overwhelming support of our government we have implemented many important projects.

Only the two years after the projectTurkiye reached 55 million passangers which the international organizations predicted for 2015 and showing more improvement than estimations, has achieved this number before 10 years.

I want to share some photos with you to show the point where we are.

The domestic flights which were from 2 points to 25 center in 2002, is now from 5 points to 45 center.

The number of passangers carried in domestic lines which was 8,5 million in 2002 increased four times and reached to 34,5 million while the international passangers raised to 41 million from 25 million. So that, the passanger number in both domestic and international lines reached totaly to 74 million.

By the end of August in our airports in 2009, 56 million 283 thousand passangers were serviced.

In 2002 the turnover of air transport business was approximately 2.2 billion dollars today has exceeded 8 billion dollars.

Number of staff working in the aviation sector which was 48 thousand 790 in 2002, today reached 100 thousand. In short, approximately 50 thousand people employed within the last 6 years.

In short,

The number of passengers has increased four times in the last period, the number of aircraft has increased hundred percent and the Turkish citizens started to fly.

Today there is 17 Airline 3 of them is cargo, 66 Air Taxi, 31 General Aviation,11 Balloons and 40 Agrochemical Enterprises.

In addition to 32 maintenance organization totaly 62 training organisation 16 of them is flight training and 14 of them is type training acts with the aim eliminating the need of training and maintenance of sector.

Distinguished Participants,

We are planning to increase the number of our bilateral air transportation agreements to 100 which is 37 in Europe, 37 in Asia, 16 in Africa, 5 in USA and 2 in Australia and totaly 97 today.

Our Directorate General had bilateral civil aviation negotiations with 21 Country in the first nine months of 2009.

In paralel with the said rise, Türkiye continues to grow in international flights by reaching to 13. Line from 15. with the number of passengers which was 41 billion in 2008 who used international flights.

While the number of points were 78 in 2002 , reached approximately to 130 today; the number of transit passengers has increased 11.6 percent in the first 6 months of 2009.

Distinguished Participants,

Following the global economic crisis,Türkiye has been the only state whre the air traffic continued in Europe and also this has been confirmed by EUROCONTROL.

Airport every day to work towards increasing infrastructure Turkey, within the framework of ICAO standards, has certified 16 grains Airport.

Türkiye who continues to work on airport infrustructure, certified 16 Airports within the standards of ICAO.

With a view of continue all these developments in sector, instead of making new airports improvement of the standars and upgrading the infrustructure of the existing airports is being attempt.

During this period,6 of our airports services to our citizents as specified. In addition to this, the extra-budgetary funding model and known as Turkish model ,Build-Operate-Transfer model was applied.

At the point reached, our airport terminal operators by winning many international tender in abroad with their experience gained as a result of successful works inside, has acquired prestigious place in the world on terminal building and management.

Distinguished Participants,

The safety, security and environmental issues which are in the strategic objectives of ICAO, have also special attention and priority for Turkey.

Our Directorate General sees the implementation of international standards and programmes on safety and security in our country with the aim of withdraw the accident and incidents to minimum level even to ensure zero-level by developing the existing system and operation level.

Within the ICAO Global Safety Oversight Programme (USOAP) 3 safety audit has been done in our country on 2000, 2003 and 2007.

The report prepared after the last USOAP audit in our country in 2007 showed that Turkiye has 50 percent better performance than the average of 190 member states on the implementation of ICAO rules.

It has great importance to have close contacts with the European Union (EU) Countries for harmonization and application level of aviation safety standards
Within the Europe particularly in the area where we are.

Our country which is in the EU candidate countries has speeded up the works on full integration to European civil aviation system and in this context Cooperation Agreement was signed with EASA.

On the other hand, as the growth and sudden development in Turkish aviation sector brings the necessity of incrasement of safety measurements the audits on flight safety known briefly as SAFA has been accelerated in all of our airports which are opened to international traffic mainly the Atatürk and Antalya airports.

DGCA Turkiye has started the work with the slogan of “2009 audits in 2009” earlier in this year and with 900 SAFA audit of the foreign aircrafts and 327 SANA audit of the Turkish registred aircrafts , DGCA Turkiye has reached totaly 1227 audits .

If necessary to touch briefly the works in the ATM field to ensure aviation safety airspace medernization Project called SMART was initiated to preserve aviation safety.

With this Project while it is planned provide safer service for aircrafts which are using the Turkish airspace and also effective use of traffic thus to save fuel to provide positive contributions to the environment.

In the field of aviation security in our country, the security measures taken in accordance with international standards without compromising the public's safety and on the other side by giving minimum discomfort to the passaengers.

The convenience of the security measures in our country with the ICAO and ECAC norms are supervised regularly by these organizations.

Owing to participation voluntarily and being succesful in the said audits, our country is ready to support and have cooperation in international audits .

Valuable Participants;

Performing our liabilities on environment and providing liveable, beautiful and clean world to next generations is one of the main responsibilities of the human being.

We believe that the High Level Meeting which will be organized in Montreal from 05 to 07 October 2009 to reduce the emissions of air transportation, constitutes very important ground on protection of the global environment.

In this context; as a result of our studies with ECAC, we also conveyed our support to the study paper to be presented at the said meeting by ECAC and now i would like to iterare our support again.

I wish said studies would provide effective results for the Global Climate Change Conference which will be organized in Kopenhagen on October.

The Green Airports Project which is a first in the Turkiye is implemented within this year after a long study period.

This Project could be explained as preventing regional and global pollution for decreasing negative effects of the airports over the organisms within the same region.

Furthermore; Besides noise, taking necessary precautions to reduce and controll the effects of air and water pollution to natural life is also among the issues aimed.

Valuable Participants,

Besides participation of our country as a member to the activities and events performed by international organizations, Turkiye actively serves within the management board of the organizations such as ECAC Coordinating Committee Member, EUROCONTROL Provisional Council Coordinating Committee Member, D-8 Countries Chairmanship of Aviation Working Group and T-MAG Charimanship of Executive Committee.

Our country pays a special attention to the regional cooperation projects and hosted BSEC, TRACECA, AFCAC, T-MAG Directors General Meeting. Turkiye has been laid the foundations of the regional cooperation activities with over 90 Country.

Main objective of the regional cooperation is to provide collective cooperation and collaboration on maintenance and training among other areas regarding civil aviation by providing best environment to the Middle East, Caucasus and Mediterranean countries for sharing their present potential among themselves.

Honorable Guests;

Turkiye has great dreams for aviation. We are moving rapidly to the line of establishing a sector which carries its passengers to every point of the world with a maximum confort and service understanding.

I believe that ICAN'09 Conference will create an opportunity of improving aviation services and considering cooperation opportunities all over the world.

I wish the bilateral negotiations and agreements to be performed by the participator countries and their cooperations on different topics would bring success to the aviation sector

By these thoughts, I would like to say Welcome again to Istanbul, the bridge of the cultures and continents.

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