



# ICAO

## INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

### Twenty-Fifth Meeting of the Africa-Indian Ocean Planning and Implementation Regional Group (APIRG/25) & Eighth Meeting of the Regional Aviation Safety Group for the AFI Region (RASG-AFI/8) – Joint sessions

7 - 11 November 2022

#### High level outcome of the of the ICAO 41st Assembly

*(Presented by Secretariat)*

SUMMARY	
This working paper presents an overview of the outcome of the 41 <sup>st</sup> ICAO Assembly (27 Sept 2022 to 7 October 2022, Montreal, Canada)	
Action by the Meeting is to note the information and take action as required.	
<i>Strategic Objectives</i>	All

## 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Some 2,573 Ministers and high-ranking government officials from 184 States gathered in-person and virtually at the Montréal Headquarters of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) for the launch of the ICAO 41st Assembly, the first since the COVID-19 outbreak.

1.2 In a notable turn during a period when aviation gender equality is still a prominent goal among government and industry stakeholders, Delegates to the 41st Assembly elected its first ever female President, the Director General of Civil Aviation of South Africa, Ms. Poppy Khoza.

1.3 The ICAO Council President Salvatore Sciacchitano recognized nine States' significant progress in improving safety and security oversight systems by awarding them with Council President Certificates. At this year's ceremony, ICAO presented Ethiopia with certificates for their safety progress, while Côte d'Ivoire received certificates for its progress in both aviation safety and aviation security.

1.4 Other topics for State consideration centred around the integration of unmanned aircraft systems into traditional aviation airspace, the re-opening of air tourism markets and overcoming protectionist constraints to enable air operators to swiftly recover from COVID-19, digital travel documents and the deployment of interoperable health certificates using ICAO verification, and many other issues surrounding future sectoral resilience and passenger security and convenience.

## **2. Election of the 36 countries to serve on the ICAO Council**

2.1 The 41st Session of the Assembly of ICAO elected its new Council for a three-year term. The election process was divided into three parts, with the following States elected:

### **PART I - States of chief importance in air transport**

Australia\*, Brazil\*, Canada\*, China\*, France\*, Germany\*, Italy\*, Japan\*, United Kingdom\*, and the United States\*.

### **PART II - States which make the largest contribution to the provision of facilities for international civil air navigation**

Argentina\*, Austria, Egypt\*, Iceland, India\*, Mexico\*, **Nigeria\***, Saudi Arabia\*, Singapore\*, **South Africa\***, Spain\*, and Venezuela.

### **PART III - States ensuring geographic representation**

Bolivia, Chile, El Salvador, **Equatorial Guinea\***, **Ethiopia**, **Ghana**, Jamaica, Malaysia\*, **Mauritania**, Qatar, Republic of Korea\*, Romania, United Arab Emirates\*, and **Zimbabwe**.

*\*Indicates re-election.*

## **3. Environment**

3.1 The 41st ICAO Assembly, ICAO Member States adopted a collective long-term global aspirational goal (LTAG) of net-zero carbon emissions by 2050. The achievement of the LTAG will rely on the combined effect of multiple CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reduction measures, including the accelerated adoption of new and innovative aircraft technologies, streamlined flight operations, and the increased production and deployment of sustainable aviation fuels (SAF).

3.2 Recalling that industry operators have already targeted NetZero 2050 as well, States' adoption of this new long-term goal for decarbonized air transport will contribute importantly to the green innovation and implementation momentum which must now be significantly supported through new investments and commitments so that we can reach our ultimate goal of emissions-free powered flight. In the meantime, offsetting and the increased production and use of sustainable fuels will continue to be critical to helping international aviation address its near-term emissions objectives.

3.5 Other notable environmental developments at the 41st ICAO Assembly included the completion of the first periodic review of the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA). Countries agreed on a new CORSIA baseline from 2024 onwards, defined as 85% of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in 2019, and on revised percentages for the sectoral and individual growth factors to be used for the calculation of offsetting requirements from 2030 onwards.

## **6. Aviation Safety and Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency**

7.1 States endorsed the latest editions of ICAO's Global Aviation Safety Plan (GASP) and Global Air Navigation Plan (GANP). These important strategic plans guide States cooperation

and actions on the basis of global aviation targets and technology roadmaps, enabling aligned worldwide progress on key priorities and challenges.

7.2 The endorsement of the latest editions of ICAO's GASP and GANP will bring the aviation community together around common targets and pathways to achieve an agile, safe, secure, sustainable, high-performing and interoperable global air transport system. Cyber resilience of safety critical systems is a key priority in the next edition of the GANP. The Assembly fully endorsed the Safety Stream recommendations from ICAO's High Level Conference on COVID-19.

7.3 The adoption of the Safety recommendations that had resulted from ICAO's High-level Conference on COVID-19 held in October 2021, led to the endorsement of the evolution of ICAO's Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme (USOAP).

7.4 The Assembly also endorsed the new ICAO Implementation Support Policy which will enhance efforts to assist States to implement the international standards contained in the nineteen Annexes to the Convention on International Civil Aviation.

7.5 The Assembly further underscored the intrinsic value of ICAO's technical cooperation and assistance efforts to effective global capacity-building, and of its portfolio of products and services to support the recovery, resilience, and sustainable development of international aviation. The governments have also underscored the invaluable assistance to Member States provided through ICAO's global aviation training activities and programmes, while agreeing that a new ICAO conference should soon be convened to fully assess current and future human resource skills requirements and training needs for global aviation.

7.6 The 41st Assembly also agreed that regional aviation safety organizations and accident investigation bodies should be better supported through more sustainable funding and legal frameworks. This cooperation is seen as fundamental to enabling cost-effective ICAO compliance for many countries, improving local and regional oversight, and the realization of air transport's socio-economic benefits for civil societies.

## **8. Innovation Fair**

8.1 Taking place in Montréal, this special three-day event attracted over 1,400 attendees, and featured traditional and new players who are delivering a technological revolution in aviation worldwide. An exhibition included prototypes of cutting-edge aircraft types and other latest air transport technologies and solutions, all of which were highly appreciated by the attending government and industry delegates.

8.2 One of the key intentions of the ICAO 2022 Innovation Fair was to provide a prominent platform for innovations and initiatives that will contribute to a more resilient future for the air transport sector," the President said. He highlighted that "the COVID-19 pandemic has led to proposals for numerous technical and policy solutions to help reconnect the world in its aftermath, but a more systematic approach to disaster risk identification and management will be necessary to circumvent the compound impacts of multiple disasters. This is a pre-requisite to building a resilient future for our sector.

## **9. ACTION BY THE MEETING**

9.1 The meeting is invited to:

- i) note the information provided; and

ii) take action as deemed necessary.

— **END** —