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ASSEMBLY — 37TH SESSION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 13: Security policy

ASIA-PACIFIC AVIATION SECURITY ACTION PLAN (AP-ASAP)

(Presented by Japan and Singapore)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This paper seeks to inform the Assembly of the development of an Asia-Pacific Aviation Security Action Plan. It also seeks greater support and participation from States in the Asia and Pacific Region for the next Asia-Pacific Heads of Aviation Security Regulators Meeting proposed to be held in 2011.

Action: The Assembly is invited to:

- a) note the discussions and outcome of the Asia-Pacific Heads of Aviation Security Regulators Meeting held on 12 and 13 April 2010; and
- b) encourage greater participation for the next Asia-Pacific Heads of Aviation Security Regulators Meeting to be held in 2011.

<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	This working paper relates to Strategic Objective B – <i>Security</i> , enhance global civil aviation security
<i>Financial implications:</i>	No financial implications
<i>References:</i>	No references

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Civil aviation is an important economic enabler, facilitating trade, tourism, business and travel. As such, the threat of terrorism to the civil aviation system must be taken seriously. On this basis, international collaboration and cooperation needs to be further enhanced to deal with this trans-national threat effectively.

1.2 Following the attempted bombing incident on Northwest Airlines Flight 253 on 25 December 2009 en route from Amsterdam to Detroit, a series of regional Ministerial Conferences on Aviation Security were held to reaffirm the importance of aviation security and to strengthen international partnership and cooperation in this field. In the Asia and Pacific region, an Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Aviation Security was held in Tokyo, Japan on 13 March 2010 where the participating States/Administrations adopted the Asia-Pacific Joint Declaration on Aviation Security.

2. ASIA-PACIFIC HEADS OF AVIATION SECURITY REGULATORS MEETING

2.1 To facilitate discussion on the challenges in international aviation security and to explore opportunities for further collaboration within the region, Singapore convened an Asia-Pacific Aviation Security Regulators Meeting on 12 and 13 April 2010. Representatives from Australia, Brunei Darussalam, the People's Republic of China, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region China, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam attended this meeting. Speakers and observers from the Netherlands, the United States of America, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and International Air Transport Association (IATA) were invited to share their views and experiences in relation to the challenges arising from the Northwest Airlines Flight 253 incident.

2.2 To provide a plausible framework for enhanced aviation security collaboration amongst the Asia and Pacific States, the meeting discussed and developed an Asia-Pacific Aviation Security Action Plan. The six key initiatives under this Action Plan are as follows:

- a) **Initiative 1:** To promote the implementation of aviation security measures in a practical manner and in compliance with the Standards of Annex 17 to the Chicago Convention:
 - 1) States that are still not in full compliance with the aviation security Standards of Annex 17 to the Chicago Convention are encouraged to do so as soon as practicable. These include, but are not limited to, establishing national aviation security legislation, establishing a National Civil Aviation Security Programme, Airport Security Programme, (Aircraft) Operator's Security Programme, National Civil Aviation Security Quality Control Programme and National Civil Aviation Security Training Programme, and effective implementation of airport-level security measures;
- b) **Initiative 2:** To promote information sharing and to enhance risk assessment for effective management of aviation security threats:

- 1) States are encouraged to establish necessary arrangements to enhance their ability to collect, collate and analyse information for better risk assessment, including training on risk assessment methodologies;
 - 2) States are encouraged to collaborate and broaden existing cooperation mechanisms with each other, as appropriate and within permissible and agreed reciprocal limits, to share aviation security information, such as new threats faced, new technology that can enhance aviation security and facilitation, and best practices on aviation security measures;
 - 3) States are urged to sign up to or update their details on the ICAO Aviation Security Point of Contact (PoC) Network so that it can be more effectively used to reach out to one another when notifying of urgent aviation security developments. States are also urged to regularly update the PoC information as and when there are changes; and
 - 4) the ICAO Asia and Pacific Regional Office consolidated an updated list of the ICAO PoC Network and conducted a system test on 30 August 2010 to ensure that there will be an effective means of disseminating and sharing of information within the Asia and Pacific Region;
- c) **Initiative 3:** To promote and enhance capacity building programmes and training for effective implementation of aviation security measures:
- 1) States are encouraged to identify their capacity-building needs with regard to aviation security. These could include the development of aviation security legislation and programmes to comply with Annex 17 to the Chicago Convention, training for operational staff and screeners, and technology and information sharing. States with capacity-building needs may approach the ICAO Regional office for relevant assistance;
 - 2) States with relevant expertise in areas such as screening and inspection techniques, detection of weapons, explosives and hazardous materials, airport security, behavioural detection, screening and credentialing of airport employees, human resource development, and research and development of relevant technologies, may offer to provide assistance to States in need on either a bilateral or multilateral basis. In terms of multilaterally based assistance, States may provide this information on capacity-building to the ICAO Asia and Pacific Regional office¹ which may leverage on the findings of the Universal Security Audit Programme to assist to correct deficiencies;
 - 3) the Asia and Pacific Region will create more opportunities to share best practices and exchange expert views and ideas through forums such as aviation security workshops, conferences and seminars. This will help raise awareness to learn

¹ The proposed framework envisages that ICAO Regional Offices would provide an information coordination role, and building on their understanding of areas of weakness across the region (following audits) would seek to identify, in cooperation with contributing nations, where aviation security implementation can be further improved on a bilateral and multilateral capacity-building basis. Any residual “gaps” in capacity-building needs should be identified and where these cannot be addressed by bilateral or multilateral arrangements, ICAO should undertake to lead capacity-building efforts in these States.

from each other's experiences and challenges. Industry participation will be included whenever feasible to widen the knowledge sharing platform; and

- 4) as a start, the Asia and Pacific Region could organise a Regional Aviation Security Seminar in 2011;
- d) **Initiative 4:** To promote the use of modern technology:
- 1) States are encouraged to utilize modern technologies to detect and prevent the carriage of prohibited materials on board aircraft and to enhance the measures and processes for aviation security, where applicable and with due respect for the privacy and safety of individuals;
 - 2) States are encouraged to collaborate with each other to develop new technology that can be applied to address aviation security needs; and
 - 3) States are encouraged to share information on their operational experiences in the use of modern technologies;
- e) **Initiative 5:** To enhance security of air cargo:
- 1) States are encouraged to develop and implement internationally strengthened and harmonized measures, and best practices for air cargo security; and
- f) **Initiative 6:** To enhance collaboration with States and industry:
- 1) States are encouraged to continue working together with international partners, the aviation industry and other relevant agencies towards greater travel security; and
 - 2) States are encouraged to strengthen and promote travel document security in accordance with ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices.

2.3 Going forward, Japan and Singapore shall jointly serve as Secretariat to coordinate the work of the Asia-Pacific Aviation Security Action Plan. The next Asia-Pacific Heads of Aviation Security Regulators meeting is tentatively planned to be held in 2011, to take stock of actions taken and progress made.