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INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

ASSEMBLY – 35TH SESSION

PLENARY

Agenda Item 10: Election of Contracting States to be represented on the Council

EGYPT'S CANDIDATURE TO THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE COUNCIL OF THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

(Presented by Egypt)

The Arab Republic of Egypt is honored to announce to the 35th Session of the ICAO Assembly its candidature for re-election to the ICAO Council for the next triennium under Category B as one of the states that make the largest contribution to the provision of facilities for air navigation.

- Egypt has played a leading role in enhancing aviation security and safety in the world through the adoption and promotion of ICAO's Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs). To this end, Egypt has been implementing an ambitious strategic plan since 1990 to modernize and modify all civil aviation facilities. This plan will be completed by 2007 with a budget exceeding 1.5 Billion Egyptian Pounds.
- One of the main objectives of the on-going co-operation between Egypt and ICAO is to foster and promote the role of ICAO in the development of international civil aviation. Egypt supports the ICAO SARPs and asserts the importance of international conventions, including all amendments to the Chicago Convention designed to improve the civil aviation facilities and services.
- Egypt has been a member of the ICAO Council since the inception of ICAO in 1944. It discharges its responsibilities in the field of aviation safety and security, abides by the rules of ICAO and supports, implements and participates in the development and implementation of ICAO recommendations, programs and activities.
- Egypt has supported the Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme in order to enhance aviation safety levels. It received top rating from the ICAO Safety Oversight Audit Team and from a United States Aviation consultant. Cairo International Airport will be audited within the framework of the USAP in July 2004.
- Many achievements in further developing air control systems include the improvement of Cairo International Airport control tower by adding radar and computer equipment to serve air navigation; the expansion of Cairo Air Navigation Centre to include area control and approach control with state-of-the-art technology; increasing capacity in other Egyptian international airports by expanding taxiways and passenger terminals in order to accommodate giant 21st century aircraft; the construction of new airports (under B O T arrangements) furnished with the latest radar equipment for terminal and approach areas; the enhancement of air navigation

services in Cairo FIR since 1985; the further development of Cairo Information Centre; the upgrading of communications circuit speed by using CIDIN and the further development of telecommunications.

- Egypt is also implementing ICAO's CNS/ATM systems through a number of international research and development projects. It has also undertaken a pilot initiative aiming at implementing a regional satellite project to support satellite-based global navigation systems, fostering the use of new navigation systems, throughout all flight phases within the Region and making available rapid air and space communications.
- Egypt has a distinguished geographical location on the crossroads of three continents (Europe, Asia and Africa). Clearances are issued to international flights without discrimination. To organize regular air services with many countries, multiple bilateral transport agreements have been signed, thereby achieving equilibrium of interests within a more liberalized air transport environment.
- Pursuant to these agreements, Egypt Air, the national carrier, operates flights to many countries in Europe, North America, Asia and Africa, using modern aircraft. Egypt Air had been privatized to become a Holding Company with seven (7) subsidiary companies to further enable it to meet future challenges.
- Egyptian Airports have been liberalized and privatized under one Holding Company with four (4) subsidiary companies. This should afford more flexibility for airport operators to use the airport revenues to enhance services to passengers complying at the same time with ICAO standards and recommendations. To meet a marked growth in traffic, plans have been developed in all aspects of operations.
- The Human factor has a special importance. There are training programmes covering all technical aspects of civil aviation in order to train the necessary personnel to discharge their functions. Egypt has a National Civil Aviation Training Authority, which includes Egypt Air Institute for the training of civilian pilots, the Air Traffic Control Institute to train air traffic controllers and the Civil Aviation Science and Technology Institute where aeronautical engineers are given advanced training.
A scientific agreement has been signed with the United States Embry Riddle University the federally accredited institution which is specialized in civil aviation technology.
Another agreement was concluded with EUROCONTROL in the field of organization and facilitation of air traffic.
Plans are underway to privatize this institute to become a Civil Aviation Academy that will be certified by ICAO.
- Egypt has been among the leading countries which participated in international conferences and meetings held under ICAO's umbrella where international conventions and protocols were developed. It has a record of effective contribution to combat air terrorism, and has many activities in numerous international organizations including OAU, ACAC, AFCAC, IFALPA, COMESA, IATA ...etc.
- Egypt has consistently paid without delay its assessed contributions to ICAO at the beginning of its fiscal period. Meeting its financial obligations is part of the Egyptian support to the mission of ICAO and to the service of international civil aviation.

- Egypt has also offered free of charge the premises of the ICAO Regional Office for the Middle East. The premises are located in the complex of the Egyptian Civil Aviation Ministry in Cairo.
- Egypt, which is witnessing a great evolution in air traffic and tourism, took the initiative to establish a Ministry of Civil Aviation. That ministry would ensure upgrading aviation laws and standards to the ICAO standards and recommendations and the liberalization of air traffic policies in accordance with the “open skies” concept, with the assistance of a team of experts assigned by ICAO under the Technical Cooperation Programme.
- Egypt also intends to privatize the Egyptian Meteorology Authority.

In conclusion Egypt is fully committed to work with ICAO and its members for a safe, secure and efficient international civil aviation.

The Arab Republic of Egypt will be grateful to the ICAO Member States for supporting its candidature to the membership of the Council for the next triennium.

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