



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

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ASSEMBLY – 35TH SESSION

PLENARY

Agenda Item 2: Statements by delegations of Contracting States and of Observers

STATEMENT

(Presented by the International Academy of Aviation and Space Medicine)

Mr. President, Fellow Delegates, Mr. Secretary General and ICAO Staff, Ladies & Gentlemen.

It is an honor for the International Academy of Aviation and Space Medicine to be present at the 35th Session of the Assembly. It wishes all delegates very fruitful, successful and cost-effective deliberations.

The Academy noticed with pleasure that the Provisional Agenda includes Item 19 which is applicable to **all occupants** of aircraft, passengers and crews.

This broadening in scope reflects the concern of many researchers, specialists and practitioners of aviation medicine and therefore the International Academy is of the opinion that the subject deserves to be properly assessed with great attention by a high level intergovernmental agency such as ICAO. Therefore the Academy wishes to express its congratulations to the ICAO Council which, in its wisdom decided to include in the 35th Session of the Assembly, Agenda item 19 Health and Well-being of Passengers and crews.

As most Delegates to this Assembly already know, the International Academy was very proud to have been bestowed the Edward Warner Award by ICAO and I am pleased to report that very recently the Academy has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Singapore Aviation Academy, another recipient of such prestigious Award in order to join efforts in progressing the indispensable discipline of Aviation Medicine.

The Academy wishes to congratulate ICAO in its speedy and very effective response to the outbreak of SARS. And it also wishes to report that 4 Academicians participated actively in the development of the Anti-SARS Recommendations and that, furthermore, 2 of them were fully associated with the follow-up of the project leading to the development of the Contingency Plan to prevent the Spread of Diseases.

Finally, Mr. President, the Academy wishes to point out that the gathering of high level decision makers in this Solemn Assembly has been made possible by aviation. The majority of persons in this room came to Montreal flying as passengers in order to strengthen and improve international civil aviation.

Therefore, the Academy sincerely hopes that, when these passengers return home, they will be satisfied for having contributed to create an awareness of passenger related issues and that ICAO, in coordination with WHO and other relevant bodies will continue to “meet the needs of the peoples of the world” giving due consideration to health issues associated with air transport.

Thank you Mr. President

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