

ASSEMBLY – 35TH SESSION

PLENARY

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

STATEMENT

(Presented by Philippines)

In the highly complex world of diplomacy and international relations the ICAO has strongly held its ground, withstood the test of time and earned the cooperation and respect of the entire civil aviation community. The ICAO has played its role with international sophistication and has proven itself to be an effective equalizer.

In the context of the present realities that confront the world of civil aviation, the Philippines would like to come forward and express its support to the “single sky” concept in the areas of security and safety in civil aviation. Having the same standards, practices and procedures in all airports, aircrafts and civil aviation facilities of the entire peace-loving and humanitarian community of states will give us, who have responsibilities on matters of civil aviation in our respective countries, the confidence, peace of mind and assurance that international air travel is safe. The convenience of a singular security and safety standards, practices and procedures will facilitate communications and the attainment of a mutual and common understanding of tasks and responsibilities towards safer aviation skies.

However, in the financial and economic aspects of civil aviation the Philippines is hoping that the ICAO would sustain its image as an effective international equalizer. It is proposed that this respected assembly, in the passage of resolutions that will govern the liberalization of civil aviation relations of member countries, shall take note of the following very important considerations:

First: Countries with multiple international gateways should be treated differently from countries with singular airports;

Second: Countries where airline industries are owned or highly subsidized by their governments should be treated differently from countries where the airline businesses are owned privately by individuals or corporations; and

Third: Rich countries with highly developed airline industries should be treated differently from poorer countries with developing or struggling airline industries.

It is with fervent prayers and sincere hope that the Philippines wishes that success will be attained by the ICAO Assembly 35th Session. May we be able to help airline industries that are just starting to grow.

— END —