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## **ASSEMBLY — 38TH SESSION**

### **PLENARY**

#### **Agenda Item 8: Statements by delegations of Member States**

#### **STATEMENT BY THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA**

(Presented by the Republic of Korea)

Honourable Mr. President of the Assembly,  
Mr. President of the Council,  
Mr. Secretary General,  
Ministers of Transport and Heads of Delegations,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my great pleasure to meet esteemed delegates attending the 38th General Assembly of the International Civil Aviation Organization.

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to the ICAO Secretariat for making diligent efforts to host this important occasion.

We have gathered here to discuss future development paths in the field of civil aviation, our essential mode of transportation which connects the world as one.

The air transport industry promotes the exchange of people and resources amongst States. It is the driving force in the development of industries and cultures around the world, as well as for invigorating the tourism industry and creating jobs.

Nevertheless, today's civil aviation industry faces a raft of challenges, such as global economic downturn, volatile oil prices, and the continuing threat of terrorism.

I firmly believe that global coordination and cooperation amongst all Member States must be strengthened, in order to turn crisis into opportunity and achieve sustainable development in aviation.

Fortunately, with the common goal of overcoming these problems, all Member States are exerting their utmost efforts to exchange knowledge and maintain close cooperative relationships, with ICAO at the center.

In cooperation with ICAO, the Republic of Korea has utilized its advanced technological capabilities to develop programs through which developed and developing countries can secure easy access to safety related information and assure the implementation of ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs).

As spelled out in the MOUs already signed with ICAO, we have invited 866 aviation experts from 101 Member States and provided fellowship training, as part of our relentless efforts for the development of international aviation.

Distinguished Delegates,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Republic of Korea currently ranks 6th in the world in terms of air transport volume, and 10th in terms of financial contributions to ICAO.

We have signed Air Services Agreements with 93 countries, based on which a total of 77 air carriers are connecting the Republic of Korea with 152 major cities in 51 countries around the world. These operations make a significant contribution to stimulating human and material exchanges and overall global economic development.

Incheon International Airport, the gateway to the Republic of Korea, was named as “Best Airport Worldwide” for eight consecutive years by Airports Council International (ACI).

The airport has received special note for its reinvestment of the excess of non-aviation revenues over aviation revenues back into the next generation of aviation personnel.

Distinguished Guests,

The Republic of Korea has sought to actively participate in the essential endeavours of ICAO alongside other Member States for the development of global aviation. Also, as a Council Member of ICAO, we are fully committed to continuing our roles and responsibilities.

Taking this opportunity, I wish to announce that the Republic of Korea will contribute USD 100,000 annually for a period of three years to the Safety Fund. We hope that 50% of our contribution might be used as part of the AFI Plan, which is the Comprehensive Regional Implementation Plan for Aviation Safety in Africa.

I ask for the support and cooperation of Member States so that the Republic of Korea, in step with ICAO, can continue to make a significant contribution to the development of international civil aviation.

Once again, I want to sincerely thank the President of the Assembly, the President of the Council, the Secretary General and the Secretariat for their special efforts and achievements to date.

Thank you.

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