

57th Conference of DGCA-APAC

Incheon Paradise City Convention Center, July 4, 2022

Congratulatory Remarks



Hee-ryong Won
Minister of MOLIT

Honorable President of the ICAO Council,
Salvatore Sciacchitano,
Secretary General of ICAO, Juan Carlos Salazar,

Director Generals of Civil Aviation Authorities in Asia-Pacific,
Delegates, and distinguished guests, on behalf of the Korean
government, I extend my welcome to you all.

Since the first conference in Manila in 1960, the DGCA
Conference has provided a crucial venue for discussing
aviation safety and development in the Asia Pacific region.

And this year's DGCA held in Incheon is especially
important as we gather for the first time in three years due
to the pandemic.

Our discussion at this conference will shape our decisions on
how to rebuild the regional aviation network and strengthen
cooperation in the post-pandemic era.

Distinguished guests,
The pandemic has upended our lives, work and businesses.
Among the industries affected by COVID-19, it was the
aviation industry that was hit hardest.

In particular, Asia-Pacific saw a drop of 95.4% in the regional traffic in 2021 compared to 2019.

But we did not succumb to the challenge. Instead, governments and civil aviation authorities with the ICAO at the center, announced and implemented measures to support the industry and prepare its recovery after the pandemic.

Ladies and gentlemen, We believe a solid ground comes after rain.

We may have lost a lot during the pandemic but we now have the solid ground to restore the air operation and restrengthen our cooperation in the region.

But as we do so, we should not lose focus on the ICAO's "No Country Left Behind" Initiative.

Korea will join hands with the APAC member states to promote the initiative and its values.

To that end, MOLIT will contribute to the ICAO's Digital Transformation Initiative.

I hope that this year's DGCA Conference will be an occasion where we present a new vision for global civil aviation and further strengthen our cooperation in the post-pandemic era.

Thank you once again to all participants who are joining at this venue and online. I hope a fruitful discussion at the conference.

Thank you.