

Australia's Delegation to the Second Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Civil Aviation

AUSTRALIA'S CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO A SUSTAINABLE, COMPETITIVE, SAFE AND SECURE ASIA PACIFIC AVIATION SECTOR

The Australian Government thanks the Indian Government for hosting the Second Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Civil Aviation and congratulates India for the successful outcomes achieved at this Conference, including the adoption of the Delhi Declaration.

Australia strongly supports the aims of the Delhi Declaration, reaffirming the goals of the Beijing Declaration, with a commitment to:

- implementing the global plans of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO);
- undertaking activities to support aviation safety and security;
- modernising air navigation systems;
- improving facilitation, gender equality and resourcing; and,
- ongoing efforts to reduce emissions and other environmental impacts of aviation.

The Asia Pacific continues to be one of the fastest growing aviation regions in the world.

We are pleased to see positive signs of recovery with the increase in international services and passenger numbers in the region.

A good example of the strength of the recovery is reflected in air connectivity between Australia and India. We are now operating up to 28 direct international passenger air services per week between our two countries, which is above pre-COVID levels.

The Australian Government, through its recently released Aviation White Paper, is committed to maintaining Australia's world-leading aviation safety, security and airspace regulation, enabling new aviation technologies and connecting Australia to the world. This includes initiatives to reduce Australia's emissions from aviation, encouraging workforce diversity to help grow our aviation sector, and seeking closer alignment with ICAO's Standards and Recommended Practices.

Australia is committed to ensuring States in the region are supported in achieving the aims of the Delhi Declaration. We are deepening our aviation capability-building programs in the Asia Pacific to support a safe and sustainable aviation industry in the region.

Australia's longstanding bilateral aviation capability-building programs are continuing to support Indonesia, under the Indonesia Transport Safety Assistance Package, and Papua New Guinea, under the Transport Sector Support Program. Australia is enabling secure aviation travel in South-East Asia and South Asia through our Transport Security International Capacity Building Program.

Australia is also enhancing its longer-term aviation support in the Pacific. Through the Partnerships for Infrastructure program, Australia provides technical and capacity building assistance to support the region's critical infrastructure and transport needs, including in aviation. Through the Australia—Pacific Partnerships for Aviation Program, we are working with Pacific island countries to support a safer, more sustainable and resilient Pacific aviation sector.

The Australian Government has recently committed funding support for ICAO's Pacific Liaison Office, hosted by Fiji. Australia is strongly supportive of ICAO's efforts to respond to the strategic aviation priorities faced by the Pacific islands and its assistance to support the implementation of measures aimed at achieving ICAO's strategic objectives, as reflected in the Delhi Declaration.