

**60th CONFERENCE OF
DIRECTORS GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION
ASIA AND PACIFIC REGIONS**

*Sendai, Japan
28 July - 1 August 2025*

**AGENDA ITEM 8: CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT AND
IMPLEMENTATION**

**UNLEASHING AVIATION EXCELLENCE:
193 WOMEN EMPOWERMENT**

(Presented by the United Arab Emirates)

INFORMATION PAPER

SUMMARY

This paper presents the joint ICAO–UAE initiative "Unleashing Aviation Excellence: 193 Women Empowerment," highlighting its strategic impact on gender inclusion and capacity building across ICAO regions, particularly in Asia and the Pacific. It describes the two training components Air Transport and Safety Management and outlines UAE's strong commitment to supporting ICAO's NGAP strategy, NCLB framework, and SDG 5. The initiative builds on the momentum of the DGCA-APAC 2023 cycle, which successfully trained over 40 women from the region.

UNLEASHING AVIATION EXCELLENCE: 193 WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The ICAO–UAE "Unleashing Aviation Excellence: 193 Women Empowerment" initiative is a flagship effort to promote gender equity through targeted aviation training. Developed under ICAO's Gender Equality Programme, in line with SDG 5 and supported by Assembly Resolution A41-26 on Gender Equality, the initiative is fully funded by the UAE General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA) and operationalized through ICAO's Global Aviation Training Section.

1.2 It aligns with the ICAO Next Generation of Aviation Professionals (NGAP) strategy, supporting inclusive human resource development while advancing capacity-building goals under the "No Country Left Behind" (NCLB) initiative.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 Training Tracks and Global Reach

The initiative is delivered in two complementary tracks:

- **Air Transport Professional Training Programme:** A 20-hour bundled online training covering regulation, regulatory issues, and air transport economics. It is self-paced, available in English, and participants must complete all components and pass a final exam to receive certification.
- **Safety Management (SM) Training Programme:** A 13-hour self-paced course offered in English and Spanish. It focuses on developing critical safety oversight competencies, with a 3-month access period per participant.

2.2 Strategic Impact in Asia-Pacific.

The Asia-Pacific region has shown strong engagement with the initiative. Following the last DGCA-APAC conference cycle, more than 40 women from the region completed the training. The current phase seeks to increase the intake across States, deepening regulatory and safety expertise in line with regional safety and air navigation capacity-building objectives

2.3 UAE's Role and Commitment

The UAE has been a consistent champion of inclusive aviation development. This initiative:

- Operationalizes NCLB objectives through funding, outreach, and implementation partnerships.
- Supports the capacity development of female professionals from underrepresented States, especially in the Asia-Pacific region, fostering equity and global standardization.

2.4 Support to ICAO NGAP and SDGs

The initiative contributes directly to the ICAO NGAP strategy by:

- Enhancing access to education and professional development for women.
- Bridging skills gaps in regulatory, safety, and economic domains.
- Supporting SDG Target 5.5 and ICAO Assembly Resolution A41-26 on gender equality in aviation.

3. ACTION BY THE CONFERENCE

3.1 The Conference is invited to note the information contained in this Paper.

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