



International Civil Aviation Organization
Asia and Pacific Office

The 23rd Southeast Asia Regional Aviation Safety Team
(SEARAST/23) and National Coordinators Meeting

(*Bangkok, Thailand, 21 – 22 January 2025*)

Agenda Item 2: Updates from the APAC Ministerial Conference (Delhi Declaration) and 59th DGCA Conference.

**ASIA PACIFIC MINISTERIAL DECLARATION ON
CIVIL AVIATION (DELHI)**

(Presented by the CTA)

SUMMARY

The Second Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Civil Aviation (APACMC/2) was held on 11–12 September 2024 in New Delhi, India. APAC Ministers reviewed the Beijing Declaration commitments and adopted the Asia Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Civil Aviation (Delhi) to address high-priority aviation objectives.

This paper highlights key details from the conference.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The first APAC Ministerial Conference on Civil Aviation, held in Beijing, China, from 31 January to 1 February 2018, resulted in the unanimous adoption of the Beijing Declaration, formalizing commitments to aviation safety, air navigation, accident investigation, and human resource development. India offered to host the Second Conference (APACMC/2) in 2020, but it was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

1.2 The Second Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Civil Aviation was held on 11 – 12 September 2024 in New Delhi, India. This paper provides key information about APACMC/2, commitments under the Asia Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Civil Aviation (Delhi).

2. DISCUSSION

The Second APAC Ministerial Conference on Civil Aviation (APACMC/2)

2.1 More than 200 delegates from 31 States / Administrations and 8 International Organizations, including 17 Ministers/Deputy Ministers/Vice Ministers and 24 Directors General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), attended the Conference. The Conference endorsed the Second Asia and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Civil Aviation (Delhi), also known as the Delhi Declaration (**Appendix A**).

Declaration of Asia/Pacific Ministerial Conference on Civil Aviation (Delhi)

2.2 The Conference formulated the following Action Item:

Action Item 59/41	<p>The Conference encouraged States/Administrations to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. continue to prioritize efforts towards the realization of the Beijing Declaration commitments; 2. collaborate to achieve the commitments of the Delhi Declaration; 3. share implementation status of Beijing and Delhi Declaration at APANPIRG, RASG-APAC and RASCF Meetings; and 4. consider the feasibility of hosting the 3rd Asia/Pacific Ministerial Conference.
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3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the contents of the paper,
- b) collaborate and work towards achieving targets of the Asia Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Civil Aviation (Delhi); and
- c) share the implementation status of Delhi Declaration commitments at COSCAP-SEA SEARAST and Steering Committee Meetings.

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Asia and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Civil Aviation (Delhi)

1) The Second Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference, therefore, agrees to the Asia and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Civil Aviation (Delhi) and the Ministers commit to the following:

1.0 Reaffirming Asia and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Civil Aviation (Beijing)

1.1 Support and continue efforts towards the realization of the Beijing Declaration commitments, especially pursuing cooperative progress on commitments relating to

- a) aviation safety oversight capability,
- b) State Safety Programme (SSP) implementation,
- c) certification of aerodromes used for international operations, and
- d) supporting the establishment of independent accident investigation authorities.

2.0 Effective Implementation of ICAO Global Plans

2.1 Undertake to support the effective implementation of the ICAO Global Aviation Safety Plan (GASP), Global Air Navigation Plan (GANP) and Global Aviation Security Plan (GASeP) and associated regional plans, which include detailed guidance to assist States/Administrations in complying with ICAO's Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs).

3.0 Aviation Safety

3.1 Continue efforts and cooperation to uphold aviation safety as a key priority, carrying out effective safety oversight and safety management activities, joining forces to share safety information and fostering a strong and positive safety culture.

3.2 Strive to achieve the current GASP, prioritize and commit resources to achieve the following goals:

- a) Improve scores for the effective implementation (EI) of the critical elements (CEs) of the States/Administrations safety oversight system.
- b) Work towards an effective SSP.
- c) Endeavour not to have any Significant Safety Concerns (SSCs) under the USOAP Continuous Monitoring Approach (CMA) and to resolve any future SSCs within the time frame agreed with ICAO.
- d) Collaborate with States/Administrations and the aviation industry through the Regional Aviation Safety Group (RASG) to organize capability-building events for the Region and implement Safety Enhancement Initiatives (SEIs) as stipulated in the Regional Aviation Safety Plan (RASP); and
- e) Develop and publish a National Aviation Safety Plan (NASP).

4.0 Air Navigation Services

4.1 Commit to resources in modernization and innovation in Air Navigation Services, in tandem with developments in the airport and airline capacity, to support recovery and meet future demand for air travel and new entrants.

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4.2 Commit to implementing the ICAO Standards and Procedures for Air Navigation Services (PANS), and the Asia/Pacific Seamless ANS Plan (including prioritized GANP elements) and its subsidiary plans to enhance ANS capacity and harmonization in the Asia and Pacific Region focusing on as a matter of priority:

- a) Phase I, II and III of Asia/Pacific Regional Aeronautical Information Management (AIM);
- b) Improved Airspace Safety and Capacity through the implementation of a more efficient Air Traffic Control (ATC) separation minima.
- c) Performance Based Navigation (PBN) implementation in accordance with ICAO Assembly Resolution A37-11 on Global PBN Goals.
- d) Common Ground / Ground Telecommunication Infrastructure to support ANS applications.
- e) Expediting the implementation of ICAO provisions related to System Wide Information Management (SWIM).
- f) Enhanced civil/military cooperation.
- g) Enhanced Surveillance capability for improved Safety and Efficiency.
- h) Air Traffic Flow Management (ATFM) and Airport Collaborative Decision Making (A-CDM) implementation.
- i) Air Traffic Management (ATM) contingency planning, in coordination with neighboring States/Administrations.
- j) Air navigation in national planning frameworks such as National Development Plans (NDPs) supported by National Air Navigation Plans (NANP); and
- k) Enhancement of safety risk assessment capability.

4.3 Share best practices, resources and capability in the provision of ANS, including Aeronautical Search and Rescue (SAR), Meteorological Services for International Air Navigation (MET) and Air Traffic Flow Management (ATFM) through regional cooperation and enhanced coordination.

4.4 Work collaboratively through ICAO and Regional collaborative platforms towards Seamless ANS, including Flight and Flow Information for a Collaborative Environment (FF-ICE) and Trajectory-Based Operations (TBO) to support future traffic growth and sustainability.

Other area of commitments.

5.0 Aviation Security

6.0 Facilitation

7.0 Gender Equality

7.1 Demonstrate States/Administrations commitment to promote and encourage the aviation sector to take the necessary measures to strengthen gender equality by supporting policies, as well as the establishment, development and improvement of strategies and programmes to further women's careers within the aviation sector

8.0 Resourcing for Civil Aviation

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- 8.1 Civil Aviation Authorities/Administrations in the Region should be empowered with autonomy, sustainable funding, and resources to ensure effective safety and security oversight. Alternatively, establishing and delegating responsibilities to a Regional Safety Oversight Organization (RSOO) can provide effective regulatory support for aviation safety and security.
- 8.2 Asia-Pacific States, ICAO Member States, international partners, and financial institutions are urged to enhance cooperation and provide technical expertise, resources, and funding to support technical assistance, capacity-building, and implementation of commitments in the region..
- 9.0 Aviation Environment Protection**
- 10.0 Ratification of International Air Law Treaties**
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