

DGCA/61 Closing Message by ICAO APAC Regional Director

11 September 2026

Chairperson of the DGCA Conference and Chief Executive Officer of Civil Aviation Authority of the Malaysia Captain Norazman

Vice Chairperson of the Conference and Director General, Laos PDR, Mr. SINGKHAM

Secretary General of ICAO, Mr. Juan Carlos Salazar

Directors General of States/Administrations, heads of delegation and delegates

Heads of Delegation and delegates from International Organizations

My fellow colleagues from ICAO

Members of organizing committee of this DGCA Conference

Ladies and gentlemen

Good morning!!

First of all, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the Government of Malaysia, CEO of CAA Malaysia Captain Norazman and his team for the excellent arrangements for this DGCA Conference and the very warm hospitality offered to all of us.

This DGCA Conference has been a remarkable one in various respects. The Conference was attended by 34 States and Administrations along with 12 international organizations. Altogether over 400 participants attended the conference.

Various States/Administrations and International Organizations presented 112 Discussion Papers and 92 Information Papers across 10 agenda items in the conference that included aviation safety, security, air navigation, capacity development and implementation as well as aviation environment. After intense deliberation, the conference has adopted 83 action items from 112 discussion papers. I would like to request States/Administrations and stakeholders implement these

action items and update the status to ICAO Asia Pacific Regional Office before the next DGCA Conference so that progress can be presented at the Conference.

The implementation status of the action items is an indicator of commitment from States/Administrations and international organizations towards the healthy growth and sustainable development of aviation sector in the Asia and Pacific Region.

This DGCA Conference provided an opportunity to bring all stakeholders together to deliberate on the overall development of the civil aviation system in the region. I wish to thank all partners for attending the remarkable ICAO-partners' Dialogue on 8th September.

The dialogue was very beneficial to exchange views among our partners on the technical cooperation and resource mobilization activities in the Asia and Pacific region. We all agreed on prioritizing our efforts on focused areas without duplication of resources to ensure maximum benefits to the beneficiaries.

We are aware that air traffic in the Asia Pacific is growing at a rapid pace and the region. Currently, half of States in Asia Pacific region audited so far under USOAP and USAP regime have not achieved respective global average EI score.

If we become late to develop robust safety and security oversight systems commensurate to such growths, it will be quite challenging to sustain a healthy growth in sustainable manner that may ultimately lead to impact on proportionate economic benefits to national and regional economy. A collective commitment is required in this direction to improve the safe and secure civil aviation system in the region.

Considering the unique challenges of Pacific small developing States, ICAO has developed the PSIDS implementation support roadmap that has several clear deliverables that will help to strengthen the safety and security oversight capability of the PSIDS. We look forward to receiving support and contribution from our partners for an effective and timely implementation of roadmap.

ICAO is also supporting landlocked developing countries, and comprehensive study is undergoing in this regard.

Competent human resources are the backbone of any safety oversight organization. However, the APAC regional average of effective implementation (EI) of USOAP CMA on CE 4 is one of the lowest among the 8 critical elements.

Noting this situation, the ICAO APAC Regional Office has taken leadership to develop pool of instructors in the region in personnel licensing, flight operation and airworthiness with generous cooperation from our partners.

So far, we have trained around 200 ICAO government safety inspectors and developed 8 trainers for GSI courses.

Remarkably we have also developed 2 senior instructors in the region under the leadership of APAC regional office. I wish to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to all partners who supported this regional initiative.

The APAC regional office will continue its efforts to support in develop of qualified human capital in close collaboration with our partners in the future as well.

I wish to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to all member States/administrations for providing experts to the DGCA small team. The experts of small team worked closely with APAC secretariat to prepare for this conference.

We are encouraged by the participation of President of the ICAO Council, Mr. Toshiyuki ONUMA and Secretary General of ICAO, Mr. Juan Carlos Salazar in this conference. I wish to extend my sincere gratitude to Council President and Secretary General for attending this conference and encouraging us despite their busy schedules.

Finally, I express my sincere thanks to Captain Norazman and his organizing team including liaison officers as well as my ICAO team from the regional office, for successfully organizing this 61st DGCA Conference. We will leave with wonderful memories of the conference.

I wish all the delegates safe journey back home.

Thank you very much.

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