



International Civil Aviation Organization

WORKING PAPER

A39-WP/169

EC/18

8/8/16

(Information paper)

English only

ASSEMBLY — 39TH SESSION

ECONOMIC COMMISSION

Agenda Item 42: Economic Development of Air Transport

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES AVIATION INVESTMENT SUMMIT

(Presented by the United Arab Emirates (UAE))

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This paper presents the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Aviation Investment Summit. It discusses the main objectives of this event which was held in Dubai, UAE on November 2015. It also highlights the great achievements of this unique investment platform in the aviation industry, and encourages all interested parties to attend the next AIS 2017 event.

<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	This working paper relates to Strategic Objective D — <i>Economic Development of Air Transport</i>
<i>Financial implications:</i>	Not applicable
<i>References:</i>	Not applicable

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 As a result of UAE's aviation sector growth over the past few years, and to further boost foreign direct investments in the sector, the General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA) in UAE (under the patronage of the Ministry of Economy) has established a biennial event called the *Aviation Investment Summit*. GCAA held its inaugural event on the 9 November 2015 in Dubai, coinciding with the popular Dubai Air Show, and was attended by 250+ attendees. This Summit has turned out to be a unique platform to bring together individuals, entities and investors spanning the aviation and aerospace industry.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The key objectives of this Summit are:

- a) boost foreign direct investment into the aviation sector in the UAE;
- b) build on and enable growth of the aviation ecosystem in the UAE; and
- c) provide an opportunity to network with other aviation companies.

2.2 The Summit aims to create a unique platform to connect local UAE aviation companies with local/regional and global investors.

2.3 The inaugural Summit had the following highlights:

- a) investment opportunities in airport infrastructure, maintenance, repair & overhaul (MRO), ground services, training & education and start-up ventures were discussed;
- b) opening remarks by His Excellency the Minister of Economy;
- c) notable attendees and speakers such as CEO of Air Arabia, Executive Chairman of Dubai Aviation City Corporation, CEO of Strata;
- d) attended by a cross-section of companies such as air operators, airports and financial institutions, and various government authorities; and
- e) acted as a catalyst for entrepreneurship and innovation in the industry.

2.4 The Summit generated 15-20 business leads that led to Business-to-Business (B2B) discussions and follow-up meetings.

2.5 A range of benefits are expected from this initiative which include: access to capital and/or technical expertise, encourage innovation through the introduction of new technologies & business models, access to new markets and geographies, access to booming aviation industry in the UAE.

2.6 The next Aviation Investment Summit has been planned for November 2017 (exact dates to be announced soon) and we welcome all interested parties to attend the event. Further details about the Summit can be found at www.aviationinvestmentsummit.ae.