



International Civil Aviation Organization

WORKING PAPER

A39-WP/397

P/21

12/9/16

(Information paper)

English only

ASSEMBLY — 39TH SESSION

PLENARY

Agenda Item 8: Statements by delegations of Member States

STATEMENT BY REPUBLIC OF KOREA

(Presented by Republic of Korea)

Distinguished Heads of Delegates,
Honorable Mr. Chairman of the Assembly,
Honorable Madam Secretary General,
And Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Korean government, it is my great pleasure to attend the 39th Session of the ICAO Assembly and meet all of you at a time when autumn settles over here in Montreal.

I would also like to extend my sincere gratitude to the ICAO Secretariat for your hard work to provide us with this great venue where we convene to have diverse and high-level discussions on indispensable agendas for Member States.

The international civil aviation industry led by 191 ICAO Member States has developed a fine and seamless aviation network like a spider-web across the globe and has been a driving force for global economic activities by making the world a global village, promoting tourism and creating new jobs through international cooperation.

However, as we all have good times and bad times, we are facing challenges that hinder the growth of international civil aviation. The world economy is floundering, unexpected epidemics break out and terrorism plots targeting unspecified passengers continue to increase. In addition to technical issues including flight tracking system, there are some problems such as pilot's mental health that cannot be solved by cutting-edge technology.

As this Assembly is held under the difficult situation to assess the progress of ICAO strategic goals which are security and safety, better efficiency, industrial development and environment protection to achieve ICAO's vision for sustainable development of international civil aviation system, I believe it is a very important and meaningful occasion.

As a council member of ICAO, Korea highly appreciates the ICAO's leading initiative of "No Country Left Behind" and will make its best efforts for the success of this important initiative.

In order to contribute to enhancing the safety level of all Member States, the Republic of Korea jointly developed an online framework of ICAO USOAP CMA in cooperation with ICAO to assess aviation safety on a regular basis. It also developed systems to monitor the implementation of international standards such as the SARPs Management and Implementation System (SMIS) and the

Safety Oversight Management System (SOMS), which are distributed to Member States for free. Furthermore, Korean aviation experts are dispatched to regional offices in Africa and the Asia Pacific region for technical assistance.

Under the MOU concluded with ICAO, we have provided invitation training programs to 1,448 aviation experts of 115 countries and will continue to expand the programs to invite more trainees.

Distinguished Delegates and Ladies and Gentlemen,

As the 8th country in the world in international air transport volume, Korea is putting enormous efforts into increasing air transport volume and improving air service quality at the same time to deliver satisfied services to all passengers.

Both full service carriers and low cost carriers are growing hand in hand by meeting the passengers' demands in balance.

Incheon International Airport is the gateway to Korea and Asia as well as a frequently visited and benchmarked airport by operation experts around the globe as it has been nominated for the best airport in service for consecutive 11 years since its opening and has become an exemplary airport that generates revenues from the non-aviation sector.

We would like to continuously fulfill our responsibility and role as the ICAO Council Member by sharing our aviation success stories and experiences with other Member States.

To this end, Korea has contributed a total of USD 300,000 to the ICAO SAFE Fund including the AFI Plan over the last three years, aiming to promote the aviation safety of Member States.

Today on behalf of the Korean government, I am pleased to announce that the Republic of Korea will make a 100,000 US dollar contribution annually to the SAFE fund over the next three years, which is 300,000 dollars in total. And it will contribute 150,000 US dollars in total to Latin America for the next three years by 50,000 dollars for each year to strengthen aviation safety in the region.

Last but not least, I believe that it is very timely and constructive for ICAO to have a discussion during this Assembly on increasing the number of members of the Council and the Air Navigation Commission. I also hope that Korea has an opportunity to make much greater contribution to the development of international civil aviation at ICAO in the future.

Once again, I would like to give my appreciation to Mr. Chairman, Madam Secretary General and the ICAO Secretariat for your endeavor, and I wish the success of the 39th Session of the ICAO Assembly.

Thank you.

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