



International Civil Aviation Organization

WORKING PAPER

A39-WP/397

P/21

12/9/16

(Information paper)

English only

Revised

23/9/16

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 Delegations,
Honourable Mr. President 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, we are facing challenges that hinder the growth of international civil aviation. The world economy is floundering, unexpected endemics 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.

In this world of growing uncertainty, I believe the Assembly is a very important and meaningful occasion for us since it aims 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.

As a council member of ICAO, Korea highly appreciates the ICAO's leading initiative of "*No Country Left Behind*" and has made multilateral efforts to find a proper role and contribution that will promote sustainable and balanced development of the global aviation industry.

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 largest country in the world in terms of 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 satisfying services to all passengers.

We will expand airport infrastructure to help passengers use airports more conveniently. The third phase Incheon International Airport expansion project will be completed by 2017 and new regional airports will be constructed by 2026.

In particular, Incheon International Airport, a gateway to Korea and North East Asia, has become a smart airport that provides Self Check-in, automated bag drop service and self entry service, combined with cutting-edge ICTs.

As a result, Incheon International Airport has been selected as the best airport in service for eleven consecutive years since its opening. It is a frequently visited and benchmarked by operation experts around the globe as 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 an annual contribution of 100,000 US dollars to the SAFE fund over the next three years, which is 300,000 dollars in total. Like the past three years contribution, half of 300,000 dollars will be earmarked for the promotion of the aviation safety in the African region, In addition, Korea will contribute another 150,000US dollars in total to the AVSEC Fund for the next three years by 50,000 dollars a year to strengthen aviation security in the Central and South America, and the Caribbean region.

Lastly, the Republic of Korea will do its best to discharge the responsibility and anticipated roles as a Council Member, and in particular, it is committed to continuing to make financial contributions to support the No Country Left Behind Initiative.

Once again, I would like to give my appreciation to Mr. President, 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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