



ASSEMBLY — 40TH SESSION

PLENARY

Agenda Item 8: Statements by delegations of Member States

STATEMENT BY NICARAGUA

(Presented by Captain Carlos Salazar Sánchez, Director General of INAC,
on behalf of Nicaragua)

Honourable Mr. President of the Council, Dr. Bernard Aliu,
Honourable Madam Secretary-General, Dr. Fang Liu
Mr. President of this 40th ICAO Assembly,
Heads of Delegation, delegations of invited organizations

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 It is an honour for the Republic of Nicaragua to address this august 40th session of the ICAO Assembly on the eve of the Organization's 75th anniversary.

1.2 As a founding member of ICAO, Nicaragua has faithfully carried out its obligations under the Convention and for the implementation and application of the 19 Annexes to the Convention.

1.3 Moreover, Nicaragua is committed to the five Strategic Objectives and the global plans and programmes.

1.4 Our country recognizes the preeminent role that ICAO plays in the development of international civil aviation safety, which has a favourable impact on the social and economic growth of nations, primarily through air transport operations. We wish to emphasize that in the past 12 years, great strides in civil aviation have been made by Nicaragua in spite of the financial constraints that it, like many other countries with similar economies, has faced.

1.5 The first USOAP audit in 2008 marked a turning point in terms of how aviation security is understood, which, if the truth be told, raised our awareness and showed us the direction to take, which has led a 92 per cent achievement rate.

1.6 On the basis of this experience, we realized that, in spite of our resource limitations, we could be more cohesive and committed, employing good practices and making greater efforts with initiative and dedication. This is how we have achieved the targets that we have pursued, targets that are focused on strengthening our civil aviation system and making it more efficient. Today, at this

¹ Spanish version provided by Nicaragua

40th Assembly, we affirm that the civil aviation picture in Nicaragua is changed thanks to our own efforts and the cooperation and assistance of other States and organizations, especially the North American, Central American and Caribbean Regional Office; the latter, with its new approach, interacting more directly with States, and delivering its assistance much more effectively. Accordingly, the Central American States are presenting at this 40th Assembly a working paper recognizing the excellent work of this regional office and the financial contributions to Member States of the Central American Corporation for Air Navigation Services (COCESNA), which have been decisive for the achievement of these results.

1.7 The Republic of Nicaragua participates very actively at both regional and international levels, attending important events and meetings that consolidate the leadership achieved and promoting broader cooperation and relations with other States and aviation organizations. In this context, a number of air transport agreements, memorandums, protocols and other legal instruments have been signed.

1.8 I take this opportunity to emphasize the positive benefits that have resulted from the integration of the Central American States firstly in the sphere of air navigation and secondly in other issues relating to aviation safety and staff training.

1.9 On behalf of my country, I can say that thanks to this involvement we now have a modern and efficient air navigation infrastructure.

1.10 This past April we had the privilege and honour of receiving a visit by Dr. Bernard Aliu, President of the ICAO Council, who took time out from his busy schedule to join us for the inauguration of a new primary and secondary radar facility established under a turnkey project financed by the Central American Corporation for Air Navigation Services (COCESNA).

1.11 During his visit, Dr. Aliu also participated in a meeting of the Directors of Civil Aviation of the Central American region, at which a document relating to the establishment of a regional accident investigation organization (RAIO) was signed. Dr. Aliu signed the document as witness of honour and expressed his full support for the document. This project, of which I was designated coordinator, is being successfully carried out and the Central American States have presented a working paper on this subject to the 40th Assembly.

1.12 Our country has made great strides in aviation safety management. The Montreal Declaration has inspired us to implement Standards and Recommended Procedures (SARPs), which has helped bring about a more effective safety oversight system.

1.13 We have successfully implemented the State Safety Programme (SSP). Since safety is the highest priority of civil aviation, we have given due attention to the updating of global plans.

1.14 At the present time we are preparing to receive, in November, an ICAO safety and facilitation audit mission (USAP).

1.15 In addition, we have not lost sight of environmental issues in the updating of the State Plan, the appointment of a Focal Point, and preparations for the implementation of the standards and recommended practices set out in the first edition of Annex 16, Volume IV.

1.16 Thanks to the hard work and constant efforts of our workers and assistance from ICAO, we have achieved a level of 94.55% at the present time for effective safety implementation.

1.17 We are rated Category 1 by the FAA. We have implemented 100% of the PBN.

1.18 Our Aerodrome Certification is satisfactory. We have had no fatal accident.

1.19 On the basis of its compliance level, Nicaragua was designated a “Champion State” by ICAO in 2018.

1.20 We wish to announce with satisfaction at this 40th Assembly that, thanks to Nicaragua’s considerable efforts, we have succeeded in establishing an Aviation Accident and Incident Investigation Agency that is functionally independent in its operations, thereby fully satisfying standard 3.2 of ICAO Annex 13. A working paper on the establishment of this agency has been presented to the 40th Assembly.

2. CONCLUSION

2.1 We would not want to conclude our remarks without addressing words of well-deserved recognition to Dr. Bernard Aliu, President of the Council; Secretary General Dr. Fang Liu; and Director of the NACC Regional Office Mr. Melvin Cintrón, and to pledge our cooperation and support.

2.2 We wish also to salute and congratulate the Council for the efficient conduct of its business.

2.3 Lastly, we salute and congratulate the staff of ICAO, who make possible the work of the organization.

2.4 We aspire to a world of peace, friendship and understanding among nations and peoples.

2.5 Civil aviation and this organization came into being for this very purpose, at a time when one could still smell the dust of that bloody and brutal conflict that we know as the Second World War.

LONG LIVE ICAO ON THE 75th ANNIVERSARY OF ITS FOUNDING!
MAY GOD BLESS US ALL!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

— END —