



A40-WP/631
P/58
1/10/19

ASSEMBLY — 40TH SESSION
REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
ON
AGENDA ITEM 21

The attached report on Agenda Item 21
has been approved by the Executive Committee.

Note.— After removal of this covering sheet, this paper should be inserted in the appropriate place in the report folder.

Agenda Item 21: United Nations 2030 Agenda - Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

21.1 The Committee noted A40-WP/45, which provides an overview of the major efforts undertaken by ICAO in support of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) presented by the Council. The Committee appreciated how ICAO advocated the benefits of aviation in support of the SDGs as well as the increased reflection of aviation in the Voluntary National Reviews to report on progress towards the achievement of the SDGs. It particularly welcomed ICAO's mapping against the SDGs, the outcomes of the yearly ICAO World Aviation Forum (IWAF) and the outreach done by the Aviation Partnerships for Sustainable Development. The Committee acknowledged the development of guidance for States to establish a National Aviation Planning Framework, and the development of a Partnership Framework to better manage partnerships in support of the SDGs. It commended ICAO's work on innovation.

21.2 The Committee also appreciated ICAO's monitoring efforts of the SDGs, as an official observer on the Inter-agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDGs), as well as the custodian agency of SDG indicator 9.1.2, *Passenger and Freight Volumes, by Mode of Transport*. The Committee supported the revised Resolution included in A40-WP/45, which invited the Assembly to encourage Member States to report on aviation, as an enabler of sustainable development, within their National Voluntary Review delivered at the UN High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF); and encouraged States to include clear references to the SDGs in their national aviation plans, with the objective of showcasing the contribution of aviation to the UN SDGs and national economies. The Committee encouraged ICAO to strengthen outreach and collaboration with Stakeholders and international organizations to raise visibility on aviation and the SDGs.

21.3 The actions requested by A40-WP/45 will be undertaken, subject to the resources available in the 2020-2022 regular programme budget and from extra budgetary contributions.

21.4 The Committee noted A40-WP/189, in which the Airports Council International (ACI), the Civil Air Navigation Services Organisation (CANSO), the International Air Transport Association (IATA), the International Business Aviation Council (IBAC), and the International Coordinating Council of Aerospace Industries Associations (ICCAIA), illustrate air transport as a significant contributor to global economic growth and social development.

21.5 The Committee appreciated the actions contained in A40-WP/189. These invited the Assembly to note the Air Transport Action Group (ATAG) report *Aviation: Benefits Beyond Borders 2018* and its findings on how aviation supports the global society and the SDGs. Member States should also make use of data wherever and whenever possible to highlight aviation's contributions to the SDGs.

21.6 The Committee also noted A40-WP/199, presented for information by IATA, and A40-WP/488, presented by ACI, also for information.

21.7 In light of the discussion, the Committee agreed to submit for adoption by the Plenary, the following resolution:

Resolution 21/xx: Aviation's contribution towards the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Recognizing that air transport is a catalyst for sustainable development and that it represents an essential lifeline for Least Developed Countries (LDCs), and especially for Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to connect to the world;

Recognizing that air transport connectivity is of utmost importance for the economic, social and territorial cohesion of Member States and their populations;

Recognizing that the benefits enabled by air transportation can only materialize if States have a safe, efficient, secure, economically viable and environmentally sound air transport system;

Whereas the *No Country Left Behind* (NCLB) initiative aims at assisting States in effectively implementing ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) plans, policies and programmes, as well as addressing Significant Safety and Security Concerns so as to ensure that all States have access to the significant socio-economic benefits of air transport;

Whereas the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted the *Transforming our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* that includes a set of seventeen universal and transformative goals supported by 169 targets that balance the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development;

Recalling that the scale and ambition of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development call for a global partnership that will bring together Governments, the private sector, civil society, the United Nations system and other actors to mobilize all available resources for its implementation;

Whereas the delivery of ICAO Strategic Objectives on safety, air navigation capacity and efficiency, security and facilitation, economic development of air transport, and environmental protection contribute to the attainment of the United Nation Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);

Recognizing that the UN High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development is the prime venue where States, through the Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs), deliver an update on annual progress and challenges on implementation towards the achievement of the SDGs at a national level;

Recognizing the importance of global frameworks to support the Strategic Objectives of ICAO;

Recognizing the importance of effective implementation of regional and national plans and initiatives based on the global frameworks;

The Assembly:

1. *Urges* Member States to recognize the significant contributions of aviation to sustainable development realized by stimulating employment, trade, tourism and other areas of economic development at the national, regional and global levels, as well as by facilitating humanitarian and disaster response to crises and public health emergencies;

2. *Directs* the Council and the Secretary General, within their respective competencies, to demonstrate that ICAO continues to serve as an advocate for aviation by raising awareness among Member States, including relevant authorities beyond the air transport sector, the United Nations system, the donor community and all relevant stakeholders about aviation's contributions to sustainable development and the attainment of the SDGs;
3. *Urges* Member States to report on aviation, as an enabler of sustainable development, within their VNRs, through establishing linkages with other relevant SDGs;
4. *Encourages* Member States to include clear references to the UN SDGs in their relevant national plans, with the objective of showcasing the contribution of aviation to the UN SDGs and national economies;
5. *Urges* Member States to enhance their air transport systems by effectively implementing SARPs and policies while at the same time including and elevating the priority of the aviation sector into their national development plans supported by robust air transport sector strategic plans and civil aviation master plans, thereby leading to the attainment of the SDGs;
6. *Directs* the Secretary General to consider the special needs and characteristics of LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS, identified within the framework of the United Nations, in the coordination, prioritization, facilitation and implementation of assistance programmes aimed at enhancing their air transport systems;
7. *Directs* the Secretary General to continue monitoring and reviewing, when applicable, the contributions made towards the attainment of the SDGs through the implementation of ICAO Strategic Objectives and work programmes;
8. *Directs* the Secretary General to ensure that ICAO participate, when applicable and in alignment with its Strategic Objectives, in appropriate mechanisms put in place to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development so that aviation is recognized and prioritized as such by Member States in their development plans; ~~and~~
9. *Requests* the Secretary General to enhance existing and establish new partnerships with Member States, the aviation industry, the United Nations system, international and regional organizations, financial institutions, donors and other actors to assist Member States in enhancing their air transport systems with a view to contributing, consequently, to the attainment of the SDGs; ~~and~~
10. *Declares that* this Resolution supersedes A39-25 on United Nations 2030 Agenda- Sustainable Development Goals.