



**WORKING PAPER**

**ASSEMBLY — 42ND SESSION**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Agenda Item 16: Environmental Protection – International Aviation and Climate Change**

**INITIATIVE TO JOINTLY BUILD THE GREEN AIR SILK ROAD**

(Presented by China)

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The initiative to jointly build the Green Air Silk Road (GASR) aims to promote green and low-carbon transformation of civil aviation in partner countries, and contribute to the realization of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the Strategic Goals of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). Jointly building GASR adheres to the principle of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits, focusing on jointly building green airports, green air traffic control, green flights, and carrying out capacity building for green transformation of civil aviation, so as to promote practical cooperation among partner countries.

**Action:** The Assembly is invited to:

- a) recognize the important role of the GASR initiative in promoting practical cooperation among all States to address international aviation emission reduction; and
- b) recognize and support jointly building the GASR initiative could play a positive facilitating role, and invite all States to join the GASR initiative.

<i>Strategic Goals:</i>	This working paper relates to Strategic Goal <i>Aviation is Environmentally Sustainable</i>
<i>Financial implications:</i>	The activities referred to in this paper are expected to be undertaken with the resources available in the 2026-2028 Regular Budget and/or from extra-budgetary contributions as guided by the ICAO Business Plan 2026-2028.
<i>References:</i>	<i>United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Paris Agreement</i> <i>Convention on International Civil Aviation</i> ICAO Assembly Resolution A41-22 – <i>Consolidated statement of continuing ICAO policies and practices related to environmental protection – Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA)</i> China Civil Aviation Green Development Action Plan (2023-2025)

<sup>1</sup> English and Chinese versions provided by China

## 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 China is an important contributor to the sustainable development of global civil aviation. It has always adhered to the concept of green development and continued to promote the green, low-carbon and circular development of civil aviation in an in-depth manner.

1.2 China is willing to strengthen cooperation with other countries in green development of civil aviation. In recent years, through projects such as the "Belt and Road Initiative" and the "South-South Cooperation" climate fund, China has continuously provided support within its capabilities to other developing countries.

1.3 The GASR serves as the main platform for China's civil aviation to strengthen cooperation with the other countries. It continues to proactively develop aviation partnerships with the partner countries, working together to create an efficient and clean air corridor.

## 2. OBJECTIVES AND PRINCIPLES OF BUILDING THE GREEN AIR SILK ROAD

2.1 Building the GASR aims to promote green and low-carbon transformation of civil aviation in partner countries, and contribute to the realization of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the strategic goals of ICAO.

2.2 The initiative to build the GASR focuses on promoting practical cooperation among countries and jointly advance the green and low-carbon transformation of aviation based on the national conditions and resource endowments of partner countries, with principles of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits.

2.3 The initiative to build the GASR has always adhered to the concept of green development, following the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities (CBDR). GASR has actively promoted the collaborative research, development, promotion and application of advanced energy-saving and carbon-reduction technologies in civil aviation, and carried out the green and low-carbon transformation of civil aviation through the manner of each country contributing its best efforts, mutual learning and exchange, and win-win cooperation. It has also jointly promoted the synergistic progress of carbon reduction, pollution mitigation, green expansion and growth in global civil aviation and related industries.

## 3. MAIN CONTENTS OF GASR INITIATIVE

3.1 Jointly building green airport system. GASR is committed to build green and sustainable airports, with a focus on reducing greenhouse gas emissions and protecting the ecological environment of the project site throughout the design, construction and operation stages. The GASR partner countries could focus on strengthening communication and cooperation in various areas, such as research and deployment of airport electrification, airport water recycling and sewage treatment, noise pollution prevention, construction of smart energy management systems, energy conservation and carbon reduction in infrastructure, and low-carbon airport certification, to jointly building green, low-carbon and sustainable airports.

3.2 Jointly building green air traffic management system. GASR is committed to cooperating with partner countries in research, development and application of new air traffic management (ATM)

technologies as well as innovative application of ATM facilities and equipment, so as to improve the air traffic management efficiency and flight operation efficiency, promote pollution reduction and carbon emission reduction of flights, and reduce the impact of aviation activities on the ecological environment.

3.3 Jointly building green flights. GASR is committed to the aligning and mutual recognition of policies and standards to support the development of the initiative. With a focus on the application of sustainable aviation fuel (SAF), lower carbon aviation fuels (LCAF), and other aviation cleaner energies, it actively carries out green flight pilot projects, summarizes experiences conducive to flight decarbonization, and actively participates in practical cooperation in various fields under the framework of ICAO. It also further advances the alignment between the Belt and Road Initiative and ICAO's *No Country Left Behind* initiative, and promotes the improvement of SARPs.

3.4 Jointly launching capacity building programme related to green transformation of civil aviation. Focusing on technologies, professional knowledge, operational standards, and operation and management models related to the green and low-carbon transition of civil aviation, GASR partner countries could consult and organize cooperation training, seminars, and continuous talent education and cultivation. This aims to jointly enhance the capacity for the green and low-carbon transition of civil aviation, and provide important support for partner countries in areas such as the cultivation of green and low-carbon talents in civil aviation, discipline development, and scientific research.

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