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PLENARY

Agenda Item 8: Statements by delegations of Member States

STATEMENT BY PALAU

(Presented by Palau)

Mr. President,
Distinguished Council Members,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Republic of Palau regrets that we are unable to attend this Assembly in person. Nevertheless, we wish to take this opportunity to present our views through this written statement.

As a Pacific Island country, Palau is deeply reliant on safe, reliable, and sustainable air connectivity. Civil aviation is our nation's lifeline: it brings essential goods, medical supplies, and services to our islands; it sustains our tourism-based economy; and it connects our people to education, business, and opportunities abroad. Palau has consistently worked to strengthen regional aviation cooperation, including upgrading air safety oversight capacity, enhancing airport facilities, and collaborating with development partners to introduce renewable energy into aviation infrastructure. These efforts demonstrate Palau's enduring commitment to aviation safety and to ICAO's long-term vision of "Safe Skies, Sustainable Future."

Palau firmly believes that global aviation safety is indivisible. Air traffic management, navigation, and environmental protection require close cooperation across borders, as no single country can ensure aviation safety on its own. In this regard, inclusivity within ICAO's mechanisms is essential to guaranteeing that all flight information regions operate under the same safety standards and contribute to the collective good.

In this spirit, Palau wishes to highlight the importance of ensuring that all capable stakeholders are engaged in ICAO's work. The Taipei Flight Information Region (FIR) is among the busiest in the Asia-Pacific and plays a vital role in connecting Northeast Asia, Southeast Asia, and North America. Taiwan's Civil Aeronautics Administration has demonstrated professionalism in aviation safety and sustainability, aligning with ICAO initiatives such as the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA) and pioneering the use of Sustainable Aviation Fuel. Palau believes that practical engagement with the Taipei FIR, through Taiwan's meaningful participation, would strengthen global aviation safety and advance ICAO's environmental goals.

Mr. President, Palau respectfully urges ICAO to uphold its founding principles of inclusivity and cooperation by extending opportunities for Taiwan to contribute more directly to ICAO's technical discussions and safety mechanisms. This would ensure that the management of the Taipei FIR continues to reinforce global safety and sustainability, benefiting not only our region but the international aviation community as a whole.

Thank you.

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