



WORKING PAPER

ASSEMBLY — 41ST SESSION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 13: Facilitation Programmes

THE IMPORTANCE OF A COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY TO COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN AVIATION

(Presented by United States)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Human trafficking is a multi-billion dollar enterprise affecting 24.9 million men, women and children globally with intersections across all modes of transportation, including the aviation sector. Public-facing aviation personnel and the travelling public can play an important role in intercepting and stopping human trafficking when equipped with the ability to recognize and report suspected instances of the crime to the proper authorities. Such efforts are bolstered when civil aviation authorities and organizations, aircraft operators and airport operators adopt a Comprehensive Strategy to combat human trafficking. Building on the 2019 Assembly Resolution A40-15: *Development and implementation of facilitation provisions — combatting human trafficking*, the Assembly is invited to support a Resolution underscoring the importance of a Comprehensive Strategy to combat human trafficking in aviation and encouraging the continuation of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) efforts to assist States in their initiatives to combat human trafficking.

Action: The Assembly is invited to adopt the resolution found in the Appendix.

<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	This working paper relates to Strategic Objectives <i>Safety</i> and <i>Security & Facilitation</i>
<i>Financial implications:</i>	The activities referred to in this paper should be undertaken subject to the resources available in “Undetermined” and/or from extra budgetary contributions. Other financial implications will vary across Member States.
<i>References:</i>	The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and its Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, General Assembly resolution 55/25 Annex 9 — <i>Facilitation</i> Doc 10171, <i>A Comprehensive Strategy for Combatting Human Trafficking in the Aviation Sector</i> Circ 352, <i>Guidelines for Training Cabin Crew on Identifying and Responding to Trafficking in Persons</i> Circ 357, <i>Guidelines for Reporting Trafficking in Persons by Flight and Cabin Crew</i>

	<p>ICAO Training Tool for Capacity Building of Cabin Crew on Identifying and Responding to Trafficking in Persons Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC): Ministerial Statement - 10th Transportation Ministerial Meeting 2017 <i>APEC: Joint Ministerial Statement - 8th Transportation Ministerial Meeting 2013</i> International Transport Forum of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Ministerial Declaration on Transport Safety and Security of 2018 FAA Extension, Safety, and Security Act of 2016 The FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act of 2018</p>
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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Human trafficking, or trafficking in persons, is a multi-billion dollar enterprise affecting 24.9 million men, women and children globally,¹ with intersections across all modes of transportation, including the aviation sector.²

1.2 Public-facing aviation personnel and the traveling public can play an important role in intercepting and stopping human trafficking when equipped with the ability to recognize and report suspected instances of human trafficking to the proper authorities.

1.3 In the international context, Ministers of Transport have underscored the important role that transportation can have in the fight against human trafficking in the APEC Transportation Ministerial Meeting Ministerial Statements of 2013 and 2017 and the International Transport Forum of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Ministerial Declaration on Transport Safety and Security of 2018.

1.4 ICAO actively contributes to combatting human trafficking in the aviation sector. ICAO's counter-trafficking efforts include a general resolution,³ training guidelines for cabin crew,⁴ reporting guidelines for flight and cabin crew⁵ and a training programme for cabin crew.⁶

1.5 ICAO counter-trafficking recommended practices emphasize the importance of clear reporting systems,⁷ raising public awareness⁸ and a Comprehensive Strategy for airport and aircraft operators to combat the crime.⁹ Amendment 29 to Annex 9 will be applicable on 18 November 2022.

1.6 The Facilitation Panel (FALP) Doc 10171, *A Comprehensive Strategy for Combatting Human Trafficking in the Aviation Sector*, adopted by FALP in July 2021 and by the Air Transport Committee (ATC) in September 2021, enhances national counter-trafficking policies and procedure frameworks and equips States, Civil Aviation Authorities and organizations, aircraft operators and airports with guidance and recommendations to inform their development of comprehensive counter-trafficking strategies in line with ICAO Assembly Resolution A40-16, *Consolidated statement of continuing ICAO policies related to facilitation*.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 When equipped with the knowledge to recognize and report potential instances of human trafficking to victim-centered, trauma-informed human trafficking hotlines and law enforcement, transportation ministry employees, aviation personnel and passengers can play an important role in helping to intercept and stop the crime.

¹ <https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/forced-labour/lang--en/index.htm>

² According to the Counter-Trafficking Data Collective, a United Nations International Organization for Migration initiative, of the nearly 80% of international human trafficking cases that cross official ports of entry, 20% are by airplane.

³ https://www.icao.int/Meetings/a40/Documents/Resolutions/a40_res_prov_en.pdf

⁴ <https://www.icao.int/safety/airnavigation/OPS/CabinSafety/Documents/Cir.352.alltext.en.pdf>

⁵ <https://www.icao.int/safety/airnavigation/OPS/CabinSafety/Documents/Circ.357.EN.pdf>

⁶ <https://www.icao.int/safety/airnavigation/OPS/CabinSafety/Pages/Trafficking-in-Persons.aspx>

⁷ https://www.icao.int/Meetings/a40/Documents/Resolutions/a40_res_prov_en.pdf

⁸ https://www.icao.int/Meetings/a40/Documents/Resolutions/a40_res_prov_en.pdf

⁹ Adopted on 9 March 2022 as part of Amendment 29 to Annex 9.

2.2 Such efforts are bolstered when civil aviation authorities and organizations, aircraft operators and airport operators adopt a Comprehensive Strategy to combat human trafficking that is inclusive of laws, leadership, policies, reporting protocols and response mechanisms, partnerships, training, public awareness, data collection, information-sharing and victim and survivor support.

3. **CONCLUSION**

3.1 Member States are invited to adopt the Assembly Resolution attached to this paper in Appendix, and to encourage the continuation of ICAO's efforts to assist States in their initiatives to combat human trafficking in aviation.

3.2 The Assembly is urged to encourage industry and other stakeholders to increase their efforts to help stop human trafficking.

APPENDIX

DRAFT RESOLUTION FOR ADOPTION BY THE 41ST SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY

DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF FACILITATION PROVISIONS — A COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY FOR COMBATTING HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN THE AVIATION SECTOR

Whereas the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, adopted in November 2000 by the United Nations General Assembly and entered into force on 28 January 2004, provides an international framework and enjoys ratification by a majority of countries;

Recalling that the 2019 General Assembly Resolution A40-15, *Development and implementation of facilitation provisions — combatting human trafficking* acknowledges the importance of clear reporting systems for airport and aircraft operators, victim-centered and trauma-informed responses from law enforcement, training for aviation personnel and raising public awareness among aviation personnel and the traveling public to combat human trafficking in the aviation sector;

Whereas the Facilitation Panel (FALP) Doc 10171, *A Comprehensive Strategy for Combatting Human Trafficking in the Aviation Sector* adopted by FALP in July 2021 and by the Air Transport Committee (ATC) in September 2021 enhances national counter-trafficking policies and procedure frameworks and equips States, Civil Aviation Authorities and organizations, aircraft operators and airports with guidance and recommendations to inform their development of comprehensive counter-trafficking strategies in line with ICAO Assembly Resolution A40-16, *Consolidated statement of continuing ICAO policies related to facilitation*;

Whereas Recommended Practice 8.49 in Amendment 29 to Annex 9 — *Facilitation* encourages Contracting States to take measures to ensure that procedures in place to combat trafficking in persons are based on a Comprehensive Strategy, and include clear reporting systems and relevant competent authorities' points of contact for airport and aircraft operators;

Whereas adopting a Comprehensive Strategy inclusive of laws, leadership, policies, reporting protocols and response mechanisms, partnerships, training, public awareness, data collection, information-sharing including trafficking survivor-informed recommendations and perspectives, and victim and survivor support can help civil aviation authorities and organizations, aircraft operators and airports stop this crime;

The Assembly:

1. *Urges* Member States to give attention to adopting and promptly implementing Recommended Practice 8.49 in Amendment 29 to Annex 9; and
2. *Calls on* Member States to give due regard to Doc 10171, *A Comprehensive Strategy for Combatting Human Trafficking in the Aviation Sector*, in their implementation of the relevant provisions of Annex 9.

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