



**ASSEMBLY — 41ST SESSION**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

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

**THE INDEX FRAMEWORK SYSTEM FOR CIVIL AVIATION HIGH-QUALITY DEVELOPMENT AND ITS APPLICATION**

(Presented by China)

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The ICAO's strategic objectives are closely related to 15 of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) within the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In recent years, the ICAO, working closely with countries and other United Nations' agencies, has actively promoted the implementation of the SDGs related to the civil aviation industry. As the trustee of the indicator 9.1.2 "passenger and cargo volume by mode of transport" within the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, ICAO focuses on monitoring the scale of global air transport development, however, for sustainable development of the global civil aviation industry, it needs a set of index systems featuring more scientific, systematic and comprehensive that can fully reflect its development to achieve a comprehensive and systematic quantitative evaluation and to guide the development of this industry, so as to promote the coordinated and balanced development of air transport systems of states in terms of safety, service, efficiency, economy and environmental protection. In recent years, China has committed itself to being guided by the new development concept of innovation-driven, coordinated, green, open and shared development to explore the path to high-quality development, and facilitated the building of a community with a shared future for mankind. Based on the index systems of ICAO, IATA, ACI and other relevant institutions, China has made efforts in this field and developed the *Index Framework System for China's Civil Aviation High-quality Development* through various methods such as qualitative and quantitative screening and testing to be used to guide, evaluate and standardize the high quality development of China's civil aviation, which has achieved positive results. The index framework system and its application results are presented to ICAO as well as its member states, hoping to provide theoretical and technical support for the sustainable development of the civil aviation globally.

<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	This working paper relates to Strategic Objectives – Economic Development.
<i>Financial implications:</i>	No additional resources required.
<i>References:</i>	<i>United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development</i> ; relevant index systems applied by international organizations such as International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), International Air Transport Association (IATA), and Airports Council International (ACI); and relevant documents, including the <i>Study on the Statistical Index System for High-quality Development of China's Civil Aviation</i> , and the <i>Civil Aviation Development Index (ADI)</i> .

## 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 To promote the healthy and sustainable development of civil aviation globally, there is an urgent need to establish a set of index systems that can fully reflect the development of the civil aviation across the world. In 2015, on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations, the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was unanimously adopted by 193 member states, which is a list of actions for the benefit of mankind, the planet, prosperity, peace and partnership development launched by countries around the world for the first time in human history. Over the past seven years, the agencies of the United Nations have taken the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as core mission, countries around the world have actively promoted its implementation and integrated the SDGs into their national development strategies. At the same time, more and more enterprises have facilitated sustainable development as their social responsibilities. For the civil aviation industry, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), as an official observer of the Inter-agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDGS), has developed its strategic objectives, which are closely related to 15 of the 17 SDGs. In recent years, ICAO, working closely with countries and other United Nations' agencies, has actively promoted the implementation of the SDGs. With the joint efforts of international organizations, governments, enterprises, social organizations, the civil aviation industry has made positive progress on Goal 7 (Affordable and clean energy), Goal 8 (Decent work and economic growth), Goal 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure) and Goal 13 (Climate action). In addition, as the trustee of the indicator 9.1.2 "passenger and cargo volume by mode of transport" within the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, ICAO focuses on monitoring the scale of global air transport development, however, for sustainable development of the global civil aviation industry, it needs a set of index systems featuring more scientific, systematic and comprehensive that can fully reflect its development to achieve a comprehensive and systematic quantitative evaluation and to guide the development of this industry, so as to promote the coordinated and balanced development of air transport systems of states in terms of safety, service, efficiency, economy and environmental protection.

1.2 The exploration and practice of China in the pursuit of high-quality development of civil aviation will provide theoretical and technical support for the sustainable development of global civil aviation. In recent years, China has actively promoted the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with regarding sustainable development as one of basic state policies, committed itself to being guided by the new development concept of innovation-driven, coordinated, green, open and shared development to explore the path to high-quality development, and facilitated the building of a community with a shared future for mankind. Over the past 70 years, China has explored in the pursuit of high-quality development of civil aviation and made great progress in it. By now, China has become the second largest air transport country in the world. However, in the face of the new trends and new characteristics of the global economy, the development pattern which only pursuits high-speed and largescale is no longer suitable for the current needs of China's civil aviation industry, and it is necessary to solve contradictions and problems identified in industry development through high-quality development, which is highly consistent with the ICAO's vision of realizing a sustainable global air transport system. In order to better promote the high-quality development of civil aviation, and make all stakeholders in civil aviation explore the ways of high-quality development, in 2018, based on the index systems of ICAO, International Air Transport Association (IATA), Airports Council International (ACI) and other relevant institutions, the Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC) sorted out these systems and built a high-quality development index framework database including more than 1 860 specific indicators. With combination of its strategic development goals and situation, CAAC developed the *Index Framework System for China's Civil Aviation High-quality Development* (hereinafter referred to as the Index Framework System) through various methods such as qualitative and quantitative screening and testing to be used to guide, evaluate and standardize the high quality development of China's civil aviation, which has achieved positive results.

## 2. DISCUSSION

2.1 Based on the 17 SDGs within the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the index framework system is closely linked to the connotation and characteristics of the high-quality development of China's civil aviation, focusing on the core requirements of new development concept, clear development goal, sufficient development power, clear development path and good development benefit, which guides the comprehensive benefit of high-quality development.

2.2 This system consists of two parts: basic indicators and characteristic indicators. Following main principles of typicality, measurability and orientation, it reflects the development of civil aviation from different perspectives.

2.2.1 The basic indicators are not only the basis of the high-quality development of civil aviation, but also the embodiment of the results achieved during development, which focus on reflecting the basic situation and general picture of the development of this industry, represent the characteristics and fundamental requirements of the development of civil aviation, and relate to Goal 8 (Decent work and economic growth), Goal 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure) and Goal 12 (Responsible consumption and production), including five elements: key elements, evaluation indicators, index connotation, calculation methods, and notes. Among them, key elements cover six aspects of the industry: safety standard, support capacity, service quality, production scale, operation efficiency and economic benefits. Specifying key elements, evaluation indicators have 28 typical indicators.

2.2.2 The characteristic indicators embody the requirements and characteristics of high-quality development, and show the process, pattern and path of high-quality development of civil aviation, which relate to Goal 7 (Affordable and clean energy), Goal 8 (Decent work and economic growth), Goal 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure), Goal 10 (Reduced inequalities), Goal 11 (Sustainable cities and communities) and Goal 13 (Climate action), and include six elements: characteristics, key elements, evaluation indicators, index connotation, calculation methods and notes. Among them, five characteristics, following the new development concept, focus on the implementation of this concept featuring innovation-driven, coordinated, green, open and shared development. These characteristics place a premium on the comprehensive quality and benefits of the industry, such as momentum, coordination, environmental-friendliness, opening-up, system and structure. There are 15 key elements which are fundamental criteria for high-quality development of civil aviation and specific meaning of high-quality development. There are 40 evaluation indicators and aim to solve problems, which serve as main drivers of high-quality development and represent main targets, directly reflecting quality changes of the development of the industry, and, in particular, integrate specific indicators such as intelligent civil aviation, the goals of peak carbon dioxide emissions and carbon neutrality, international exchanges and cooperation, and aviation logistics into the evaluation indicators.

2.3 The application of the index framework system. The direction and goals of China's civil aviation high-quality development are clarified under the system. This system can guide, evaluate and standardize work of the high-quality development of civil aviation, and integrates the new development concept of innovation-driven, coordinated, green and shared development into the development of civil aviation.

2.3.1 This system is used to guide the high-quality development of China's civil aviation. The index framework system provides with China's civil aviation a reference and paradigm for units and departments in all regions to study and formulate plans and projects for the high-quality development in line with their own situation. Units and departments in all regions have carried out their work related to

high-quality development in accordance with this system. This system serves as a guideline on promoting high-quality development of China's civil aviation systematically.

2.3.2 This system is used to evaluate the high-quality development of China's civil aviation. CAAC commissioned relevant entities to carry out in-depth research and pilot work related to high-quality development in accordance with the index framework system. It successively organized 49 units including its regulatory departments, airlines, airports, air traffic management departments, and OTA to carry out 75 subject research and pilot projects, which effectively improved the development quality of relevant units and achieved positive results. Since 2019, the *Report on Data Statistics and Comparative Study of Global Civil Aviation Development* has been regularly published every year, which focuses on a comprehensive assessment of the overall high-quality development of China's civil aviation and covers the environment of global civil aviation development and the development indicators of major links in the aviation industry chain, providing a comparative benchmark for the development of civil aviation around the world.

2.3.3 This system is used to standardize the high-quality development of China's civil aviation. With the research and pilot work related to the index framework system, a number of influential and exemplary models of research and pilot projects in high-quality development of civil aviation have been formed, such as the *Research on the Index System for High-quality Development of Large International Hub Airport*, the *Research on the Index System for High-quality Development of Air Traffic Management System*, the *Study on the Evaluation Index System of High-quality Development of Airline*, and the *Research and Practice on the Integrated Operation for Baoshan Airport, Tengchong Airport and Mangshi Airport Implemented*. These research and pilot projects have played an exemplary and leading role in promoting the high-quality development of China's civil aviation. In the meanwhile, on the basis of the relevant research and pilot results, China has accumulated experience in promoting these projects across the industry, and has orderly issued policies and standards for the high-quality development of civil aviation, thus achieving the coordinated interaction of various policies and standards for high-quality development and the efficient allocation of diversified resources

### 3. CONCLUSION

3.1 The establishment and improvement of the index framework system for civil aviation high-quality development has been related to the SDGs. In addition, based on the index systems of ICAO, IATA, ACI and other relevant institutions, a high-quality development index framework database including more than 1 860 specific indicators has been built. The index framework system has been perfected on the basis of the study of pilot projects, which has played a significant role in guiding and promoting the high-quality development of China's civil aviation and has proved effective and scientific in practice. The index system inherits and develops the existing index system applied by such international organization as ICAO. ICAO and its member states are invited to pay attention to China's exploration in this area and try to utilize or establish a complete index system in the work.