



ASSEMBLY — 41ST SESSION

PLENARY

Agenda Item 5: Election of Member States to be represented on the Council

CANDIDATURE OF UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

(Presented by United Arab Emirates)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

According to its resolution 02 GA/27, adopted during its Ordinary Session held in Rabat, 19-20 May 2022 the General Assembly of Arab Civil Aviation Organization nominated the UAE for re-election as a Member of the Council of ICAO, under Part III. This paper presents UAE's candidature for re-election and seeks the support of all ICAO Member States.

<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	This working paper relates to Strategic Objectives.
<i>Financial implications:</i>	Not applicable
<i>References:</i>	A41-WP/2, Supporting Documentation for the Election of Member States to be represented on the Council

1. UAE AVIATION SECTOR

1.1 The UAE has become a power house of global air transport. Aviation sector in the UAE played a significant role during the climax of the pandemic, transporting passengers, essential supplies, relief materials and vaccinations to many countries around the world. The UAE was one of the first countries to provide access for air trade and travel when the world was gripped by the lockdown. This involved adopting automated and digital processing for health, identity, customs and border control purposes in addition to flexibility in regulatory provisions.

1.2 UAE's contributions to the regional and international aviation industry are well recognized, leading to the honour of being nominated by the Arab Civil Aviation Organization as its candidate for Member of the Council of ICAO, under Part III.

1.3 Home to 6 international air carriers and 8 international airports including the world's busiest international airport, the UAE is heading towards handling close to 100 million passengers by end of this year, which is a 100 percent growth over the figure achieved in 2021.

1.4 The UAE continues to maintain # 1 global ranking for compliance in the ICAO USOAP and USAP audits. This year, We provided safe, secure, and efficient air traffic services to 500,000 aircraft movements in the UAE Flight Information Region (FIR) until August 2022.

1.5 With 187 Air Services Agreements, of which 159 are Fully Liberal and Liberal The UAE is connecting many parts of the world. Out of a total of 430 foreign operators registered with the UAE, over 190 airlines operate regularly to the UAE airports and enjoy the benefits of Open Skies. Our fully liberal air transport policy has underpinned all this.

1.6 In March 2021, UAE Prime Minister's Office approved the establishment of the UAE National Committee for LCAF and SAF to carry out all the needed studies towards setting a National Policy and Strategy for LCAF and SAF, which will balance our environmental and economic needs.

1.7 UAE effectively participated in all the work of the Long-Term Aspiration Goals task force and the High level Meeting conducted in ICAO in July, with full support to the outcome conclusion. As UAE Government has announced the net zero by 2050 in Nov 2021, and following the government initiative, the aviation sector established Aviation Net Zero Task force in May 2022 to study an internal resolution toward exploring net zero within the sector. The resolution is pending government approval.

1.8 The United Arab Emirates participated in Designing and organizing the "First Arab Environment Forum" from 4-6 July (virtually) to prepare the regional experts for the High level meeting and the coming Assembly; as the forum discussed the critical environmental topics within the aviation. Experts and speakers from different regions. countries, international organizations and various civil aviation administrations participated.

2. OUR COMMITMENT TO ICAO

2.1 The UAE is ardently supporting ICAO's No Country Left Behind (NCLB) initiative that is continuously and successfully assisting States for the effective implementation of ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) to improve safety and security standards.

2.2 The GCAA is committed to its "ICAO Ready" initiative and shares and exchanges its experience with other states through mutual agreements. Since the start of the initiative, over 25 technical assistance missions have been carried out for different ICAO Members State, and over 10000 aviation professionals were trained from different regions under ACAO, AFCAC, LACAC, ECCAA, APAC, and CASSOS. In addition, 1500 training courses were provided by training centres located in UAE. The UAE supported women in aviation initiative by training 3100 women. The UAE provides ICAO certified AVSEC USAP Auditors to participate in the ICAO USAP CMA audits of ICAO Contracting States on a regular basis. The UAE also provides ICAO certified AVSEC Instructors to conduct AVSEC courses on behalf of ICAO to assist ICAO Contracting States in the development of AVSEC at national, regional and international levels.

2.3 UAE takes its 'member state obligations very seriously having hosted the Cyber Security in Aviation forum in collaboration with ICAO during the World Government Summit held during EXPO 2020. The UAE government has also signed a strategic partnership aiming to exchange best practices, knowledge and expertise in aviation and cyber security with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). The agreement focuses on accelerators and innovation in civil aviation, online security and development modules, while supporting the exchange of expertise which supports the global aviation sector.

The prominent role the UAE plays in ICAO SAFETY and SECURITY Forums. Experts from the UAE have been contributing in Working Groups and panels such as:

No.	Name	Status
1	ICAO Safety Management Panel (SMP)	Member
2	Regional Aviation Safety Group – Middle East Steering Committee (RASG-MID SC)	Member
3	The Commission of Experts of the Supervisory Authority of the International Registry (CESAIR)	Member
4	ICAO Airworthiness Panel (AIRP)	Member
5	ICAO Wake Turbulence Study Group	Member
6	ICAO ATC Fatigue Risk Management Task Force Panel	Member
7	ICAO ATM OPS Panel	Member
8	ICAO Aerodromes Panel	Member
9	ICAO Runway And Ground Safety Working Group	Member
10	ICAO AVSEC Panel	Vice Chair
11	ICAO AVSEC Panel Task Force on Governance Handbook	Chair
12	AVSEC Panel Task Force on Assessing for the Enhancement of Compliance with Annex 17.	Chair
13	ICAO AVSECP Sub-Group on Aviation Security Incident Reporting (SG-ASIR)	Chair
14	Working Group on Threat and Risk (WGTR)	Member
15	Working Group on Annex 17 (WGA17)	Member
16	Working Group on Guidance Material (WGGM)	Member
17	Working Group on Innovation in Aviation Security (WGIAS)	Member
18	Working Group on Air Cargo Security (WGACS)	Member
19	ICAO Secretariat Study Group on Universal Security Audit Programme – Continuous Monitoring Approach (USAP-CMA)	Member
20	Dangerous Goods Panel Working Group on Reporting & Investigation	Chair
21	Dangerous Goods Panel Working Group on Restructuring Annex 18	Chair
22	Task Force on Global Aviation Security Plan (GASeP)	Member

3. OUR COMMITMENT TO THE GLOBAL AVIATION INDUSTRY

3.1 In recognition of the benefits to promote improvements in sustainability, Research and development and contributions to the ICAO, we established the US\$ 1 Million Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Global Aviation Award. This richest award in the history of aviation recognizes the States, researchers, and organizations for their commitment to the development of the aviation industry.

3.2 In order to facilitate the sharing of information following ICAO principles regarding international cooperation and collaboration, the United Arab Emirates has signed bilateral and multilateral MOUs regarding the sharing and protection of sensitive aviation security information with some ICAO Member States, whenever the necessity arose. The objective of these bilateral and multilateral MOUs is to enhance effectiveness and efficiency of issues related to civil aviation security by giving due importance to risk-based aviation security measures as advocated by ICAO.

3.3 The UAE has entered into collaborative arrangements based on recognition of equivalence of security measures by implementing One-Stop (OSS) Security Arrangements with some ICAO Member

States. This was undertaken in order to make aviation security operations more effective and efficient and avoid unnecessary duplication of security controls, which is consistent with risk assessment requirements.

3.4 The UAE GCAA undertook an active role in developing the Year of Security Culture initiatives and activities on a national, regional and global levels with the objective to enhance security awareness and security culture. During 2021 and 2022 the UAE delivered security culture workshops/webinars for more than 1600 participants representing local, regional and global entities covering various topics.

4. CANDIDATURE TO THE ICAO COUNCIL, UNDER PART III

4.1 We seek the privilege to continue contributing as an ICAO Council Member, and would deeply appreciate the support of ICAO Member States for UAE's candidature for re-election to the Council of ICAO, in Part III, at the 41st Session of the ICAO Assembly. It is our honour to inform the Assembly that in May 2022, The Arab Civil Aviation Organization "ACAO" member states have supported the United Arab Emirates to be on the list of candidatures of the ACAO presented to ICAO.

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