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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 8 – RECOGNISING THE ROLE AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLABORATION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION

(Presented by the International Federation of Air Line Pilots’ Associations, the International Labour Organisation and the International Transport Workers’ Federation)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 40th Session of the ICAO Assembly adopted Resolution A40-21, *Aviation’s contribution towards the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*. The Resolution demonstrates ICAO’s commitment to contributing to sustainable development and attainment of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. This paper congratulates ICAO and the International Labour Organization on the signing of a framework Agreement on 15 March 2022 and commends ICAO’s commitments under that agreement.

<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	This working paper relates to all Strategic Objectives.
<i>Financial implications:</i>	None
<i>References:</i>	<p>A41-WP/55, United Nations 2030 Agenda – Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)</p> <p>Resolution A40-21, <i>Aviation’s contribution towards the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development</i></p> <p>Resolution A39-30, <i>ICAO Gender Equality Programme promoting the participation of women in the global aviation sector</i></p> <p>A/RES/70/1, <i>Transforming our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development</i></p> <p>ATConf/5, Declaration of Global Principles for the Liberalization of International Air Transport</p> <p>ATConf/5, Consolidated Conclusions, Model Clauses, Recommendations and Declaration, 10/07/2003</p> <p>Agreement between the International Labour Organization and the International Civil Aviation Organization, 15 March 2022</p> <p>ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization, 10 June 2008</p> <p>ILO Tripartite Meeting of Experts on the Measurement of Decent Work, Chairperson’s Report, 8-10 September 2008</p>

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Sustainable Development Goal 8 is described by the United Nations as the promotion of sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all.

1.2 Resolution A40-21 requested the Secretary General to establish new partnerships with international organizations to assist Member States in enhancing their air transport systems with a view to contributing to the attainment of the SDGs.

1.3 ATConf/5 concluded in relation to Agenda Item 1.1 (f) that “[l]iberalization may have various implications for labour, which should continue to participate as an important stakeholder for the development of the air transport industry. States should observe and respect the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, and take the necessary measures to promote social dialogue with the active participation of labour as a way to find innovative and socially responsible solutions”.

1.4 In line with Assembly Resolution A40-21, *Aviation Contribution towards the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, and in a manner coherent with the conclusions of ATConf/5, ICAO has now concluded an Agreement with the International Labour Organization (ILO).

2. CONTENT OF THE AGREEMENT

2.1 ICAO and the ILO have concluded an Agreement dated 15 March 2022, which builds upon the earlier Memorandum of Understanding between them of 1953. Both, the 1953 Memorandum of Understanding and the 2022 Agreement recognise that “*in principle, in relation to the terms and conditions of employment of aviation personnel, the ICAO deals with issues affecting the safety, efficiency and reliability of civil aviation, and the ILO with social issues, but the practical application of this principle calls for the strengthening of the cooperation between the Parties, including through consultations and exchange of information and views on matters of common concern and interest*”.

2.2 Under the 2022 Agreement, the parties agreed to formalize closer collaboration in relation to areas of common interest, including but not limited to: women and aviation, the future of decent and sustainable work in aviation, and data collection. In particular, the Agreement was drafted in line with the ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization (2008) and the ILO Centenary Declaration for the Future of Work, 2019. Both draw on and reaffirm the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and its Follow-up, 1998.

3. THE SCOPE OF DECENT WORK AND EMPLOYMENT-RICH GROWTH

3.1 The Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization is reflected within the ILO’s mandate in the form of the Decent Work Agenda, which the parties have agreed is within the ILO mandate covering the areas of common interest that ILO shares with ICAO. The Decent Work Agenda comprises four inseparable, interrelated and mutually supportive strategic objectives: (i) employment, (ii) social protection, (iii) social dialogue, and (iv) fundamental principles and rights at work; with gender equality and non-discrimination, as cross-cutting policy drivers.

3.2 The ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization (2008), records that Members have a key responsibility to contribute, through their social and economic policy, to the realization of a global and integrated strategy for the implementation of strategic objectives including the Decent Work Agenda. To that end, the Declaration recognizes that member States may consider a range of activities including the adoption of a national strategy, and the establishment of appropriate indicators.

3.3 The ILO Tripartite Meeting of Experts on the Measurement of Decent Work sought to provide guidance to States on measuring the various dimensions of decent work and adopted the ILO Framework Work Indicators covering ten substantive elements corresponding to the strategic pillars set out in the ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization (2008). Those ten elements are as follows:

- 3.3.1 Employment opportunities;
- 3.3.2 Adequate earnings and productive work;
- 3.3.3 Decent hours (of work);
- 3.3.4 Combining work, family and personal life;
- 3.3.5 Work that should be abolished;
- 3.3.6 Stability and security of work;
- 3.3.7 Equal opportunity and treatment in employment;
- 3.3.8 Safe work environment;
- 3.3.9 Social security;
- 3.3.10 Social dialogue, workers' and employers' representation.

3.4 In addition, the ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization (2008), recognizes that sustainable institutional and economic environments (enabling environments¹) promote sustainable enterprises, public or private, to enable growth and the generation of greater employment and income opportunities and prospects for all. To achieve the goal of transforming growth into decent and sustainable work, the ILO advocates and promotes global policy frameworks and partnerships that aim at generating more quality employment opportunities.

3.5 According to the Agreement, ICAO and the ILO will carry out specific activities in relation to these areas of common concern and interest. They have agreed that the modalities of such collaboration may include “joint research, joint technical meetings, joint technical advisory services, joint training, and collaboration on the development of appropriate guidelines, tools, and methodologies, as each party within the scope of its respective mandate deems appropriate”.

¹ ILO, [Conclusions concerning the promotion of sustainable enterprises](#), 2007.

4. COMMENT AND CONCLUSION

4.1 The conclusion of the Agreement between ICAO and the ILO is a significant and positive step towards developing appropriate mechanisms for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and Sustainable Development Goal 8, in particular.

4.2 ICAO is congratulated for the successful conclusion of the Agreement and is encouraged to proceed with urgency to collaborate with ILO in the modalities described within the Agreement on the areas of common concern and interest.

4.3 A high-level virtual meeting between both agencies would enable an exchange of views and refine priorities within the scope of the aforementioned areas of common concern and interest. ICAO is particularly encouraged to agree conditions on which it will collaborate with the ILO in regard to Sustainable Development Goal 8, and in particular the Decent Work Agenda. Encouraging the respect of Fundamental principles and right at work and the promotion of the Decent work agenda need to be considered as crucial components of ICAO (and the aviation industry)'s contribution towards the *United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*.

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