



## ASSEMBLY – 35TH SESSION

### PLENARY

#### Agenda Item 2: Statements by delegations of Contracting States and of Observers

#### STATEMENT

(Presented by Greece)

On the occasion of the 35th session of the ICAO Assembly Greece would like to express its deep appreciation to the President of the ICAO Council, Dr. Assad Kotaite, to the Secretary General Mr. Cherif and to the members of the Secretariat for the preparatory work for this Assembly.

Greece would also like to thank the Government of Canada, the Province of Quebec and the city of Montreal for their warm hospitality.

The year 2004 was a unique challenge for the Hellenic Civil Aviation Authority, which had the privilege to welcome through the main Greek airport, "Athens International Airport, Eleftherios Venizelos" and the 37 regional ones, the world's citizens who joined Greece in a great celebration: the return of the Olympic Games to their birthplace.

The Hellenic Civil Aviation Authority, in close cooperation with ICAO, ECAC, Eurocontrol and the Aviation industry, designed, planned and developed the necessary procedures and measures to ensure the safe and absolutely secure accommodation of the high volume of air traffic, during the Olympic Games.

Greece indeed achieved this goal and organized safe and secure Olympic Games, providing for this celebration of peace the ideal environment it deserved.

Apart from the preparations of the Olympic Games, the Hellenic Civil Aviation Authority has an active participation in the International Organizations, ICAO, ECAC, European Union, JAA, EUROCONTROL, while in parallel has achieved a high level of implementation of Standards and Recommended Practices, through the harmonization of the relevant National Legislation in every field of Aviation activity, reflected in the 18 Annexes to the Chicago Convention.

Particular attention has been given to the fields of flight safety and security.

A contemporary flight safety structure and legitimate operational framework have been developed based on the relevant ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices, European Community Legislation and ECAC resolutions. Therefore, Greece would like to point out that this development of safety oversight must be accepted by parties concerned, since it gets fully aligned with ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices, thus promoting the services being offered by the Hellenic Civil Aviation Authority.

In the field of Aviation Security the harmonization of the Greek National Security Programme according to the E.U.2320/03 Aviation Security Regulation and the Security Quality Control Programme according to the E.U 1217/03 Aviation Security Regulation, is being finalized, while the Hellenic Civil Aviation Authority is participating in the security audits performed by the European Union, ECAC and ICAO with its certified auditors. As an example, reference should be made to Greek auditors' participation at Ben Gourion, (Israel) and Boston, (U.S.A.), airports, security audits.

On the other hand with respect to the environmental protection, an ambitious programme for the further development and modernization of the 38 Greek Airports, serving more than 35 million passengers per year, is under consideration, while the procedure regarding their certification according to ICAO Doc 9774 is in progress.

The Hellenic Civil Aviation Authority, always supporting ICAO policy, welcomes its new initiative for the implementation of a new comprehensive systems approach for the Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme, which will be further expanded to include the safety-related provisions contained in all safety-related Annexes to the Convention on International Civil Aviation as of 2005.

Greece would also like to refer to the outcome of the last Session of the ICAO FAL Division, which, under the theme "Managing Security Challenges to Facilitate Air Transport Operations" gave new dimensions to the cooperation and coordination between Security and Facilitation fields to the benefit of the International air transport.

To conclude, Greece would like to extend its appreciation to the President of the ICAO Council Dr Assad Kotaite for his precious and effective contribution in the development of International Civil Aviation in a safe and secure environment and to reassure ICAO for its Government's intention to continue implementing the Standards and Recommended Practices of the International Civil Aviation Organization, with consistency and professionalism.

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