



International Civil Aviation Organization

**WORKING PAPER**

A36-WP/161  
P/12  
11/9/07  
(Information paper)  
English only

## **ASSEMBLY — 36TH SESSION**

### **PLENARY**

#### **Agenda Item 10: Election of Contracting States to be represented on the Council**

#### **CANDIDATURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE**

(Presented by the Republic of Singapore)

#### **1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The Government of the Republic of Singapore has the honour to announce its candidature for re-election as a Member of the Council of ICAO, in Part 2, at the elections to be held during the 36th Session of the ICAO General Assembly.

#### **2. SHARING ICAO'S VISION**

2.1 ICAO plays a crucial role in the sustained development and growth of international civil aviation. Singapore supports ICAO's efforts and is fully committed to actively participating in ICAO work programmes to promote safety, security, efficiency, continuity, environment and rule of law in international civil aviation. Together with Contracting States, Singapore will devote more resources to better serve the international aviation community.

2.2 Singapore will continue to work with ICAO and its Contracting States to meet the demands and challenges ahead, particularly in raising the standards of human resource skills, as well as sharing experiences and expertise in the development of international standards and procedures. At the same time, Singapore will continue to develop its air hub and aviation industry, to meet the needs of users and facilitate the growth of the aviation industry in the Asia Pacific region and beyond.

#### **3. SINGAPORE'S COMMITMENT AND CONTRIBUTION TO ICAO**

3.1 Singapore has made a significant contribution to ICAO and will further deepen its commitment to ICAO's mission. Since joining the ICAO Council in 2003 and the Air Navigation

Commission (ANC) in 2005, Singapore has had the opportunity to step up its contribution and involvement in ICAO's work, with experts actively participating in key ICAO panels and working groups in aviation safety and security, air traffic management, aviation law, aviation medicine and airport operations. Some of Singapore's key contribution includes:

- Chairman, Council Committee for Joint Support of Air Navigation Services
- Chairman, Council Special Group on the Legal Aspects of Emission Charges
- Chairman, ANC Working Group on Procedural Matters
- Chairman, ANC Ad-hoc Working Group on Safety Critical Standards
- Chairman, Medical Provisions Study Group
- Chairman, Asia Pacific Air Navigation Planning and Implementation Regional Group
- Chairman, Reduced Vertical Separation Minimum Task Force
- Chairman, Regional Required Navigation Performance Task Force

3.2 Singapore has hosted numerous ICAO seminars and meetings and contributed experts to lead ICAO projects. For instance, Singapore hosted the ICAO/IMO Joint Working Group on Harmonisation of Search and Rescue and the ICAO Obstacle Clearance Panel meetings in 2006. In addition, during the period of uncertainty over the threat of avian influenza in 2006, Singapore seconded an expert to lead the first-ever "Cooperative Arrangement for Preventing the Spread of Communicable Diseases through Air Travel" project. A series of related meetings were held in Singapore to develop guidelines for use at international airports.

#### **4. SINGAPORE'S ROLE IN HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT**

4.1 Singapore remains committed to developing human resources in international civil aviation. The Singapore Aviation Academy offers a wide range of specialised aviation training programmes and provides a nexus for information sharing and exchange of experience among international participants and experts. Over the last 50 years, the Singapore Aviation Academy has trained over 37,000 participants from some 190 countries. It was conferred the prestigious ICAO Edward Warner award in 2000 for "its eminent contribution as a centre of excellence in international civil aviation training".

4.2 In support of ICAO's mission to strengthen international technical cooperation and develop critical human resources, Singapore has been providing fellowships under the ICAO-Singapore Developing Country Training Programme since 2001. Over 220 fellowships have been awarded to 63 ICAO Contracting States to attend specialised courses at the Singapore Aviation Academy. Due to overwhelming response, Singapore has extended the ICAO-Singapore Fellowship Programme for another three years to 2009 and increased the number of fellowships offered from 120 to 150. Concurrently, Singapore continues to provide over 280 fellowships a year to developing countries for training at the Singapore Aviation Academy under the Singapore Cooperation Programme.

## 5. SINGAPORE'S CONTRIBUTION TO AVIATION SAFETY AND SECURITY

5.1 Singapore believes that the management of safety and security in air navigation is crucial for the sustained development and growth of global air traffic. Singapore was the first in the region to introduce an automated ATC system in 1979. It was replaced and upgraded by a second generation system in 1995. A third generation US\$200 million ATC system employing the latest surveillance, data processing and man-machine interface technologies will be commissioned by 2010. Optimisation of airspace capacity with reduction in delays will be achieved through integrated sequencing tools, Automatic Dependent Surveillance (ADS)-C and ADS-B systems. Singapore also spearheads new processes to provide safer and more efficient air traffic management in and out of Singapore Changi Airport and within the Singapore Flight Information Region. The initiative of simplifying ATC procedures to optimise flight paths saved airlines some US\$56 million a year in fuel costs. Singapore has also set up a flight recorder readout laboratory and is offering the readout service without charge to any aviation authorities and to the industry.

5.2 Singapore believes that a concerted global effort by ICAO Member States is important to address emergent global aviation security issues. It hosted the ICAO AVSEC Auditors' training course in 2004. As a member in the ICAO New Technologies Working Group, Singapore assists to develop standards for Machine Readable Travel Documents and public key directory system. Singapore Changi Airport, which was awarded the "Excellence in Airport Security, International Airport" by Access Intelligence, will continue to invest in technology including the use of biometrics to enhance the level of airport security.

5.3 Sparing no efforts in the pursuit of safety, Singapore Changi Airport has maintained a deficiency-free record in the provision of aerodrome and air traffic services for the last 25 years since its inauguration in 1981, according to the International Federation of Air Line Pilots' Associations (IFALPA). Singapore's safety and security experts will continue to participate in ICAO safety and security audit missions. A special Conference on Aeronautical English: Speaking Right for Safety was organised in Singapore in July 2006 to address concerns that Contracting States have on language proficiency in English for aviation.

## 6. SINGAPORE'S CONTRIBUTION TO PROMOTE GLOBAL AVIATION GROWTH

6.1 **International Air Services.** Singapore adopts a liberal air transport policy and contributes significantly to the development of international air transportation. It has air services agreements with 97 countries, of which 20 are open-skies agreements. Singapore is also a founding member of the world's first global multilateral open-skies agreement, the Multilateral Agreement on the Liberalisation of International Air Transportation (MALIAT).

6.2 Over the years, Singapore has developed Singapore Changi Airport into a major aviation hub in the Asia Pacific region, providing a wide range of comprehensive aviation services to the world. As at September 2007, Singapore Changi Airport serves 78 scheduled airlines linking Singapore to over 191 cities in 59 countries, with close to 4,200 scheduled weekly flights. Three more airlines will commence their operations to Singapore by end September 2007.

6.3 **Singapore Changi Airport.** Singapore Changi Airport is consistently ranked as one of the world's best in terms of efficiency, convenience and comfort. In 2006, Singapore Changi Airport received a record 25 international awards in recognition of its services and efficiencies; among them, the Best Airport in the World by Business Traveller (UK) for 19 consecutive years since 1988, and 20 consecutive years for the Best Airport – Asia by Cargo NewsAsia. Singapore Changi Airport was also awarded the International Air Transport Association Eagle Award four times since 2001.

6.4 In 2006, Singapore Changi Airport handled more than 35 million international passenger movements and close to 2 million tonnes of airfreight. According to Airports Council International, Singapore Changi Airport was ranked 7th in terms of international passenger traffic and 6th in terms of international airfreight tonnage in 2006.

6.5 **Capacity Building.** In support of the vibrant traffic growth, Singapore has completed a new US\$1.1 billion passenger terminal featuring the latest technology and user-friendly amenities. To be opened for operations on 9 January 2008, Singapore Changi Airport's new Terminal 3 brings the total capacity at Singapore Changi Airport to about 70 million passengers per annum to serve the traffic growth demand for the foreseeable future. Terminal 3 features a unique roof architecture which allows soft natural light into the building, thus reducing electricity usage while creating a soothing ambience for passengers.

6.6 As a global logistics hub, Singapore is host to over 400 world class logistics providers. Commissioned in 2003, the 26-hectare free trade Airport Logistics Park of Singapore (ALPS) is the first of its kind in Asia Pacific. The ALPS and logistics framework at Singapore Changi Airport facilitate quick turnaround, value-added logistics and distribution activities, serving the growing needs of the region and the world.

6.7 **Pioneering Initiatives.** As part of the contributions to new aircraft technologies, Singapore established a Task Force in 1998 to develop rules to permit operations of the new non-stop ultra-long range (ULR) aircraft. Likewise, the infrastructure and services at Singapore Changi Airport including aerodrome, aerobridges, baggage handling system, passenger terminals and fire-fighting services have been upgraded to accommodate the new large aircraft, the A380. Singapore Changi Airport will be the first airport in the world to serve a commercial A380 flight in October 2007. A US\$200 million Air Hub Development Fund was also initiated and launched in 2003 to help aviation partners to strengthen and enhance their operations in Singapore and the region.

6.8 **Airlines of Singapore.** In ICAO's 2006 world ranking of airlines, Singapore Airlines (SIA) was 2nd in the world for international scheduled passenger and freight traffic (total tonne-kilometres performed). Singapore Airlines will be the first airline to fly the world's largest commercial passenger aircraft, the Airbus 380, relieving capacity constraints at some of the more congested air routes. The A380 will commence its inaugural flight in October 2007 from Singapore. SIA was also the first to operate the world's longest non-stop commercial flight between Singapore-New York and Singapore-Los Angeles. The 18-hour flight opens new frontiers in aviation possibilities for air travellers, reducing valuable travel time.

6.9 To encourage and promote air travel, three new Singapore low-cost airlines, Tiger Airways, Jetstar Asia and Valuair, started operations in 2005. These carriers are instrumental in stimulating the emerging low cost air travel market in Asia Pacific.

6.10 **High Growth Aerospace Industry.** A quarter of Asia's maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) activities is based in Singapore with over 100 international MRO aviation companies providing a comprehensive suite of aerospace services. In the past decade, the aerospace industry in Singapore enjoyed an annual compound growth of 12%. For example, Singapore Technologies Aerospace has grown to become the world's largest third-party MRO company with global facilities in Asia, Americas and Europe while SIA Engineering Company is the one of the largest MRO companies with capabilities to service modern wide-body aircraft.

6.11 To facilitate buoyant growth of the aerospace industry in the region, a multi-million dollar, 140-hectare Seletar Aerospace Park is being developed in Singapore. The cluster will cater to the needs of a variety of aviation activities, including MRO, business and general aviation, as well as training of flight crew and aviation professionals.

6.12 Singapore was host to the world's third largest airshow for the past 25 years. A new 30-hectare facility located next to Singapore Changi Airport is being constructed for the new Singapore Airshow in February 2008.

## 7. **REPRESENTATION OF ASIA PACIFIC ON THE COUNCIL OF ICAO**

7.1 ICAO has forecast the Asia Pacific to be the second largest region in the world in terms of traffic volume. With an annual traffic growth of 8.3%, it is expected to record a performance of approximately 1,200 billion passenger-kilometres by 2007. As a leading aviation hub and with its active participation in the air traffic development in the region, Singapore is well poised to objectively represent the views of the Asia Pacific in the Council of ICAO.

## 8. **CONCLUSION**

8.1 With Singapore's expertise and experiences and the allocation of more resources, Singapore will continue to contribute significantly towards ICAO's mission and is fully committed to working with ICAO and its members to build a safe, secure and environmentally-friendly aviation industry.

8.2 The Government of the Republic of Singapore would deeply appreciate the support of ICAO Contracting States for Singapore's candidature for re-election to the Council of ICAO, in Part 2, at the 36th Session of the Assembly.