STATEMENT FROM THE DELEGATION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION
Re: Report on Agenda Item 17 for the 38th ICAO Assembly
(Climate Change section)

Thank you, Mr President.

Dear Delegates,

The Delegation of the Russian Federation would like to express sincere gratitude to all the Delegations who put forth great effort, demonstrated wisdom, and worked in a spirit of cooperation and mutual understanding to reach an agreement about one of the most difficult issues.

The new text of the Consolidated Statement is, without question, a compromise, without which it would be impossible to move forward.

Not all provisions of the amended resolution fully satisfy the interests of the Russian Federation. But we understand that if interests of other States were not considered, all of our efforts would be in vain.

Actually, Item 7 of the Consolidated Statement's permanent part is the only item about which the Delegation of the Russian Federation would like to express a reservation.

In Working Paper A38-WP/250, the Delegation of the Russian Federation drew the Assembly's attention to the fact that a goal of carbon neutrality post-2020 is not realistic for the international civil aviation sector. This goal is precisely what predetermines the need for market measures. In turn, market measures reduce the potential of the sector to actually lower GHG emissions and will also have a negative impact on overall flight safety indicators, due to slower rates of technological development in the sector.

In this connection, the Delegation of the Russian Federation would like, once again, to appeal to the Assembly and urge them to ask the Council of ICAO to revisit the global desired goals of ICAO, such that they may contribute to achieving the primary goals: to truly reduce emissions in the international civil aviation sector, to improve flight safety, to see sustainable development in international civil aviation, and to strengthen cooperation, friendship, and mutual understanding among nations and peoples.

Thank you for your attention.