

**54<sup>th</sup> CONFERENCE OF  
DIRECTORS GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION  
ASIA AND PACIFIC REGION**

*Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia  
07 — 11 August 2017*

AGENDA ITEM 9: OTHER BUSINESS

- a) Theme Topic for the Forthcoming  
Conference of DGCA

**PROPOSAL ON THE THEME FOR THE 55<sup>th</sup> CONFERENCE OF  
THE DIRECTORS GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION IN  
ASIA AND PACIFIC REGION**

(Presented by Fiji)

**SUMMARY**

Asia Pacific is becoming one of the biggest aviation markets in the world and is attracting more than a billion passengers each year. Today the challenges of the aviation industry have undoubtedly increased and strong partnership between States, civil aviation administrators and aviation industry is required for more proactive action to enhance air transportation safety, security and efficiency. Harmonisation is important for seamless travel and to facilitate the high labour mobility in the aviation industry for the region. In view of this, the theme topic of the 55<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Asia Pacific DGCA is proposed as “Collaboration and Harmonisation for Safe, Secure and Sustainable Aviation in the Asia Pacific Region”.

**PROPOSAL ON THE THEME FOR THE 55<sup>th</sup> CONFERENCE OF  
THE DIRECTORS GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION IN ASIA AND PACIFIC REGION**

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The 55<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Directors General of the Asia and Pacific Region will be held in Nadi, Fiji from 22 to 26 October 2018. This paper submits to the Conference the proposed theme topic “Collaboration and Harmonisation for Safe, Secure and Sustainable Aviation in the Asia Pacific Region” for discussion, amendment, changes etc., in order to reach conclusion and endorsement of a final theme topic.

## **2. DISCUSSION**

2.1 It has been past practice that the States represented in the DGCA select a theme topic for the next DGCA. To achieve that, a list of past theme topics is presented to the conference and the same is presented at the end of this paper. Such arrangement was considered necessary to ensure that States have opportunity to suggest topics of interest to them and collectively discuss and reach consensus on what is to become the final theme topic.

2.2 The arrangement referred to in 2.1 appear to have consumed time. Subsequently, it was suggested that the host country submits a proposed theme topic for discussions. The theme topic is a proposal only and the DGCA Conference is invited in this paper to discuss and formulate a topic that could be endorsed by consensus.

2.3 The selection of the proposed theme topic is based on the ICAO strategic goals. The selection and combination of words was chosen to try and encompass all of the high level statements (Aviation Safety; Air navigation capacity and efficiency; Security and facilitation; Economic Development; Environmental Protection) in the ICAO goals.

2.4 A primary factor behind the selection of the theme topic is the acknowledgment of the Asia Pacific Region’s diversity and the aviation challenges faced. The Asia Pacific Region needs to work together and align the responsibilities and obligations to achieve the common goal of safe, secure and sustainable aviation.

2.5 The recent challenges in aviation such as the regulation of Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) and the need to incorporate new environmental protection mechanisms have resulted in divergence amongst States. Collaboration and Harmonisation is particularly important to enable the adaptation of best practices in the region.

2.6 Harmonisation is particularly important given the high mobility of aviation personnel and seamless travel in the Asia Pacific Region. Fiji has already embarked on harmonisation of its aviation laws.

2.7 The urgent need for States to progress the Global Aviation Safety Plan targets to achieve Effective Implementation above the global target and other ICAO safety initiatives and programmes remain the priority of ICAO and the region. ‘Safe’ is representative of this motion.

2.8 Security and Facilitation has become increasingly essential and the air transport industry. Passengers while requiring safe and secure travel also require unhindered movement across borders to enhance their traveling experience. ‘Secure’ in the theme topic is proposed to maintain focus on the need for an effective security system.

2.9 ‘Sustainable’ is encompassed in the theme topic to highlight the efficiency and environmental issues of aviation.

**3. ACTION BY THE CONFERENCE**

3.1 The Conference is invited to:

- a) Note the contents of this paper;
- b) Discuss the theme topic and make changes or submit other options; and
- c) Adopt a theme for the 55<sup>th</sup> DGCA Conference after reaching consensus.

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