

ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM
STATEMENT ON AVIATION PARTNERSHIP: SOARING AHEAD TOGETHER

RECOGNIZING the importance of safe and secure air transport in strengthening the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Participants' cooperation and ASEAN economic integration;

RECOGNIZING the importance of every State's implementing practices consistent with international norms and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) in the realm of aviation;

RECALLING the U.N. Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 2309 (2016), which calls upon States, as part of their efforts to prevent and counter terrorist threats to civil aviation and acting consistent with relevant international legal instruments and framework documents, to ensure that effective, risk-based measures are in place at the airports within their jurisdiction, including through enhancing screening, security checks, and facility security, to detect and deter terrorist attacks against civil aviation and to review and assess such measures regularly and thoroughly to ensure that they reflect the ever-evolving threat picture and are in accordance with ICAO standards and recommended practices;

RECALLING the decision of the U.N. Security Council in its resolution 2396 (2017) that Member States shall require airlines operating in their territories to provide advance passenger information (API) to the appropriate national authorities, in accordance with domestic law and international obligations, in order to detect the departure from their territories, or attempted travel to, entry into or transit through their territories, by means of civil aircraft, of foreign terrorist fighters and individuals designated by the Committee established pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011), and 2253 (2015), and that Member States shall develop the capability to collect, process and analyse, in furtherance of ICAO standards and recommended practices, passenger name record (PNR) data, and ensure PNR data is used by and shared with all their competent national authorities, with full respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, for the purpose of preventing, detecting, and investigating terrorist offenses and related travel;

RECALLING ICAO's "No Country Left Behind" initiative, which aims at assisting States in effectively implementing ICAO SARPs, policies, plans and programmes in a globally-harmonized manner; addressing significant safety, security, and environmental concerns; and promoting and implementing all ICAO's assistance activities so that all States have access to the significant socio-economic benefits of safe, secure and reliable air transport which supports sustainable development;

The Participants of the ARF Hereby:

1. Affirm our joint commitment to safe, secure, and efficient aviation, our existing partnership on aviation issues, and our intention to continue cooperation generally on aviation;

2. Endeavour to promote aviation safety and security throughout the aviation system in ARF, including aircraft, air traffic control facilities, and local and international airports, including in collaboration with private owners and operators within the civil aviation industry;
3. Reaffirm our commitment to implement UNSCR 2309 (2016) which calls for greater collaboration in ensuring the security of global air services and the prevention of terrorist attacks in accordance with international law;
4. Reaffirm our commitment to fully implement UNSCR 2396 (2017), including our obligations to use and share API and PNR data, and urge ICAO to work with its Member States to establish a standard for the collection, use, analysis, and protection of PNR data;
5. Endeavour to strengthen information sharing, capacity building, and cooperation among ARF Participants to rapidly respond to incidents and emerging threats;
6. Underscore the importance of ICAO SARPs concerned with aviation security, safety, regulatory, efficiency, and environmental performance of air navigation;
7. Endeavour to implement infrastructure upgrades that improve efficiency, safety, and security in line with ICAO's "No Country Left Behind" initiative, where necessary;
8. Endeavour to continue efforts to make regional air connectivity safe, vibrant, and effective;
9. Endeavour to continue enhancing the sustainability of aviation;
10. Endeavour to maintain cooperation among ARF Participants to promote consistency, harmonisation, and coordination of efforts aimed at improving international civil aviation safety, capacity, and efficiency; and
11. Endeavour to sustain investments in improving air traffic management, especially those technologies and procedures that are a part of the minimum path to global interoperability and safety, and increased capacity and efficiency based on the 5th edition of ICAO Global Air Navigation Plan.

Adopted on the Second of August in the Year Two Thousand and Nineteen (2019) at the 26th ASEAN Regional Forum in Bangkok, Thailand

End of Statement