

**STATEMENT BY HONOURABLE DATUK ABD RAHIM BAKRI,
ACTING MINISTER OF TRANSPORT MALAYSIA AT THE 38TH
SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY, 24TH SEPTEMBER 2013, MONTREAL
CANADA**

Mr. _____

President of the 38th Session of the Assembly

The President of the Council and the Secretary General of ICAO

Honourable Heads of Delegation

Ladies and Gentlemen

On behalf of the Government of Malaysia, it is indeed an honour and privilege to address the 38th Session of the Assembly. Let me also express our warmest greetings to all participants and convey our sincere appreciation for the warm welcome in Montreal.

We are here today in recognition of the leading role of ICAO in aviation. Aviation has developed significantly over the years with new technology and innovations in tandem with global economic growth. Sustained global economic growth has contributed to advances in aviation with higher passenger and cargo volume.

I would like to take this opportunity to affirm the Malaysian Government's commitment to ICAO. Our commitment has never been stronger. Let me also acknowledge the Organisation's leadership role in international civil aviation. Malaysia appreciates the work done by ICAO and we assure you of our fullest support.

Aviation's success and changing landscape will bring greater challenges and we have to be vigilant to evolving and newly emerging issues. We need to ensure the long term sustainable growth of international aviation. Malaysia believes that only collective and collaborative efforts through ICAO, can global aviation issues be adequately addressed.

This Assembly will review proposals that will shape the future of aviation. Among the important issues are those related to safety,

security and environment. Malaysia supports ICAO initiatives, strategies and new standards to safeguard safety, security and the environment.

Compliance to ICAO's standards and recommended practices has been Malaysia's utmost priority. Malaysia is committed to an oversight system with the highest standards of safety and security. We have in place a proven safety and security oversight structure that is continuously monitored and assessed. In support of that, Malaysia hosted the Regional Aviation Security Conference in 2012 and reported its outcome to the High-level Conference on Aviation Security in September 2012 in Montreal. Malaysia supports policy initiatives towards maintaining the currency of Annex 17 in strengthening the global aviation security framework. We are a party to the Public Key Directory Programme.

Global aviation security has benefitted from ICAO Universal Security Audit Programme (USAP). Malaysia supports the continuation of USAP, the adoption of the continuous monitoring approach and the principles of universality and transparency. Information by Member States on lack of effective implementation, compliance with ICAO standards and unresolved significant safety concerns are critical to enhance global aviation security.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me now turn to environment. Malaysia welcomes ICAO's efforts in reducing and limiting the negative impact of aviation on environment. With major developments in aviation, environmental issues have never been more pressing. We must find a way to bring environmental concerns together and answer them as one. We must formulate a comprehensive settlement. Consensus and compromises is the key. We support the call for ICAO and stakeholders to find an appropriate balance between the future growth of aviation and the quality of environment. We agree to proposals for ICAO to establish long term global goals for emissions reduction.

ICAO's training for states' action plans and new environment tools have been beneficial to Malaysia's national efforts to mitigate the negative effects of aviation to the environment and the control of green

house gas emissions. In line with the consensus during the last Assembly, Malaysia has developed and submitted its State Action Plan on CO2 Emissions Reduction Activities. We have enhanced our air traffic management by restructuring our airspace. Malaysian carriers have implemented fuel efficiency and fleet renewal measures to reduce carbon foot print.

A harmonised global regulatory regime is crucial to long term sustainability of global aviation. Malaysia supports the modernisation of a global regulatory framework and other recommendations of the Sixth Worldwide Air Transport Conference. Recommendations on industry and regulatory development and fair competition have already been implemented by Malaysia. Malaysia has concluded open skies agreement with a number of Member States. The latest being the open sky agreement with the United Kingdom in June this year. Currently, we are reviewing the recommendations on air carrier ownership and control as well as consumer protection.

In support of international civil aviation and ICAO, Malaysia has made available its personnel in the service of the Organisation. Malaysia two full time personnel with ICAO are fully funded by the Malaysian Government. Malaysia has seconded an auditor on long term basis in support of Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme (USOAP). An expert has also been seconded to the ICAO Regional Sub-Office in Beijing. We are aware that safety and environmental issues are fundamental to the mission of ICAO. In this regard Malaysia has made voluntary contributions to ICAO's Safety Fund and in support of states' action plan on CO2 emission reduction.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Malaysia is among the top twenty largest export economies in the world. In support of that, Malaysia pursues a supply driven policy for its transport infrastructure. To cater for the continuous growth in air traffic, Malaysia has developed a comprehensive airport network. As the main gateway to Malaysia, the world's largest low-cost carrier terminal in Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) is scheduled to be operational in May 2014. With the capacity of 45 million passengers per annum, this

terminal will enhance the total capacity of KLIA to 70 million passengers annually. This will further support the growth of low-cost travel in the Asia Pacific Region.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The evolving aviation landscape and numerous new challenges require collaboration, strong commitment and cooperation from all States. Human resource development and its management remains a constraint to manage, operate and maintain a global air transport system. The key to human resource development is capacity building.

Under the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme, 364 aviation personnel from 62 countries have been trained in fully sponsored courses. In addition, 943 participants from 55 countries have received aviation security training at the ICAO accredited Malaysia Airports Training Centre.

Malaysia is expanding its international training programmes to promote a collaborative environment in partnership with ICAO and other regional organisations. Malaysia will be formalising in 2013 the ICAO Malaysia Developing Countries Training Programme.

At this 38th Assembly, Malaysia is seeking re-election to the Council of ICAO. We attach great importance to our role in the Council. As an active member, we are committed to the work of ICAO and will strive for continued improvements and strong governance. We will work with all Contracting States particularly those in the Council. We wish to continue our active participation and contribute to international civil aviation. Here I seek the endorsement and support of all Contracting States to again effectively serve ICAO.

Let me conclude now by reaffirming our commitment to ICAO and acknowledging its leading role in global civil aviation.

Thank you.

24/9/13