

**ASSOCIATION OF ASIA PACIFIC AIRLINES
RESOLUTION NO. 10
Series of 2000**

**A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT A GENERAL STATEMENT ON
THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TRADE IN SERVICES (GATS)
ANNEX ON AIR TRANSPORT SERVICES**

The AAPA ASSEMBLY OF PRESIDENTS, in its 44th meeting duly assembled,

RECOGNISING THAT:

- I. the GATS Annex on Air Transport Services applies to measures affecting trade in air transport services, both scheduled and non-scheduled, and ancillary services;
- II. the current system of multilateral and bilateral agreements is well accepted and adaptable;
- III. specific commitments assumed under GATS will not reduce or affect obligations under bilateral or multilateral agreements that are in effect on the date of entry into force of the WTO Agreement;
- IV. several different forums such as APEC are available where aviation developments can and are being discussed;
- V. the WTO Council on Trade in Services (CTS) is in the process of reviewing the GATS Air Transport Services Annex and concurrently the three ancillary services covered in the Annex are being updated;

BELIEVING THAT:

- VI. there needs to be further dialogue between the aviation industry and the transportation and trade authorities to ensure that trade negotiators understand the intricacies of aviation and are aware of the implications for the airlines;
- VII. there could, nevertheless, be potential benefits for the aviation industry in the GATS Annex for Air Transport Services, but it is too early to determine;

VIII. it is therefore premature to adopt a collective AAPA position and declared policy on the GATS Annex for Air Transport Services;

RESOLVES:

IX. TO ADOPT the following general statement:

"The AAPA believes that it is yet to be demonstrated that GATS is the best vehicle to further the liberalization of air transport, as various effective approaches to liberalization are currently being pursued within several other forums.

The AAPA will continue to refine its position as the GATS review progresses."

X. TO URGE the transportation and trade authorities to consult the aviation industry fully before making any commitments or trading any traffic rights for other concessions and to avoid concluding any terms that would be detrimental to the aviation industry.

APPROVED this 17th day of November 2000 in Auckland, New Zealand.

Certified correct:

Attested by:

RICHARD T STIRLAND
Director General

SIR SELWYN CUSHING
AAPA Chairman - 2000