

**ASSOCIATION OF ASIA PACIFIC AIRLINES
RESOLUTION NO. 9
Series of 2013**

A RESOLUTION AGAINST UNFAIR TAXATION

The AAPA ASSEMBLY OF PRESIDENTS, in its 57th meeting duly assembled,

RECOGNISING THAT:

- I. Aviation plays a vital role in facilitating economic growth and social development worldwide, representing 3.5% of global GDP and supporting over 57 million jobs;
- II. The International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO), which provides guidance on taxation of international air transport as set out in Doc 8632, "ICAO's Policies on Taxation in the Field of International Air Transport", discourages levies on international air services as these would inhibit further economic development;
- III. The 38th ICAO Assembly passed a resolution urging States to avoid imposing discriminatory taxes on international aviation;
- IV. Air transport pays for its own infrastructure costs;
- V. Airlines have made and continue to make strenuous efforts to deliver efficiency improvements and make air travel affordable to a wider global market;
- VI. AAPA has in the past adopted resolutions calling on governments to refrain from increasing the burden of aviation levies in any form, including Resolution No. 8, Series of 2012, "A RESOLUTION AGAINST UNFAIR TAXATION";

NOTING THAT:

- VII. Airlines and the travelling public today already bear the burden of numerous taxes and charges imposed by governments, as well as monopolistic service providers and other agencies;

- VIII. Despite past exhortations, there has been a proliferation of taxes in respect of certain aspects of international air transport and charges on air passengers, several of which can be categorised as taxes on the sale or use of international air transport in contravention of ICAO policies on taxation;
- IX. Air passenger taxes introduced by several European governments have resulted in a significant loss of traffic and weakening of competitive position;
- X. More recently, governments in Thailand and Indonesia have announced plans to introduce arbitrary taxes on foreign visitors, ostensibly to fund the medical expenses of uninsured foreign visitors;
- XI. The travelling public is often unaware of the variety and magnitude of such taxes or levies;

BELIEVING THAT:

- XII. Punitive or discriminatory taxes on aviation in any form contravene ICAO's policies on taxation;
- XIII. Excessive taxation on international air transport for the sole purpose of generating State revenues has a significant negative impact on the global economy and the national economies of individual States;
- XIV. Unjustified taxes penalise the travelling public by making air travel less affordable, and undermine aviation's vital role in fostering global tourism and broader economic and social development;
- XV. Discriminatory taxes imposed on foreign citizens undermine a government's social and tourism objectives, and furthermore may lead to retaliatory measures by other governments;

RESOLVES:

- XVI. TO RENEW THE CALL on governments to carefully consider the overall economic effects of putting further financial strain on the travelling public and on the aviation industry, and to refrain from increasing the burden of aviation levies in any form;

- XVII. TO CALL on governments to adhere to ICAO policies on taxation and ensure its recommendations are followed by all relevant taxation authorities within those governments;
- XVIII. TO CALL on governments to avoid imposing unjustified or discriminatory taxes on international aviation, thereby imposing unwarranted costs on societal mobility and global tourism and trade.

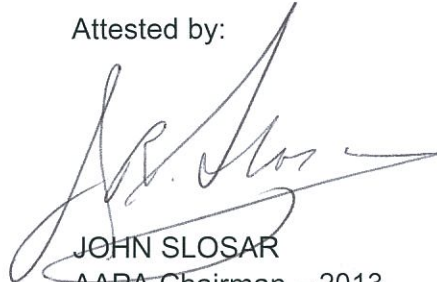
APPROVED this 15th day of November 2013.

Certified correct:



ANDREW HERDMAN
Director General

Attested by:



JOHN SLOSAR
AAPA Chairman – 2013