



Remarks of CANSO Director General, Jeff Poole, to the CANSO Asia Pacific Conference 2017 in Ha Noi, Viet Nam, on 4 May 2017

Good morning and welcome to the CANSO Asia Pacific Conference 2017. I would like to thank Vietnam Air Traffic Management Corporation (VATM) for hosting this event, as well as Aireon and our other sponsors and exhibitors for supporting us. On behalf of everyone gathered here today, I would like to extend a warm welcome to our Guest of Honour, Mr. Le Dinh Tho, Vice-Minister of Transport, Viet Nam; and to Mr. Le Tuan Anh, Director General of the International Department, Ministry of Transport, Viet Nam; Mr. Arun Mishra, Regional Director ICAO Asia and Pacific Office; Mr. Kevin Shum, Chair of the Asia Pacific CANSO CEO Committee and Director General CAA Singapore; Mr. Pham Viet Dzung, Director General Vietnam Air Traffic Management Corporation; and Mr. Do Quang Viet, Deputy Director General Civil Aviation Administration of Vietnam.

Asia Pacific continues to be one of the busiest and most innovative regions in the world for air transport; Viet Nam being an excellent example of this. Indeed, the Asia Pacific region accounts for more than 30 percent of global air traffic, with over a billion passengers travelling by air annually.

And as aviation growth continues and the operational environment becomes increasingly complex, it is clear that to harness the power of new technology, we must continually look for new ways of working.

Over the course of the next two days, we are going to look at some of the key air traffic management challenges and opportunities in the region; explore some of the latest processes, technologies and best practices that are changing the way we operate; and agree how we can better embrace change and build capabilities within the region.

I hope you find the conference sessions and the following workshops informative and thought-provoking, and I encourage you all to make the most of your time together to network; learn about new innovation; and find new ways of working together.

Gearing for Growth in the Asia Pacific

While we have a lot to discuss this week, I would like to take a moment to highlight what has been achieved since we last met. Last year's CANSO Asia Pacific Conference examined how regional action is key to a seamless sky globally; we highlighted the important role of

ADS-B and ATFM in improving connectivity; and how best practice in safety management and ASBU implementation is supporting this.

Among other activities in the region, Asia Pacific Members have continued to work closely and engage with IATA on a sub-regional ATFM system, successfully progressing from concept to limited operations. Members have also been instrumental in creating an Asia Pacific Regional Safety Implementation Strategy; a framework which is tailored to the region and aligned with global goals and objectives.

But as the regional economy continues to grow and air traffic increases – with a projected annual growth rate of just over five per cent over the next two decades – we know there is still work to be done to ensure safe, sustainable growth and development. And it is not just economic progress which is driving change within the region. New technology and services are having an increasing impact on both global and regional air traffic management operations and the capacity to deliver efficient and effective air navigation services.

It is this changing operational environment that we are here to discuss. Operations in the region have progressed enormously thanks to the commitment and hard work of all our Members but we must keep looking forward, to a future which we recognise will be very different from today. This is a future where drones and remote tower services, artificial intelligence and data analytics will all become commonplace and these will have a significant influence on how we develop our capabilities to provide effective and efficient air traffic management.

Embracing Change

Changes in technology and services are already having a huge impact on air traffic management worldwide, particularly within the high-technology Asia Pacific region. New entrants to airspace, such as unmanned aircraft systems (UAS), and new airspace users, like Google Loon and Facebook's Aquila, are key components of this. The deployment of satellite-based services and the development of remote tower technology are also changing the way we operate and the services we offer. And, while new technologies and services and the breadth of benefits are already being realised and implemented in Asia Pacific, the key question is how can we best continue to develop this both globally and regionally to ensure maximum benefit? After all, while these new developments are not unique to one region, they are being introduced worldwide, based on a variety of operational requirements and conditions.

We, as the global voice of air traffic management, need to consider the challenges and benefits that new technology and services bring to airspace users and operators worldwide. We need to find new ways to embrace this change and set an example both regionally and globally. From the way we operate to the partnerships and best practices we build, this will ultimately allow us to remain flexible and responsive in a period of rapid change and development.

Building Capabilities

As I just mentioned, Asia Pacific is a technologically advanced region, and CANSO Members are already embracing new technologies here and implementing robust processes to build capabilities and develop services. Examples include: introducing space-based ADS-B to enhance aircraft surveillance; using data communications rather than voice communications; and implementing performance-based navigation rather than using ground-based navigation aids.

Members are also playing a central role in both global and regional CANSO initiatives, including the great work of the CANSO RPAS and Emerging Technologies Workgroup in assisting ANSPs deal with UAVs; and the work of the CANSO Performance-based Navigation Workgroup on its vision of PBN for 2030, where we have examined PBN related technologies in the future (*PBN for ANSPs: Concept 2030* is available to download from the publications section of the CANSO website).

As economic growth and changing demographics in the Asia Pacific region increase the propensity for air travel, the whole aviation sector needs to continue to work together to deliver and develop the services required for such a fast-paced air transport region. Building these capabilities is based on two things: first, understanding how best to embrace new technologies and services on a practical level; and second, working together to ensure we continue to transition seamlessly to the latest highly technological, and in some instances fully automated, air traffic management systems.

The importance of partnership

In the Asia Pacific region, many ANSPs are already demonstrating the potential and value that innovation and close partnerships can bring. Examples include the work being done by air traffic management research institutes in this region, including ENRI, ATMRI and MAPS, which will be sharing their experiences and perspectives at this conference; and the variety of world-leading collaborative air traffic management projects being undertaken in the region. These include the Multi-Nodal ATFM project, which is helping to effectively manage regional demand and capacity; the ASPIRE programme, which is improving environmental performance in the region; and other regional ADS-B data sharing and en-route PBN harmonisation initiatives.

These are just a few, but excellent, examples of how the region can and is already working towards an adaptable and more cohesive air traffic management network; and they provide us with an excellent framework for how we can more ably gear up for growth in the region and continually adapt. So, whether it is delivering best practice or embracing change, I would like to take the opportunity to once again emphasise the importance of robust partnerships in effectively facilitating these.

Listen, share, learn, and innovate

So finally, how can we use what we do here today and the rest of this week to progress activity in the region? The answer is very simple. If we want to understand how to effectively prepare for growth, embrace new technologies, and build air traffic management capabilities

in the region, CANSO Members need to come together to listen to the advice of industry innovators and thought-leaders; share experiences and success stories; and learn valuable lessons for the future.

Ultimately, what we learn and develop here this week will have a direct impact on both the regional and global potential of us as the air traffic management community. The importance of this simply cannot be overstated. So please make the most of your time at this conference to learn about new initiatives, ask questions, build your relationships, so that when we meet again next year, we can reflect on this and the progress we have made as a result.