2025/11/27

Election Results for the President of the ICAO Council

On November 26 (local time), the election for the next President of the ICAO Council was held at ICAO Headquarters in Montreal. Japan's nominee, Mr. Toshiyuki ONUMA, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan, Permanent Representative of Japan to the International Civil Aviation Organization, was elected.

The President of the Council is the top position in ICAO, and this marks the first time in the organization's approximately 80-year history that someone from the Asia-Pacific region has been elected to this role.

- ICAO is a specialized agency of the United Nations, established to ensure the safe and orderly development of international civil aviation, based on the Convention on International Civil Aviation (Chicago Convention) adopted in 1944. As of November 2025, ICAO has 193 member states.
- 2. The ICAO Council, a permanent body, serves as the Organization's central decision-making and executive organ. It is composed of 36 Member States elected by the Assembly. Japan became a Member State in 1953 and has been continuously elected to the Council since 1956.
- 3. The newly elected President of the ICAO Council will serve a three-year term, commencing on January 1, 2026, and concluding on December 31, 2028. Under ICAO rules, the term may be extended for one additional term, for a maximum tenure of six years.
- 4. The comments by Mr. KANEKO, Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, regarding this matter are provided in the attached document.

Attachment 1: The comments by Mr. KANEKO, Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and

Tourism

Attachment 2: Curriculum Vitae of Mr. ONUMA Toshiyuki

<Contact Information>

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Photo provided by ICAO: After being elected, Newly elected ICAO Council President Onuma (left) exchanging greetings with the outgoing President Sciacchitano (middle) and Secretary General Salazar (right).

(Attachment 1)

The election of Mr. ONUMA as President of the Council of ICAO is the result of concerted efforts by the Government of Japan, including the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as well as the aviation industry.

Mr. ONUMA has held several key positions within the Japan Civil Aviation Bureau (JCAB) of MLIT, including Director for Aviation Industries Division, Director for International Air Transport Division, Assistant Vice-Minister for International Aviation, Minister's Secretariat, and Senior Deputy DG of Japan Civil Aviation Bureau, and has literally led aviation policy both domestically and internationally. His election reflects the high regard for his achievements and leadership in the aviation sector, and at the same time, it demonstrates the trust Japan has earned in the field of aviation through its longstanding contributions to ICAO and the proven track record of Japan's aviation industry worldwide.

ICAO, as an international organization responsible for setting global rules and coordinating policies in civil aviation—including safety, security, and environmental matters—continues to grow in importance. Going forward, Japan will further strengthen its cooperative relationship with ICAO under the leadership of Mr. ONUMA and will fully support his activities. Building on this milestone, Japan aims to take a leading role in the global aviation sector and actively contribute to the sustainable development of international civil aviation.

November 27, 2025

Yasushi KANEKO

Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

CURRICULUM VITAE

ONUMA Toshiyuki

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Delegation of Japan to the International Civil Aviation Organization

Mr. ONUMA has dedicated most of his career in the field of aviation and his expertise continues evolving.



Professional experiences:

- 2024 Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Delegation of Japan to the ICAO
- 2023 Senior Deputy Director-General of the Japan Civil Aviation Bureau (JCAB), Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT)
- 2022 Assistant Vice-Minister for International Aviation, Minister's Secretariat, MLIT
- 2021 Director, Budget and Account Division, MLIT
- 2018 Director, International Air Transport Division, Aviation Network Department, JCAB
- 2016 Director, Aviation Industries Division, Aviation Network Dept., JCAB, MLIT
- 2009- Various posts as Director, MLIT and Cabinet Office
- 2003- Various posts as Deputy Director, MLIT
- 2001-2003 Legal Officer, Legal Bureau, ICAO
- 1992 Joined MLIT

Activities at ICAO

2024- Alternate Representative of Japan on the Council of ICAO

As the Japanese Delegate

Speaker at Changi Aviation Summit (2024)

Speaker at ICAO Air Law Treaty Workshop (2023)

Head of Delegate at CAAF/3 (2023)

Moderator at CALAF/2 (2023)

Alternate Chief Delegate at 40th and 41st ICAO Assembly meeting (2019, 2022)

Legal Committee Meetings

Personal Information

Education and Academic Profession:

- 2024- Visiting Professor of the Graduate School of Public Policy, the University of Tokyo, Japan
- 2022- Visiting Researcher at the Research Institute, Faculty of Law, Nihon University

2018-2020 Lectures at The University of Tokyo and Hitotsubashi University, Japan 1999 Admitted to the New York State Bar, USA 1998 LL.M. and 1999 LL.C.M., University of Pennsylvania Law School, USA 1992 L.L.B., Faculty of Law, The University of Tokyo

Publications:

- "Research and Study of the Historical Transition and Essential Elements of the Bilateral Consultations between the Aeronautical Authorities of Japan and other States" (co-author), *Nihon Hogaku Journal of Law*, Vol.89, No.1/2, September 2023,
- "Impact of President Trump's 'Travel Ban': From the Perspective of Japanese Aviation Authorities and the Japanese Airline Industry" (co-author), *America-ho*, 2019-2, August 2020
- "The Future Regulatory Scheme of the International Civil Aviation Industry", World Bulletin, Vol.14, Non.1-2, April 1998
- "Perspective of Aviation and Airport Policy" (in Japanese) (co-author), *Chuokeizai-sha*, May 2021
- Aviation Law (in Japanese) (co-author), Shinzan-sha, March 2025

Language:

Japanese(native), English(fluent), French(basic)