Ministerial Conference on International Transport Security
Tokyo, Japan 12-13 January 2006

Ministerial Statement on Aviation Security

1. We participated in the Ministerial Conference on International Transport Security held in January 2006 in Tokyo, and considered issues concerning civil aviation security. We reached consensus on efforts to further enhance aviation security.

2. We note that various measures for enhancing aviation security have been adopted in a number of international fora such as the International Civil Aviation Organization, the G8 and APEC, and confirm our intention to support these efforts.

3. While more stringent security regulations have been applied by the international community since the terrorist attacks in the United States of America on 11 September 2001, terrorists are refining and adapting their tactics to perpetrate further acts of unlawful interference against aviation, such as the attack in Russia in 2004.

4. Therefore, addressing vulnerabilities within the global civil aviation security network, through security measures that are compatible with the efficient flow of passengers and goods, through increased capacity building, and through the promotion of compatible security measures reducing regulatory divergence remains a high collective priority.

Principles to Guide International Efforts in Aviation Security

We hereby:

1. Urge States to implement and enforce the Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) of Annex 17 (*Security*) to the Convention on International Civil Aviation, and other ICAO provisions relating to aviation security;

2. Strongly encourage the application of the above-mentioned SARPs and ICAO provisions to domestic operations, where appropriate;

3. Encourage the adoption of improved screening capability and practices by sharing related expertise and technologies that better detect explosives, by improving understanding of human factors, and by promoting international cooperation in research and development, including through close coordination of research agendas;

4. Encourage States to work bilaterally and multilaterally to achieve a high level of security in screening procedures used for passengers and bags;

5. Encourage the facilitation of passenger travel in a manner that does not compromise security, by various methods including biometrics, while being mindful of data privacy protection issues;

6. Encourage the development of internationally strengthened and harmonized measures and best practices for air cargo security, taking into account the need to protect the entire cargo supply chain;

7. Encourage increased aviation security capacity building efforts, both on a bilateral basis and through the use of multilateral and regional arrangements, in targeting areas where improvements are needed to ensure the integrity of aviation security worldwide; and

8. Encourage States to register with the ICAO Aviation Security Point of Contact Network, so that States can communicate effectively during situations of heightened threat or security-related emergencies.