

**CANSO message of support high level position on ICAO Doc 9082**  
**13 March 2023 - Dakar**

Representative of the Regional Director, ICAO WACAF Office

Secretary-General, African Civil Aviation Commission

Representative of IATA Regional Director, Airports, Passenger, Cargo, Security and Facilitation

Representative of the Secretary-General, African Airlines Association

Representative of the Secretary-General, Airports Council International-Africa

Chair, Ladies & Gentlemen

I would like to extend sincere appreciation to the fellow joint stakeholders and especially the members that have worked tirelessly to make this meeting possible. This is testament to our joint commitment to work together on cross-cutting issues, issues that are critical to our region and our industry.

States, airports, air navigation services providers as well as airlines have all a mutual interest in keeping user charges as cost-effective as possible to support traffic and ultimately economic development. Cost-effective charges need to be affordable for users and passengers: there is a certain level of user charges that users are prepared to pay for the cost-effective provision of facilities and services which must be transparently determined through a process of constructive engagement with all airspace users in consultation.

When supported by all stakeholders, a process of constructive engagement in consultation, built on principles of non-discrimination, cost relatedness and transparency is proven to be the most effective way to ensure air navigation investments deliver successful outcomes. We appreciate that, as organisations, we may start from different positions, but we must commit to working with all the stakeholders to find appropriate common ground.

Consequently, CANSO continues to fully support the implementation of ICAO's policies on charges (Doc 9082) in order to accurately define a framework for air navigation services providers and users to work within.

We believe the primary purpose of ANS charges should remain the recovery of ANS costs in line with the existing principles. We are concerned by discussions regarding the use of ANS charges to achieve other public policy objectives.

We recognize the need for all users to appropriately contribute, in line with their use of the system. Models must continue to be explored that achieve that aim while meeting administrative efficiency challenges.

To this end, the CANSO members are creating a new global workgroup called the Economics and ATS Charges workgroup. The primary focus is to provide a place for focused discussions on ATS charging methodologies, benchmarking and other economic issues affecting the sector, and the development of common positions or whitepapers examining specific topics.

Importantly, the workgroup will also provide collective input into ICAO's review and update of Doc 9082 ICAO's Policies on Charges for Airports and Air Navigation Services which is being undertaken by the ICAO Air Navigation Services Economics Panel (ANSEP) starting this year.

Chair, as we have done in the past, we commit to working with the collective and where appropriate to bring to this region some of the lessons drawn from our global members.

Chair, finally allow me to thank the key organisers of this session for their hard work. We look forward to working with all the stakeholders in this meeting, and in future sessions.

Thank you.