

Welcome Remarks by H.E. L. Munkhtushig
State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia
ICAO Asia-Pacific Facilitation Regional Forum (FALF 2025)
Ulaanbaatar, 7 July 2025

Excellency Mr. Ma Tao, Regional Director of the ICAO Asia-Pacific Office,
Distinguished delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Mongolia, it is my great honor to welcome you all to Ulaanbaatar for the ICAO Asia-Pacific Facilitation Regional Forum 2025. We are privileged to co-host this important event with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the Civil Aviation Authority of Mongolia.

This Forum is being held at a moment of dual significance, coinciding with both the 75th anniversary of Annex 9 to the Chicago Convention and Mongolia's celebration of a century of civil aviation development. It is especially meaningful that we gather in Ulaanbaatar to reaffirm our shared commitment to improve the efficiency, security, and resilience of international air transport across the Asia-Pacific region.

As a Member State of ICAO since 1989 and an active voice in the Asia-Pacific region, Mongolia has long valued ICAO's leadership and its efforts to build an inclusive, sustainable, and rules-based international aviation system. Guided by our foreign policy principles of multilateralism, development cooperation, and regional integration, Mongolia views civil aviation as a bridge for connectivity, trade partnership and development, particularly for landlocked developing countries like ours.

Thanks to close collaboration with ICAO, Mongolia has made tangible progress in aviation facilitation. We are proud to be the first State selected for the ICAO Data Quality Coach Program and have advanced the implementation of the Public Key Directory (PKD), API/PNR systems, and inter-agency coordination in line with the TRIP Strategy and Annex 9. These efforts reflect our strong commitment to the ICAO "No Country Left Behind" initiative and to building a modern, interoperable aviation environment.

For Mongolia, this Forum is not only a platform for dialogue but also a milestone in our broader aviation diplomacy. It comes at a time when the Asia-Pacific region is emerging as the engine of global aviation growth. The program of FALF 2025 provides a timely opportunity to deepen regional cooperation, strengthen national facilitation programs, and

explore solutions for passenger data management, cargo facilitation, travel document security, and the use of artificial intelligence in border operations.

The Forum's outcomes will help shape a shared regional vision and may serve as the foundation for future collaboration, including contributions to the upcoming ICAO Assembly and DGCA/59. In this way, FALF 2025 can support stronger alignment with ICAO's Standards and Recommended Practices and foster more unified action on facilitation across the region.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,

Let me conclude by reaffirming that Mongolia is fully committed to working hand-in-hand with ICAO, its Member States, and all relevant stakeholders to strengthen facilitation, streamline border procedures, and promote innovation. I am confident that this Forum will open a new chapter in regional aviation cooperation.

I wish you a productive and successful Forum and a pleasant stay in Mongolia.

Thank you.