

International Civil Aviation Symposium
“The Future of Civil Aviation in the Asia-Pacific Region”
Mr. Fujii’s speech

Thank you for the introduction. I am Fujii, Vice Minister for Transport and International Affairs, MLIT, Japan. I would like to express my gratitude for being invited here at the symposium. I'm greatly delighted that the Symposium on the future of Civil Aviation in the Asia-Pacific region is held with the participation from government officials, major airline companies and airport officials here in Tokyo.

Japan is located at the east end of Asia and the relationship with Asian-Pacific region is very important to us. If you look at the ranking of top trading partners for Japan in 2018, No.1 is China and No. 2 is the U.S. No.3 is South Korea, No. 4 is Taiwan and No.6 is Thailand. You can see how our economic relationship with the countries in this area is very strong.

Japan is surrounded by sea, and it is needless to say that airport and air traffic network supporting the flow of people and goods is very important to us. Also, the Japanese government had set that tourism as an important growth pillar and set the goal of increasing the inbound travelers to Japan to 40 million by 2020 and 60 million by 2030. Developing the air traffic network in Asia-Pacific region is very important to us in this regard.

If you look at the air transportation connecting the three regions of Asia, North America and Europe, you can see that the growth between Asia and North America is the fastest. We believe that the competition between major airports in Asian countries that could play a role of the hub between different places in Asia-Pacific region is going to be more fierce. In Japan, we are trying to increase the number of airlines from their current 80 flights to 130 from the end of next March with an aim to prepare for the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo and trying to increase that capacity in Haneda Airport. Half of that will be allocated to the traffic with United States. In Narita the government has put together the basic plan to build the new runway, the third runway. The Narita Airport Company is making the necessary preparation. We are also trying to build new hotels and terminals at both airports. We are also trying to provide more information to overseas travelers so that we have a good service both on the hard side and soft side. We are also trying to allocate the roles among Kaisai, Chubu and other major airports in Japan so that we can fulfill our role as the aviation

gateway in Asia-Pacific region.

In the air transportation area, if you look at different countries and the government sector is basically in charge of the airport development and air traffic control and the private sector is in charge of the airport business. The collaboration between is very important to ensure the smooth operation of the airport. At the symposium, we believe that major players are participating in this international air transport of Asia-Pacific region.

We have the common goal of providing the air traffic service to meet the demands of businesses as well as the tourism. We believe the symposium will offer a great important opportunity to talk about our policies going forward and the business strategies. It will give us a lot of insights about the Aviation Administration for Japan going forward.

I would like to close my remarks by expressing my wish that the symposium will contribute to a further development of the airport, administration and business of Asia-Pacific region. Thank you.