

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 13, 2022

Mr. Juan Carlos Salazar
Secretary General
International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
999 Robert-Bourassa Boulevard
Montréal, Québec H3C 5H7, Canada

Secretary General Salazar,

We are writing in advance of the 41st session of the International Civil Aviation Organization's (ICAO) Triennial Assembly, which is set to convene on September 27, 2022 in Montreal, Canada, to ensure the meaningful participation of Taiwan in that Assembly.

ICAO is charged with providing the basis for and ensuring the safety, security, and efficiency of the global civilian air sector. Taiwan's Taoyuan International Airport is one of the busiest airports in Asia by passenger volume, consistently handling over 40 million passengers each year, and is one of the busiest airports in the world by cargo volume, consistently ranking in the top 10 airports globally for cargo and international freight

Over the last decade, the United Nations and its agencies, including ICAO have systematically excluded Taiwan from meaningfully participating in those organizations. This exclusion has been a result of coercion by the government of the People's Republic of China (PRC) and the Chinese Communist Party (CCP). In addition to undermining the security of Taiwan, a critical American ally, these practices long ago tipped into undermining the mission of those organizations themselves: for example, ICAO failed to meaningfully include Taiwan in deliberations related to some of the most consequential moments in global aviation, such as the worldwide grounding of the Boeing 737 MAX in 2019 and the spread of COVID-19 in 2020. ICAO continues to exclude Taiwan from access to its resources, and its forums, including most pressing the Triennial Assembly.

It is simply not tenable that the organization continue to pursue that mission while excluding Taiwan, one of the world's largest aviation systems. Aviation safety and global standards for safe and efficient aviation operations have no national loyalty or political affiliation. ICAO was founded precisely because excellence in these areas is vital to the continued safe and economically beneficial operations of civil and commercial aviation around the world. ICAO must allow Taiwan to meaningfully participate in the upcoming 41st session of the Triennial Assembly.

Next year Congress will take up, examine, and as needed revise the full range of our national policies related to aviation through the legislative reauthorization of the Federal Aviation Administration. To maintain its status as a credible multilateral organization, we request that the ICAO allow Taiwan to meaningfully participate during this year's assembly.

Sincerely,



Ted Cruz
United States Senator



Roger F. Wicker
United States Senator