DGCA attends Asia-Pacific aviation heads conference in Philippines (with photos)

The Director-General of Civil Aviation, Mr Victor Liu, led a Hong Kong delegation comprising representatives from the Civil Aviation Department (CAD) and the Hong Kong International Aviation Academy (HKIAA), to attend the 59th Conference of Directors General of Civil Aviation, Asia and Pacific Regions, organised by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), in Cebu, the Philippines.

The theme for this year's Conference was "Shaping the Future of Aviation: Sustainable, Resilient, and Inclusive". The five-day Conference, with over 320 participants from 44 member states, administrations and international organisations, concluded on a high note today (October 18). Discussion and information papers covering a wide range of subjects, including aviation safety, air navigation, aviation security, aviation and the environment, aviation technologies, as well as regional co-operation, were submitted by aviation authorities and industry organisations to the Conference.

During the Conference, Mr Liu moderated the discussion of an agenda item on aviation safety. The discussion covered a wide range of subjects, including safety management, safety culture and promotion, and applications of various artificial intelligence and innovation technologies.

The CAD submitted four papers to the Conference in response to the theme topic. Among them, the paper titled "Operationalisation of Autonomous Vehicles at the Hong Kong International Airport: A Regulatory Perspective" shared the successful experience of the application of autonomous vehicle technology to enhance safety and efficiency of airport operations in Hong Kong. The other three papers discussed the opportunities and challenges of applying artificial intelligence across various aspects of aviation, shared the CAD's experience in utilising advanced technologies to enhance weather-related collaborative decision making in air traffic management, and shared information on the successful hosting of the Asia Pacific Region Innovation & Capacity Building Symposium 2023 under the theme "Uniting the Strength of Innovation for Building a Seamless Sky", jointly organised by the Civil Aviation Administration of China, the CAD and the HKIAA in December 2023. The papers received recognition and support from delegates.

This year, the HKIAA set up an exhibition booth during the Conference to showcase its multidisciplinary training opportunities for aviation professionals. The HKIAA also submitted a paper to the Conference to share Hong Kong's initiatives in addressing the training needs of the Asia Pacific region.

During their stay in Cebu, the CAD delegation attended side meetings

with representatives from different aviation authorities and industry organisations such as the European Union Aviation Safety Agency, the Federal Aviation Administration, and the International Air Transport Association. Views on matters of mutual interest were shared, and ways to strengthen cooperation were explored with the aim of facilitating aviation developments.

 $\hat{a} \in AD$ will continue to maintain close co-operation with its aviation partners and continue to support the ICAO's global aviation development initiatives.





