
21 October 2024

HON. MARIA IMELDA JOSEFA REMEDIOS "IMEE" R. MARCOS
Chairperson, Committee on Foreign Relations
Senate of the Philippines

Dear Senator Marcos:

The European Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines (ECCP) and its Aviation Committee would like to express our utmost support for the immediate ratification of the Montreal Protocol 2014 (MP14) and respectfully urge the Senate for its expedited ratification. The Committee is fully committed to fostering a culture of safety within the aviation industry. We are one with the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and other global and local industry groups in recognizing the critical need for updated regulations to address the rising concerns surrounding disruptive and unruly passengers, as well as other safety-related incidents in the aviation industry.

With the endorsement of the Department of Transportation (DOTr), we believe that ratifying MP14 is an essential step in ensuring aviation safety and maintaining an optimal passenger experience. The provisions of MP14 extend the legal jurisdiction over offenses committed on board aircraft, allowing for stronger enforcement mechanisms and greater protection for airlines and passengers alike. This closes a jurisdictional gap left open by the Tokyo Convention of 1963, the international aviation legal instrument that covers crimes committed onboard aircraft affecting its deterrence impact.

Moreover, MP14 not only provides a framework to handle incidents of unruly passengers but also addresses other actions that jeopardize safety, such as tampering with safety equipment on board. These dangerous acts not only threaten the well-being of passengers but also risk damaging the reputation of the Philippine aviation sector, which plays a vital role in our country's economic growth and connectivity.

As we strive to enhance the competitiveness and safety standards of Philippine aviation, the Chamber strongly believes that the swift ratification of MP14 will be instrumental in fostering a more secure and reliable air travel environment. We are confident that with your leadership, the Philippines can align itself with international aviation standards and practices.

Should you require further information or wish to discuss this matter in greater detail, we would be more than happy to set up a meeting at your most convenient time. For further coordination, you may get in touch with Ms. Chienie Nethercott at advocacy@eccp.com.

We look forward to your favorable consideration of this urgent matter and remain at your disposal for any further discussions.

Thank you for your continued support of the Philippine aviation sector.

Sincerely,



PAULO DUARTE
ECCP President



FLORIAN GOTTEIN
ECCP Executive Director