TRANSPORT MINISTERS’ STATEMENT ON COUNTER-TERRORISM

Tokyo, Japan, 15 January 2002

1. We strongly condemn the brutal and heinous acts of terrorism in which civil aviation aircraft were used in the September 11, 2001 attacks in the United States and deplore the resulting heavy loss of life. We therefore resolve to take every possible measure to prevent such terrorist attacks from occurring again.

2. We fully support the actions and initiatives taken by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and International Maritime Organization (IMO) in order to ensure the safe, secure, reliable and seamless flow of air and sea transportation from any terrorist action. To this end, we resolve to work closely together with these organizations in order to achieve effective results.

3. In particular, we hereby pledge to make concerted efforts for the success of the ICAO High-Level, Ministerial Conference on Aviation Security, which is to be held in February 2002 with the purposes to strengthen civil aviation security and to establish an ICAO security audit programme in order to ensure that each country conforms to applicable international standards relating to airport security arrangements and civil aviation security programmes.

4. Furthermore, we recognize the importance of sharing information on transportation security issues, for the purpose of examining and implementing more concrete and better coordinated measures that will more effectively protect transportation systems against terrorism. We also recognize the necessity to assist developing countries in respect to civil aviation and marine transportation safety and security matters, and to support activities in these areas that are undertaken by competent international organizations.

5. We are determined to intensify our activities to implement the initiatives outlined above, in order to promote more effectively the safety and security of air and sea transportation throughout the world.