

Joining the AMNAC for Faster Air Traffic Flow over Southeast Asia

Date of Release: 18 March 2024 Dept. in Charge: **Air Traffic Division, MOLIT** Contact: Annie KIM / Global Media Communicator, MOLIT / <u>audiis2@korea.kr</u> / +82 44 201 3056

Air Traffic Flow Management (ATFM) is expected to expand to 76.6% of international flights by officially joining the Asia-Pacific Cross-Border Multi-Nodal ATFM Collaboration (AMNAC) on 15 March

The Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport (MOLIT, PARK Sang-woo) announced that the Rep. of Korea officially joined the *Asia-Pacific Cross-Border Multi-Nodal ATFM Collaboration (AMNAC) on March 15.

* Asia-Pacific Cross-Border Multi-Nodal ATFM Collaboration: A cooperative body between countries that manages and coordinates traffic flow for aircraft operating in the Southeast Asia region, formed in 2014 (Joined by 11 countries including China, Thailand, Vietnam, Singapore, Hong Kong, Philippines, etc.)

ATFM is a method of adjusting aircraft departure and arrival times in advance during *peak times or under dangerous weather conditions such as typhoons to ensure the stability and efficiency of aircraft operations.

* It is the most crowded time for aircraft operation demand, which varies depending on the routes, such as Southeast Asia, the Americas, and Europe.

This membership will make it more convenient and safer to use the Southeast Asian airways, which are the most complex, accounting for more than 48% of aircraft operations among Korea's international routes.



Until now, Korea has uniformly applied the departure time intervals set by neighboring countries such as Japan and Taiwan to flights heading to Southeast Asia. Accordingly, airlines and travelers frequently experienced great inconvenience due to long waiting times at airports for flights departing to Southeast Asia in the same time zone.

With this AMNAC membership, the ATFM that directly coordinates the optimized take-off time for each flight heading to Southeast Asia is applied between the parties, which is expected to greatly reduce unnecessary ground waiting and mid-air delays.

On the other hand, the MOLIT has reduced the average ground delay of flights to Da Nang by more than *70% from 273 minutes (11 minutes per flight) to 78 minutes (3 minutes per flight) through cooperation with Vietnamese aviation authorities since August of last year. This has resulted in an annual economic savings of approximately KRW 145 million in aircraft fuel consumption.

* (Average ground delay per flight bound for Da Nang) Approx. 11 minutes before
May 2023 → Approx. 3 minutes after May 2023

For routes to China and Japan, ATFM has been applied to about 45.5% of flights through the *North-Asia Regional ATFM Harmonization Group (NARAHG) since 2015.

* North-Asia Regional ATFM Harmonization Group: A trilateral Air Traffic Flow Management consultative group of Korea, China, and Japan established in 2014

The MOLIT expects to be able to expand the implementation of ATFM to more than 76.6% of international flights, which is an increase of 31.1% by joining the AMNAC.



* Countries where ATFM is possible (proportion of flights): China (23.1%), Japan (22.4%), AMNAC member countries (31.1%)

The Deputy Minister of the Office of Aviation Policy LEE Yoon-sang from the MOLIT expressed, "Joining the AMNAC is another achievement of Korea's aviation diplomacy, and we expect that this will benefit our people and national airlines."

Adding, "We will continue to strengthen our cooperation system with related countries in the Asia-Pacific region, where air traffic flows are complex".