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S T A T E M E N T

**by the Spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the
occasion of the participation of Taiwan in the 38th Assembly of the
International Civil Aviation Organisation**

The spokesperson of Catherine Ashton, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the Commission, issued the following statement today:

"The High Representative welcomes the invitation to Taiwan to attend the 38th Assembly of the International Civil Aviation Organisation as a guest of the President of the ICAO Council. This invitation will help promote the security of international aviation and assist the ICAO in achieving its goal of creating a Seamless Asian Sky."

In line with our East Asia Policy Guidelines, the High Representative encourages initiatives aimed at promoting dialogue, practical cooperation and confidence-building across the Taiwan Strait. The High Representative supports Taiwan's practical participation in those multilateral organisations where its presence is important for EU and global interests."

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