



Greatly Reduced Flight Delays Bound for Da Nang, Vietnam

Release Date: 16 August 2023

Dept. in Charge: **Air Traffic Division**, MOLIT

Contact: Annie KIM / Global Media Communicator, MOLIT / audiis2@korea.kr / +82 44 201 3056

'New Air Traffic Flow Management' based on international cooperation is expected to reduce ground delays by 70 percent

The Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport (MOLIT, Minister WON Hee-ryong) announced that the New Air Traffic Flow Management that significantly reduces flight departure delays to Da Nang in Vietnam, a popular overseas travel destination, would be officially operated from 15 August.

There are an average of 24 flights per day (around 8,700 flights a year) from Korea to Da Nang Airport*, but inveterate departure delays** have caused huge inconvenience to airlines and travelers.

* Countries involved in the flight segment to Da Nang: Korea→ Japan→ Taiwan→ Hong Kong→ China→ Vietnam

** Ground delay time: 273 minutes on average per day (minimum 12 minutes and maximum 100 minutes per flight)

In response, the Air Traffic Management Office of the MOLIT switched its air traffic flow management technique from 'Time Based Separation'* between aircrafts to 'Calculated Take Off Time (CTOT)', which is departure time arrangement based on the arrival time of destined airport, and had successfully completed the pilot operation of the flow management from May to July, and then officially started operating from August 15th through verification by experts.



* (Time Based Separation) In order to control air traffic at the destination airport, the departure interval between departing aircraft from Korea was applied in batches of 13 minutes, so the last aircraft was supposed to be delayed by up to 312 minutes (5 hours).

As the 'Calculated Take Off Time' is an air traffic flow management that Korea proposed to Taiwan, Hong Kong, and other relevant countries at the Meeting of the East Asia Air Traffic Management Coordination Group, the average ground delay of aircrafts bound for Da Nang was reduced by more than 70% from 273 minutes (11 minutes per aircraft) to 78 minutes (3 minutes per aircraft) by informing airlines of departure times adjusted in advance in consideration of landing availability at the arrival airport.

Accordingly, the reduction in fuel consumption during ground waiting is estimated to have an economic effect of saving KRW 145 million per year (monthly average of around 12,090 liters, about KRW 12 million), and travelers' in-flight waiting time due to unnecessary ground waiting after boarding the aircraft has also been significantly reduced.

Director General for Aviation Safety Policy of the MOLIT YOO Kyung-soo expressed, "We will continue to do our best to actively improve air traffic flow management on international routes with frequent flight delays for minimizing the inconvenience of air travelers and increasing the on-time operation rate of Korean flag aircraft".