# Sudan, South Sudan forge agreement on roadmap to safer and more efficient air navigation services

**Montréal, 1 October 2016** – Sudan and South Sudan signed a high-level agreement yesterday which will assist South Sudan in taking greater responsibility for the air navigation services obligations over its territory.

The new arrangement, agreed at ICAO Headquarters in Montréal during the UN agency's 39th Assembly, was signed by Sudan's Director General of Civil Aviation, Mr. Ahmed Satti Abdelrahman Bajouri, and South Sudan's Acting Civil Aviation Chief Executive Officer in presence of South Sudan's Minister for Transport the Honourable John Luk Jok.

The agreement, facilitated by the ICAO Eastern and Southern African and the Middle East Regional Offices and officials from the Organization's Air Navigation Bureau, allows both States to address critical communications and surveillance requirements, and covers the installation of new air navigation infrastructure in South Sudan.

Sudan will support the maintenance of the equipment until South Sudan takes full responsibility for provision of its air traffic services in accordance with the transition roadmap.

"This agreement helps to highlight how air transport cooperation continues to bring nations and peoples together to their common benefit," commented ICAO Council President Dr. Olumuyiwa Benard Aliu. He and ICAO Secretary General Dr. Fang Liu were present for the ceremony along with attending Sudanese, South Sudanese and ICAO senior officials.

"ICAO's Regional Offices have become more and more important in helping to assure that our Organization's priorities for assistance and capacity building are as targeted and effective as possible," Dr. Liu underscored, "and we will be working closely with our Sudanese and South Sudanese partners to ensure they realize as many benefits as possible from their new cooperation."

A preliminary transition plan to be monitored by ICAO was also agreed to establish a new Flight Information Region (FIR) under the operational responsibility of South Sudan. Also to be established is a South Sudan-Sudan Implementation Monitoring Team (SSIMT) that will be composed of representatives from the two States, adjacent States, specialists from ICAO Regional Offices and the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

Furthermore, a revised route structure to support more efficient operations over Sudan and South Sudan, as well as eventual flight information boundary adjustments has been agreed upon.



Sudan's Director General of Civil Aviation, Mr. Ahmed Satti Abdelrahman Bajouri, and South Sudan's Acting Civil Aviation Chief Executive Officer, David Subek Dada (in the presence of South Sudan's Minister for Transport the Honourable John Luk Jok) sign a new air navigation services agreement on the side lines of the 39th ICAO Assembly. The ceremony was conducted in the presence of ICAO Council President Dr. Olumuyiwa Benard Aliu, ICAO Secretary General Dr. Fang Liu, as well as attending Sudanese and South Sudanese officials and ICAO senior staff.

#### Resources for Editors

## **About ICAO**

A specialized agency of the United Nations, ICAO was created in 1944 to promote the safe and orderly development of international civil aviation throughout the world. It sets standards and regulations necessary for aviation safety, security, efficiency, capacity and environmental protection, amongst many other priorities. The Organization serves as the forum for cooperation in all fields of civil aviation among its 191 Member States.

ICAO's 39th Assembly ICAO's Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency website

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