



**Opening 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary ICAO SAM remarks**  
**by the Secretary General**  
**of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO),**  
**Dr. Fang Liu,**  
**to Peru's Ministry of Foreign Affairs**

*(Lima, Perú, 6 December 2018)*

1. It gives me great pleasure to join you here today to commemorate the establishment of one of ICAO's most important and longstanding Regional Offices here in Lima, accredited to ICAO's South American Member States.
2. I would like to express ICAO's most sincere thanks to the government of Peru for hosting us in Lima for the past 70 years, and our deep gratitude for the incredible support it has provided to our Organization these many years.
3. Our presence in Lima delivers a range of positive economic impacts, most notably relating to the many officials who come to this beautiful city to attend our events and meetings each year.
4. ICAO welcomes and appreciates the important and mutually rewarding relationship which has developed between our Organization and our supportive Peruvian partners over the years.
5. As you may know, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) was established by States in 1944 to manage the administration and governance of the Convention on International Civil Aviation (Chicago Convention).
6. Shortly thereafter, when the United Nations Charter was drafted and agreed to, ICAO was welcomed into the UN system as its specialized agency for civil aviation.

7. It's interesting to consider in this sense that the historic path to peace forged after the Second World War, the one which has to a large extent helped keep world nations free from such major and catastrophic global conflicts in the decades since, had such a direct focus on the role of international civil aviation from its earliest conception.
8. ICAO's Regional Office here in Lima officially opened on October 28, 1948, when it was located in the facilities of Limatambo Airport.
9. Since that time it has become critical to how South American and Latin American States coordinate and cooperate toward their shared civil aviation objectives, and in many respects, such as regional safety coordination, it has become a model for our other world regions to emulate.
10. I think it's very fitting that both its historic and current role will now be highlighted and better appreciated through the documentary and historic photo exhibit which are being introduced at this ceremony.
11. And we should also be encouraged that it will also help to express the enthusiasm, support and recognition that both Peru and the Region give to this Regional Office as it continuously seeks to fulfil its mandate of assistance to South American States in their harmonized implementation of ICAO standards.
12. Please let me express again my deep appreciation to the Government of the Peru and its Civil Aviation Authority for their essential support and hospitality to ICAO these past 70 years, and I'm sure that we can all look forward to the excellent relationship now established to continue for many more years to come.
13. Thank you.