



**Remarks by the Secretary General  
of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO),  
Dr. Fang Liu,  
on the occasion of the SAM 70th  
'Pioneers Hall' inauguration**

*(Lima, Perú, 6 Dec 2018)*

1. It gives me great pleasure to welcome all of you to our South American Regional Office, and especially on such a happy occasion as its 70th anniversary.
2. Please let me begin today by expressing ICAO's most sincere thanks to the government of Perú for all of the support, assistance and consideration they have provided to ICAO over these last seven decades.
3. And I would also like to thank Dr. Pavic for his very generous attention to our Regional Office needs more recently, and for the collegial and productive relationships he has continued to foster between your State and our experts and senior officials stationed here.
4. Aviation has very storied history: one replete with the many adventurers and innovators who gave birth to the age of flight.
5. In many ways these pioneering aviators forged wings of hope, ones upon which subsequent generations have soared to some truly remarkable achievements.
6. In this sense we must appreciate as well those pioneering diplomats and public officials who saw in the promise of those first flights a new and better future for humanity.
7. It was their inspiration after all which led to the development of the Chicago Convention which established ICAO, and which has helped States the world over to share their skies on a peaceful and collaborative basis in the almost 75 years since that time.

8. Over time it is my hope that this new Pioneers Hall will feature more and more of the incredible men and women of this Region's past, both distant and recent, who have made through their aviation commitments and innovations such an incredible contribution to the world and its peoples.
9. In closing now let me please re-express my deep appreciation to the Government of the Peru and its Civil Aviation Authority for their hospitality and support these many years, without which this commemorative Hall could never have been considered.
10. Thank you •