



**Closing remarks
by the Secretary General of the
International Civil Aviation Organization
Dr. Fang Liu
to the Second ICAO High-level Conference
on Aviation Security**

(ICAO HQ, Montreal, 30 November 2018)

Distinguished colleagues,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. Over the past few days you have focused on a topic of critical importance to civil aviation regulators, industry, and ultimately of course, the travelling public.
2. If the objective of this Conference was to determine an agreed course to improve aviation security in the coming years, and for the benefit of all stakeholders, then we have certainly succeeded.
3. As this meeting draws to a close, I believe that all of us can take some credit for what has been accomplished.
4. The presence of 11 Ministers and Deputy Ministers and other high-level officials from 107 States, and Observers from 22 international and regional organizations, is truly gratifying, as it signals to the world the on-going commitment to aviation security at the highest levels.
5. In this sense our message to world could not be more clear that ICAO, its Member States, the industry and our other partners are addressing the threat to civil aviation with great determination, ambition, and unity of purpose.
6. What is most inspiring I think has been your commitment to accomplish this in a manner that minimizes the adverse consequences of security on air transport.
7. This aspect is highly significant, and it points to why sustainable, risk-based measures are absolutely essential if we are to manage risks without penalizing our industry and its customers with costly or burdensome procedures.

8. From the consumers' standpoint, it is nothing short of vital that we address security risks with solutions which pose a minimum of passenger or shipper inconvenience.
9. Any other approach will not be sustainable.
10. To this end, and in order to carry out all of your important recommendations in setting the future direction of global aviation security, ICAO's leadership will be required.
11. This in turn means that our resourcing will need to be reconsidered, and I will be bringing forward appropriate proposals, through our governing body Council to our Member States next September at the 40th Session of the ICAO Assembly to address this point.
12. The progress you have made here in such a short time has been impressive, and I am especially grateful that you have realized a very practical vision and comprehensive framework of actions supporting the future evolution of the GASeP.
13. ICAO's close collaboration with other international organizations, which we have augmented significantly of late, will be of tremendous benefit in setting the stage for this success.
14. And let us not fail to appreciate that these and other positive outcomes have materialized at this week's events because of the remarkable spirit of international cooperation that has characterized your discussions.
15. We must recall together that engaging you on this level and fostering these connections is the main mission of ICAO, and that the true measure of our AVSEC success lies ultimately in the successful and sustainable prevention of unlawful interference with civil aviation.
16. This concerns effective responses to acts and threats, the prompt resumption of normal civil aviation operations when disruption occurs, and an overall positive aviation security environment for air transport development.
17. In every respect our vigilance and commitment to success will depend now on how consistently and committedly we take forward these new Conference outcomes.

18. Through the Conference Report and Communiqué, the course you have set will guide us in all efforts to enhance global aviation security and facilitation as we head toward the 40th Session of the ICAO Assembly next year, and beyond.
19. By successfully addressing critical strategic issues, you have strengthened the global framework and defined the way forward for ICAO, its Member States, industry, consumers and other stakeholders.
20. In concluding now I would like to express our thanks to H.E. Arkhom Termpittayapaisith, Minister of Transport from Thailand and H.E. Annette Ferguson, Minister within the Ministry of Public Infrastructure from Guyana for their very capable chairing of these proceedings. Your guidance has certainly contributed to this Conference's positive outcomes.
21. I would also thank all of you who contributed to the meaningful discussions, and our joint and further appreciation must include of course our sponsors who have so generously provided us with occasions to socialize and network together.
22. My thanks once more to all participants for devoting your valuable time to this vital purpose, and I wish you all safe travels home.