



**Introductory 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 Montréal, 29 November 2018)

Distinguished colleagues,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. Allow me to echo please the very warm welcomes extended by Mr. Michael Keenan, Canada's Deputy Minister of Transport, and by our ICAO Council President, Dr. Aliu.
2. This Second High-level Conference on Aviation Security concludes ICAO's first ever Aviation Security (AVSEC) Week – five days dedicated to understanding the current state of aviation security, as well as to explore a range of future avenues for its progressive and sustainable enhancement.
3. The first day brought together a select group of key policy and decision makers from regulators, law enforcement and industry, to participate in roundtable discussions and interactive dialogues.
4. These interactions served as a very helpful catalyst for renewed collaboration and more effective communication among industry, research, academic and Member State stakeholders, notably with respect to AVSEC technologies and innovations.
5. The second and third days of AVSEC Week focused our attention on recognizing and overcoming barriers to sharing information, enabling participants to explore what the 'Need to Know' refers to from a variety of perspectives.

6. Prior to your work together here over the next two days, I wish to take this opportunity to present ICAO's global perspectives on why it's important for us to work together more effectively, and to strengthen our approaches toward the sharing of information, expertise and resources.
7. Over the years, our Organization has established strong partnerships with other UN organizations such as the United Nations Counter Terrorism Executive Directorate (UN CTED); the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism (UN OCT); the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC); the International Organization for Migration (IOM); and INTERPOL.
8. Through these relationships, we have improved the global response to terrorist threats, cooperated on various risk mitigation activities, and exchanged a great deal of helpful advice, information and resources in the areas of aviation security, facilitation, and border control.
9. An excellent example of this is the recent signing of the Arrangement on Cooperation between ICAO and UN CTED, which ensures alignment of UN Security Council resolution 2309 and ICAO's Global Aviation Security Plan (GASeP).
10. ICAO has also taken an active role in the implementation of United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. To ensure its effective and coordinated inter-agency implementation, we signed the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact and are currently finalizing the Arrangement of Cooperation between ICAO and UN OCT.
11. Another example is the recent Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) established between ICAO and the UNODC, which strengthens our cooperation on information-sharing and border control issues.
12. This new agreement will enable us to effectively address threats arising from transnational organized crime and terrorism, and will aid our two global agencies' efforts to respond in a coordinated way to new and evolving challenges.
13. Through this mechanism, our two organizations will enhance global aviation security and facilitation initiatives related to preventing and countering terrorism, ensuring more effective targeting of all related resources.

14. And while agreements of this nature bring tremendous benefit to our agencies and objectives, we must also remain aware that cooperation among our organizations will be insufficient without the support of our Member States.
15. They must be equally willing to cooperate and share information with each other in order for our goals in this area to be achieved.
16. This helps to explain why ICAO's security-related Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) emphasize the importance of sharing threat and risk information with those who need it – both between and within States, and also with industry.
17. But by the same token, aviation security is not a stand-alone sector.
18. Safety, air navigation, law enforcement, and counter-terrorism organizations, to name just a few, also pursue goals which directly align with keeping people and goods safe and secure.
19. Perpetrators, meanwhile, are motivated by multitude of influences, including ideology, politics, criminal gain, or even personal impairments such as mental instability.
20. They often, however, employ similar tactics, techniques and procedures as they seek to exploit our sector's vulnerabilities.
21. This points us to how an expansion of pre-boarding passenger data availability, often discussed in terms of facilitation benefits, could be highly useful in enhancing border and aviation security efforts, particularly in the context of counter-terrorism efforts.
22. In conclusion, ladies and gentlemen, I would like to reassure you that ICAO will continue to demonstrate its leadership in all matters pertaining to global aviation security policy, regulation, standardization, assistance, and training.
23. And from a similar standpoint we will also remain diligent in our efforts to aid your overall awareness and planning through our quality control and audit activities.

24. All ICAO staff in particular working under the Aviation Security and Facilitation Strategic Objective, including those in our seven Regional Offices, leverage the expertise, dedication, and ongoing commitments of our 192 Member States, the aviation industry, and international organizations, to prioritize capacity building and technical assistance throughout our global sector.
25. Looking forward, I am optimistic that the recommendations emanating from this Conference will lead to strengthened international cooperation, both to our benefit, and that of our Member States.
26. Thank you.