



CART Press Conference Statement – ICAO Secretary General Dr. Fang Liu 2020.06.02

Addressing and mitigating the effects of COVID-19 has led to significant restrictions on the global movement of people and goods.

This has led to more and more areas of the world having to deal with levels of personal, social, and economic isolation which are both extensive and unprecedented.

ICAO took immediate and coordinated action on COVID-19 as soon as it was identified as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern by the WHO. We've been very active throughout this period on numerous fronts relating to public health, operational safety measures, maintaining critical air cargo supply chains globally, the expediting of humanitarian and repatriation flights, and other urgent priorities.

The development of these new CART guidelines has required extensive support from the ICAO Secretariat, and implementing and monitoring them globally is now the major task ahead of us, but fortunately we've had practice over the last 75 years since the establishment of ICAO at standardizing the international aviation system: one of humanity's most complex and cooperative achievements.

Restoring public confidence in air travel has very broad benefits. I think it's important that we recall that this isn't only about the operational and economic viability of the air transport sector, but of entire societies and regions having their economic livelihoods and stability restored.

ICAO has been proud to fulfill its important multilateral role during this challenging time, and we will continue to work hard to ensure a safe and harmonized COVID-19 recovery for global air transport.

Thank you.