



**Address by the  
Secretary General of the  
International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO),  
Dr. Fang Liu,  
to the ICAO-CTED virtual open briefing  
of the Counter-Terrorism Committee  
on “terrorist threats to civil aviation and on the status  
of implementation of resolution 2309 (2016)  
and follow-up as well as civil aviation related provisions  
by resolution 2396 (2017)”**

*(2 December 2020)*

1. Thank you for inviting me to brief the Counter Terrorism Committee of the Security Council. Since our last meeting at the end of 2018, much has transpired.
2. In the first place, 2020 has confronted ICAO with the worst global crisis in the history of international aviation.
3. We have been responding quickly and effectively to ensure vital air operations, while bearing in mind the lasting threats of terrorism and making steady progress in aviation security and facilitation.
4. A key recommendation of the ICAO Council’s Aviation Recovery Task Force (CART) Guidelines, which aim to align countries’ air transport pandemic responses, calls countries to strengthen their security oversight systems.
5. And consistent with recent Security Council Resolutions, we have been strongly emphasizing the importance of National Facilitation Committees and National Facilitation Programmes to manage and control pandemic risks.
6. Regarding enhanced border security, in line with Security Council resolution 2396, our Council adopted new Passenger Name Record (PNR) standards, by Amendment 28 to Annex 9 – *Facilitation* to the Chicago Convention in June.

7. This establishes a mandatory international framework for the transfer and exchange of PNR data, helping States to prevent, detect, investigate and prosecute terrorist offences and other serious crimes.
8. In Aviation Security, recent progress includes: amendments of Annex 17 to the Chicago Convention, addressing notably the insider threat, revisions of the Aviation Security Manual, and the third Global Aviation Security Symposium in 2019, focusing on innovation.
9. During the 40<sup>th</sup> ICAO Assembly in 2019, States renewed their commitment to better address aviation security threats and manage risks.
10. They adopted a new *Declaration on Aviation Security* supporting UN Security Council Resolutions 2309, 2341, 2395, 2396 and 2482, and the first global Cybersecurity Strategy for Civil Aviation.
11. The 40th Assembly also requested ICAO to enhance security awareness and culture, one of the five key priority of the Global Aviation Security Plan (GASeP) and we have therefore designated 2021 as the '*Year of Security Culture*'.
12. 2021 also marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 9/11 terror attacks, the worst acts of unlawful interference in the history of aviation, and the impetus for the Security Council to establish the Counter Terrorism Committee through Resolution 1373.
13. We will therefore deliver a concerted global programme of practical security culture events throughout 2021, and would welcome your support and participation.
14. I seize this opportunity to stress our excellent cooperation with CTED and renew our commitment to provide experts to participate in CTED assessment missions, as well as other activities led by CTED under the UN Counter-Terrorism Global Compact Working Groups.
15. We have also established a successful cooperation with UN OCT on many counter-terrorism initiatives, the main one being the UN Counter Terrorist Travel Programme to assist Member States in enhancing their terrorist detection capabilities in line with UNSC Resolution 2396.

16. ICAO also cooperates closely with other UN and International organizations, most notably:

- the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC);
- the International Organization for Migration (IOM);
- the World Customs Organization (WCO);
- and INTERPOL.

17. In conclusion, I wish to warmly thank the Counter-Terrorism Committee, and call for maintaining your strong and invaluable political support to ICAO, reaffirming our leadership role and raising the profile of Aviation Security and Facilitation for all Member States.

18. I look forward to CTC Members' participation for a successful *Year of Security Culture* in 2021.

19. Thank you Mr. Chairman.