

ICAO FACILITATION CONFERENCE 2025 (FALC 2025)
(Doha, Qatar, 14 to 17 April 2025)

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

(Theme: Facilitating the future of air transport: collaboration, efficiency, inclusivity)

"Streamlining Travel, Connecting Communities"

Agenda Item 1: Cooperation, collaboration and Inter-Agency Coordination

- 1.1 Implementation of National Air Transport Facilitation Programmes (NATFP) and establishment of National Air Transport Facilitation Committees (NATFC).
- 1.2 National coordination and international cooperation.
- 1.3 Evolution of the collaboration between different ICAO Panels and Working Groups.

The Conference will be invited to propose inputs to be considered for the:

- a) enhanced development of a NATFP and the set-up of a NATFC;
- b) communication strategies between national and international stakeholders involved in air transport facilitation;
- c) establishment of an effective collaboration mechanism between the Facilitation (FAL) and other ICAO expert panels as well as with the ICAO Technical Advisory Group on Traveller Identification Programme (TAG/TRIP) and the ICAO Public Key Directory (PKD) Board.

Agenda Item 2: Travel Document Integrity and Border Control

- 2.1 Standardized implementation of Machine-Readable Travel Documents (MRTDs) and electronic MRTDs (eMRTDs).
- 2.2 Global approach to the deployment of new technologies for identity verification and border control.
- 2.3 Strategies to reduce congestion at departure and arrival control points.

The Conference will be invited to propose inputs to be considered for the:

- a) unified approach in the issuance and inspection of travel documents based on Doc 9303 specifications;
- b) definition of new paradigms in the deployment of new technologies for clearance through the various border controls;
- c) strategies to be considered for rationalizing the processing of passengers and crews during their journey.

Agenda Item 3: Cargo Release Clearance and Automation Processes

- 3.1 Annex 9 cargo-related provisions and the revised Kyoto Convention of the World Customs Organization (WCO).
- 3.2 Air cargo supply chain.

The Conference will be invited to propose inputs to be considered for the:

- a) effective strategic implementation of concepts and principles contained in Annex 9 — *Facilitation* and the revised Kyoto Convention of the World Custom Organization (WCO);
- b) automation and interoperability of cargo community systems within the air cargo supply chain.

Agenda Item 4: Passenger Experience

- 4.1 Expanding capacities at airports to meet traffic growth
- 4.2 Role of aircraft operators and airport authorities in facilitating clearance and service operations
- 4.3 General experience of the passengers throughout their journey
- 4.4 Facilitation issues linked to unruly passengers

The Conference will be invited to propose inputs to be considered for the:

- a) the improvement of terminal traffic handling arrangements from the standpoint of customs, immigration, and public health;
- b) strategies to ensure the seamless and continuous flow of traffic through control channels;
- c) facilitation best practices for aircraft operators and airport authorities in clearance and service operations; and
- d) effective management of unruly passengers in airport facilities and on-board aircraft.

Agenda Item 5: Addressing Inadmissible Persons, Deportees, Refugees and Stateless Persons

5.1 Handling inadmissible persons and deportees

5.2 Specific issues preventing refugees and stateless from accessing travel documents

The Conference will be invited to propose inputs to be considered for the:

- a) policies relating to inadmissible persons, deportees, refugees and Stateless persons;
- b) issuance of Doc 9303 compliant MRTDs for refugees and stateless persons by all countries; and
- c) shaping of future practices for the issuance of travel documents to refugees and Stateless persons.

Agenda Item 6: Addressing Human Trafficking and Irregular Migration

6.1 Suspected incidents of human trafficking through civil aviation

6.2 Coordination across State agencies, among States, and with stakeholders, including airport and aircraft operators

The Conference will be invited to propose inputs to be considered for the:

- a) protocols for clear lines of reporting to law enforcement agencies on suspected or actual cases of human trafficking, and the implementation of appropriate training of airport and aircraft operators' personnel in direct contact with the travelling public;
- b) best practices to respond to instances of potential victims; and
- c) enhancement of cooperation and coordination between different ICAO working groups and relevant international organizations in supporting measures aimed at addressing human trafficking and irregular migration in civil aviation, where applicable, and while respecting the mandate of relevant international organizations.

Agenda Item 7: Assistance to Aircraft Accident Victims and their Families (AAAVF)

7.1 Implementation of States' legislation, regulations, policies and procedures related to family assistance

7.2 Relationship between insurance companies and victims and families and airlines

The Conference will be invited to propose inputs to be considered for the:

- a) mechanisms to assist Member States in developing family assistance plans to support aircraft accident victims and their families;
- b) implementation of the most expeditious procedures practical to facilitate the movement of family members and authorized representatives of the operator; and
- c) best practices for insurance companies.

Agenda Item 8: Passenger Data Systems

8.1 Implementation of Advance Passenger Information (API) and Passenger Name Record (PNR) data systems

8.2 Categorization and standardization of the different Electronic Travel Systems (ETS)

The Conference will be invited to propose inputs to be considered for the:

- a) greater standardization in implementing passenger data systems;
- b) better use of National Air Transport Facilitation Committee (NATFC) to support and coordinate the development of API and PNR systems; and
- c) recommended ways to implement ETS with fully automated and interoperable validation systems.

Agenda Item 9: Accessibility in international civil aviation

- 9.1 Facilitating air travel for Persons with Disabilities and Reduced Mobility
- 9.2 Different barriers and various requirements throughout the passenger journey

The Conference will be invited to propose inputs to be considered for:

- a) achieving a disability-inclusive air transport system in collaboration with all stakeholders; and
- b) developing an effective ICAO strategy on accessibility for passengers with disabilities and reduced mobility.

Agenda Item 10: Maintaining health and sustaining safe international air transport during public health emergencies of international concern affecting air travel

- 10.1 Crisis management and resilience when dealing with health-related matters in aviation
- 10.2 Mechanisms for contingency planning and emergency response
- 10.3 Entry requirements for aircraft regarding aircraft disinsection, disinfection, and other public health issues

The Conference will be invited to propose inputs to be considered for the:

- a) control of the spread of contagious diseases by air during public health emergencies of international concern in line with the World Health Organization (WHO) revised International Health Regulations (IHR);
- b) mitigation of such emergencies and the resilience of the aviation sector;
- c) continued implementation of the recommendations of the High-level Conference on COVID-19 (HLCC 2021);
- d) implementation of public health capacities for airports and aircraft operations, as well as hygiene and sanitation in aviation; and
- e) necessary advancement of the facilitation programmes to support management of health-related matters in aviation.

Agenda Item 11: Innovation in Facilitation and Artificial Intelligence

- 11.1 Interactions with innovators in air transport facilitation.
- 11.2 Incorporating innovation in ICAO's global standards in a timely fashion.
- 11.3 Commitment to work across the aviation and innovation ecosystem to accelerate a culture of innovation and to facilitate the uptake of technologies and processes through timely standard setting, with respect for transparency and accountability, following the processes of due diligence to prevent conflicts of interest and comply with good governance principles.

The Conference will be invited to propose inputs to be considered for the:

- a) strategic deployment of technologies and innovations in facilitation for better travellers' journeys and enhanced user experience;
- b) the significance of global standardization and interoperability;
- c) exploration of innovative topics, including cutting edge developments such as artificial intelligence, mostly in relation to passenger identification, automated border control, biometrics and digital travel documents with the effective use of the ICAO Public Key Directory (PKD);
- d) enhancement of international cooperation and coordination between the different ICAO working groups and States in supporting technological advancement in facilitation, while respecting transparency, accountability, due diligence and good governance principles; and
- e) exploration of integrating AI in Facilitation to enhance the passengers' journey and experience.

Agenda Item 12: Capacity Building and Implementation Support for States

12.1 Provision of technical assistance to States.

12.2 Auditing and oversight as well as capacity building initiatives.

The Conference will be invited to propose inputs to be considered for the:

- a) enhancement of regulatory capacity and operational capabilities of States;
- b) implementation of facilitation measures;
- c) promotion of international cooperation and regional collaboration to share resources and expertise and to address common challenges and leverage regional strengths; and
- d) development of a mechanism for monitoring and assessing Facilitation in air transport, by States.

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