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UNITING AVIATION

News Release

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ICAO COUNCIL ELECTS NEW PRESIDENT

MONTREAL, 18 November 2013 – The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) announced today that Dr. Olumuyiwa Benard Aliu of Nigeria has been elected as the new President of the ICAO Council.

Aliu's election by acclamation was confirmed today when the 36 States which comprise ICAO's Governing Council registered their unanimous agreement during the body's 200th Session. He will officially take over the reins as ICAO Council President beginning 1 January 2014, for a three-year term.

"I am very grateful to my distinguished colleagues on the ICAO Council for their support and recognition," Aliu remarked. "Aviation today faces many challenges but its role in expanding tourism and market access has never been more important to modern society and to the local, regional and global economic players who rely so significantly today on safe and dependable air transport connectivity. I will look forward to working with my Council colleagues over the next triennium, with the support of the ICAO Air Navigation Commission and Secretariat, as we seek to address aviation's key areas of priority."

Prior to his election as its President, Aliu served for eight years as the ICAO Council's Nigerian Representative (2005-2013). He was also Director of the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority's Air Transport Regulation Directorate (2000-2004), Chairman for the formulation of African Civil Aviation Policy under the African Union (2009-2011) and performed many other professional and technical roles in the service of his State's civil aviation sector over the past three decades.

Aliu follows the departing Council President, Roberto Kobeh González of Mexico, who was elected in March 2006 after Dr. Assad Kotaite retired prematurely before the end of his term. Kobeh took up his functions in August 2006 and was re-elected for consecutive full terms of Office in 2007 and 2010.

"It has been my great pleasure to help lead ICAO and support international aviation during the last seven years," Kobeh commented. "Having known and worked beside Dr. Aliu for much of this period, I am very pleased that the leadership of the Council will now be in such capable hands. Dr. Aliu's broad diplomatic perspective and demonstrated skills at consensus-building will be essential to the success of ICAO's continuing mission."

Aliu becomes only the fifth President of the ICAO Council in the almost 70-year history of the specialized United Nations aviation agency, which is responsible for the *Convention on International Civil Aviation* (Chicago Convention) and the over 10,000 international civil aviation standards contained in the Convention's Annexes.

Supporting Information:

What is the ICAO Council?

The ICAO Council is a permanent body responsible to the 191 Member States which comprise the governing ICAO Assembly. It is composed of 36 Member States which are elected by the Assembly for a three-year term. Council States are elected on the basis of three categories of consideration, namely:

- States of chief importance to air transport;
- States not otherwise included but which make the largest contribution to the provision of facilities for international civil air navigation services; and
- States not otherwise included whose designation will ensure that all major geographic areas of the world are represented on the Council.

www.icao.int/about-icao/pages/Council

Former ICAO Council Presidents:

Roberto Kobeh González (Mexico)	2006-2013
Assad Kotaite (Lebanon)	1976-2006
Walter Binaghi (Argentina)	1957-1976
Edward Warner (United States)	1947-1957

ICAO Strategic Objectives: 2014-2016:

- Safety;
 - Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency;
 - Security and Facilitation;
 - Economic Development of Air Transport; and
 - Environmental Protection.
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A specialized agency of the United Nations, ICAO was created in 1944 to promote the safe and orderly development of international civil aviation throughout the world. It sets standards and regulations necessary for aviation safety, security, efficiency, capacity and environmental protection, amongst many other priorities. The Organization serves as the forum for cooperation in all fields of civil aviation among its 191 Member States.

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