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News Release

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## ICAO ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION TEAM BEGINS UKRAINE ASSISTANCE MISSION

**MONTREAL, 21 July 2014** – Accident investigation experts from the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) arrived in the Ukraine over the weekend to begin assisting their Ukrainian counterparts with the official accident investigation into the loss of Malaysia Airlines Flight MH17.

The ICAO experts are in the State to provide guidance on relevant aspects of the *Convention on International Civil Aviation* and Annex 13 to the *Convention (Aircraft Accident and Incident Investigation)* which apply under these circumstances, to assist with fact finding, and to ensure that all evidence is thoroughly considered as the investigation seeks to determine how the aircraft and its 298 passengers and crew were tragically lost late last week.

“ICAO’s accident investigation experts are in the Ukraine to respond to a call for assistance from the State’s National Bureau of Incidents and Accidents Investigation of Civil Aircraft,” commented ICAO Council President, Dr. Olumuyiwa Benard Aliu. “Their work relates to Annex 13 investigations, the objective of which is to determine the causes of an accident and to make recommendations that will help prevent future accidents. This is a painstaking process and the collaboration of all concerned with the international team of investigators, notably where access to all evidence and data is concerned, will be greatly appreciated.”

President Aliu also encouraged all applicable ICAO Member States to promptly address the needs of victims’ families with necessary services and information, as per ICAO’s policy guidance in this area.

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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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