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## *International Civil Aviation Day*

*For immediate release*

**MONTRÉAL, 7 DECEMBER 2016** – The Council President of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), Dr. Olumuyiwa Benard Aliu, and ICAO Secretary General, Dr. Fang Liu, issued a joint statement today on the occasion of International Civil Aviation Day, 2016:

*The theme for International Civil Aviation Day through 2018 is: “Working Together to Ensure No Country is Left Behind”.*

*In 2016, this theme provides an important reminder of the role of cooperation and partnership in everything we seek to achieve in global civil aviation.*

*Flying remains the safest form of transport because aviation safety benefits from an incredible team effort by governments, airline and airport operators, manufacturers and service providers, maintenance staff and others who make safety their priority.*

*Cooperation also makes our aircraft and facilities more secure, and better prepared to adjust to new and emerging threats.*

*Likewise, the efficiency of air operations globally is being continuously improved through new cooperative approaches, such as Air Traffic Flow Management.*

*Greater liberalization and multilateralism have also been identified as crucial objectives for future air transport economic viability.*

*And in the Environmental domain especially in 2016, our community’s strong commitment to come together on behalf of our planet has helped aviation to once again show its strength and leadership through new and historic emissions control Standards and agreements.*

*Our “No Country is Left Behind” initiative has been transformative and widely commended by States and industry.*

*And we have been working tirelessly to promote the importance of civil aviation to socio-economic development and its prioritization in national and regional development and investment planning.*

*The entire aviation community has a role to play in this process, and all of us benefit when our network’s reach is extended and societies find greater peace and prosperity through newfound connections to the world.*

*International civil aviation remains our most remarkable example of successful human cooperation and global partnership, and a shining example to the world of how much we can achieve when we meet our shared challenges together.*

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Diplomats from 54 world powers risked the war torn skies of the Second World War to meet in Chicago in 1944 and draft the visionary Convention on International Civil Aviation (Chicago Convention) which established ICAO. They formalized in the Convention's pre-amble their objective to ensure that civil aviation would become an instrument for world peace and prosperity, and in the decades since aviation's ability to connect the world's peoples and cultures, and to drive significant socio-economic benefits for cities, regions and countries, has only expanded. Today some 10 million passengers take to the skies on 100,000 flights each and every day in aviation's global network.

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## Resources for Editors

### About ICAO

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.

[The ICAO International Civil Aviation Day website](#)  
[Banners, posters and print and web adverts highlighting the 2015-2018 theme](#)  
[ICAO's 'No Country Left Behind' initiative](#)

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