



President of ICAO Council and President of Bolivia affirm importance of progress on compliance and air transport development

For immediate release

Montréal, 28 October 2017 – Pointing to the crucial contributions of ICAO compliant connectivity to sustainable socio-economic development, the President of the ICAO Council, Dr. Olumuyiwa Benard Aliu and the President of Bolivia, Dr. Juan Evo Morales Ayma, affirmed the need to continue the progress that led to Bolivia's achievement of an ICAO Council President Certificate. With Bolivia's Representative to the ICAO Council, Mr. Javier Garcia Soruco, in attendance, Dr. Aliu presented the Certificate personally to President Morales Ayma on Thursday.

The presentation of the certificate took place at the celebrations of the 70th anniversary of Bolivia's General Directorate of Civil Aeronautics. The Certificate was awarded in recognition of Bolivia's significant progress on the effective implementation with ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs), which is key to accessing the international civil aviation network. The criteria used to identify the recipients of these certificates are objective and transparent, and are based on the results of ICAO's Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme Continuous Monitoring Approach activities.

In bilateral talks, both leaders underscored the importance of encouraging the sustainable development of international air connectivity as a crucial lever for socio-economic development. President Morales Ayma highlighted investment at Santa Cruz Airport and his vision of Viru Viru airport's development as a regional hub as examples of his Government's commitment. Dr. Aliu stressed ICAO's full support of these efforts through the UN agency's *No Country Left Behind* initiative. He recalled that the cooperation established through this initiative reflects the spirit and intent of the 1944 Convention on International Civil Aviation that established ICAO, of which Bolivia was one of the original signatories.

"It has been the great legacy of ICAO to serve as the focal point for the international cooperation which has made aviation what it is today, and it is Bolivia's great legacy to have been involved in that work since the very beginning of the modern aviation era," Dr. Aliu remarked. "Looking forward, ICAO will continue to guide the future of air transport at the service of States and in partnership with industry. We will be counting on the partnership of countries like Bolivia as we do, fully confident that our shared commitments will keep air transport an essential and sustainable network at the service of all mankind."

Dr. Aliu's mission also provided an opportunity for high-level meetings with Bolivia's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Fernando Huanacuni Mamani and Minister of Transport, Mr. Milton Claros Hinojosa. These meetings focussed on the identification of specific areas of focus for the technical and regulatory improvement of Bolivia's air transport sector and operations. Dr. Aliu's guidance was well received by the Ministers, who accepted the crucial importance of pursuing progress given the particularly strong socio-economic benefits of air connectivity to land-locked developing countries such as Bolivia.

The President of the ICAO Council was accompanied in Bolivia by the Director of ICAO's Technical Cooperation Bureau, Mr. Ivan Galan and ICAO's Acting Regional Director for the South American Region, Oscar Quesada. His mission took place from 25 to 27 October 2017.



On the occasion of the 70th anniversary of Bolivia's General Directorate of Civil Aeronautics, the President of the ICAO Council, Dr. Olumuyiwa Benard Aliu (right), presented a Council President Certification to the President of Bolivia, Dr. Juan Evo Morales Ayma, in recognition of Bolivia's progress on the effective implementation with ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs). Compliance with ICAO SARPs is key to accessing the international civil aviation network. Photo credit: Jose Lirauze.

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.

[ICAO's South American Regional Office](#)
[ICAO's No Country Left Behind initiative](#)

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