



Priorities and targets in new ICAO Global Aviation Security Plan endorsed by Asia and Pacific States

For immediate release

Bangkok, 21 December 2017 – ICAO Secretary General Dr. Fang Liu welcomed the endorsement yesterday of a new Asia and Pacific (APAC) Aviation Security Roadmap, one which will now align national and regional programmes and targets with the UN aviation agency's new Global Aviation Security Plan (GASeP).

In her address to the ICAO Regional Aviation Security Conference, generously hosted in Bangkok this year by the Government of Thailand, Dr. Liu stressed that ICAO's new GASeP sets out key priorities where ICAO, States, and other agencies should now focus their urgent attention.

"The GASeP includes an ambitious framework for enhancing international aviation security over the coming years, and through the 32 actions and 94 tasks identified in its Roadmap, the aviation security community will now be much better prepared and more effectively aligned with Security Council Resolution 2309," she underscored. "And while aggressive in some respects, these targets and dates are also fully achievable with dedicated effort."

The main outcome ICAO was seeking at the Bangkok conference was the fine-tuning of a Regional GASeP Roadmap specific to the Asia and Pacific Region. Secretary General Liu praised the related commitments which were ultimately realized, and noted that they were a critical first step which ICAO expected to be emulated worldwide.

She also noted that the new GASeP Roadmap would entail some important and fairly significant work ahead for a number of Asia and Pacific States, and called on them "to be open to accepting assistance to enhance their local effective implementation, whether it involves training, technology, or mentoring, as well as to ensuring that any solutions set out are fully sustainable."

Highlighting ICAO's Regional Aviation Security Coordination Forums, and the Asia and Pacific's Cooperative Aviation Security Programme, Dr. Liu reiterated that ICAO will continue to help coordinate assistance and capacity building activities between donor and partner States, and organizations and recipient States, consistent with its ongoing *No Country Left Behind* initiative.

She also stressed that human resources development would be fundamental to how sustainably Asia and Pacific States would be able to meet their new obligations under the GASeP, remarking that "within the APAC Region in particular, States will need to ensure that they have available, and can retain, sufficient numbers of trained, experienced and professional regulatory and operational aviation security professionals."

"It will only be by virtue of sustained political will, especially at the highest levels of government and industry, that the Global Aviation Security Plan will succeed in its ambitious mandate," she concluded.

The Bangkok conference was officially opened by His Excellency Prayut Chan-ocha, Prime Minister of Thailand. He expressed his country's thanks to Dr. Liu for ICAO's leadership in aviation safety and security, while commending the expanded role now being played by ICAO's Bangkok Regional Office in Asia and Pacific aviation affairs.

In further discussions with His Excellency Prime Minister Chan-ocha and the Minister of Transport of Thailand, His Excellency Arkhom Termpittayapaisith, Secretary General Liu commended the successful efforts made by Thailand under the leadership of the Prime Minister to resolve their Significant Safety Concerns (SSC).

Dr. Liu emphasized the critical importance of increased investment more generally in aviation infrastructure and human resource development, so that the Thai government could optimize its global aviation connections to the benefit of local citizens and producers. She also stressed in this regard that Thailand should begin integrating its aviation development objectives into its National Economic Development Masterplan.

Dr. Liu further highlighted the importance of developing world class training organizations in order to develop high quality next generation aviation professionals – not only for Thailand – but for the entire Asia and Pacific Region. ICAO is committed to providing the necessary support to Thailand on this initiative.

The Prime Minister of Thailand thanked the Secretary General and the ICAO Bangkok team for supporting the State as it resolved its Significant Safety Concern (SSC) earlier this year, and expressed the full commitment of Thailand in supporting and furthering the strategic objectives and policies of ICAO.

The ICAO Secretary General also held a number of bilateral meetings with senior government and aviation officials while in Bangkok, accompanied throughout by Minister Termpittayapaisith, Mr. Djibo Boubacar, Director of ICAO's Air Transport Bureau, and Mr. Arun Mishra, ICAO's Asia and Pacific Office Regional Director.

The Conference was attended by 150 delegates representing 23 Member States and 6 International Organizations.



ICAO Secretary General, Dr. Fang Liu, and His Excellency Prayut Chan-ocha, Prime Minister of Thailand, open the ICAO Regional Aviation Security Conference in Bangkok, Thailand. PM Chan-ocha expressed his country's thanks for ICAO's leadership in aviation safety and security, while commending the expanded role now being played by the Organization's Bangkok Regional Office in Asia and Pacific aviation affairs. Dr. Liu commended the successful efforts made by Thailand under the leadership of the Prime Minister to resolve their Significant Safety Concerns (SSC), and emphasized the significant flight and passenger growth forecast for regional and global air transport, and the critical importance of Thailand increasing its investment for aviation infrastructure and human resource development to optimize this growth for local economic development. She also stressed in this regard that Thailand should begin as soon as possible to integrate its aviation development objectives into its National Economic Development Masterplan.

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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 192 Member States.

[ICAO's Global Aviation Security Plan](#)

[ICAO's Asia and Pacific Regional Office](#)

[ICAO's No Country Left Behind initiative](#)

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