



## Pacific States launch new Regional Aviation Strategy at ICAO Assembly

For immediate release

**Montréal, 28 September 2022** – During a special ceremony today at ICAO's 41<sup>st</sup> Assembly, Pacific States officially launched a new Pacific Regional Aviation Strategy.

The new Strategy is a major turning point for the Pacific Sub-region, and will help its participating States work together more effectively with ICAO and the Pacific Aviation Safety Office (PASO) to assure the safe, secure, and sustainable growth of regional air connectivity and socio-economic development.

"ICAO, especially through its Asia Pacific Regional Office, has actively engaged with the Pacific Small Islands Developing States through various activities promoting a closer working relationship between the Pacific Sub-region and ICAO," commented ICAO Secretary General Juan Carlos Salazar, who was joined by H.E. the Hon. Walter Schaubelt, Minister of Transport of Papua New Guinea, the President of the Assembly Poppy Khoza and ICAO Council President Salvatore Sciacchitano.

"In particular, ICAO is pleased to have had the opportunity to contribute to the development of a number of key instruments, namely the Pacific Ministers Declaration and the Pacific Aviation Safety Office 10-year Pacific Regional Aviation Strategic Plan for 2022-2032," Secretary General Salazar continued.

Following the ICAO 2019 Pacific Small Islands Developing States (PSIDS) Aviation Needs Analysis, an Implementation Roadmap was developed to guide ICAO efforts in the region. As countries continue to work to recover from the global pandemic, ICAO is focusing its efforts on capacity-building, implementation support activities, and technical assistance to the PSIDS through complimentary delivery of ICAO's Implementation Packages (iPacks), in addition to the continued on-site technical assistance missions.

"A number of consultative meetings with the States in the Pacific-Sub region have taken place followed by technical assistance activities through virtual 'Combined Action Team' missions. In the same vein, the Pacific Small Islands Developing States also received complimentary virtual training courses," Mr. Salazar emphasized.

He also noted the recent appointment of a dedicated ICAO PSIDS Liaison Officer, with the generous financial support contributed by Singapore and offers to host the new ICAO Officer being received from Fiji and Papua New Guinea.

In closing, Mr. Salazar emphasized ICAO's unwavering commitment to the PSIDS, and to advance the achievement of ICAO's global Strategic Objectives for sustainable civil aviation growth in the Pacific.



**President of the Assembly Poppy Khoza, ICAO Council President Salvatore Sciacchitano, ICAO Secretary General Juan Carlos Salazar, and H.E. the Hon. Walter Schaubelt, Minister of Transport of Papua New Guinea, are joined by associated officials and dignitaries at the special ceremony today to officially launch a new Pacific Regional Aviation Strategy.**

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### **About ICAO**

The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) is a United Nations agency which helps 193 countries to cooperate together and share their skies to their mutual benefit.

Since it was established in 1944, ICAO's support and coordination has helped countries to diplomatically and technically realize a uniquely rapid and dependable network of global air mobility, connecting families, cultures, and businesses all over the world, and promoting sustainable growth and socio-economic prosperity wherever aircraft fly.

As it enters a new era of digitization, and of incredible new flight and propulsion innovations, air transport is relying more than ever on ICAO's expert support and technical and diplomatic guidance to help chart a new and exciting future for international flight. ICAO is innovating itself to answer this call, and expanding its partnerships among UN and technical stakeholders to deliver a strategic global vision and effective, sustainable solutions.

### [ICAO's 41st Assembly](#)

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