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**DR. KENNETH RATTRAY
RECIPIENT OF 1998 EDWARD WARNER AWARD**

MONTREAL, 22 September 1998 – The 32nd Edward Warner Award, the highest honour in the world of civil aviation, was conferred by the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) today on Dr. Kenneth Rattray (Jamaica), in recognition of his eminent contribution to the development of international civil aviation, particularly in the legal field.

The 32nd Award was presented by Dr. Assad Kotaite, President of the Council of ICAO, on the opening day of ICAO's 32nd Assembly. Dr. Kotaite emphasized the coincidence of Dr. Rattray receiving the 32nd Edward Warner Award at the 32nd Assembly and took the opportunity to underscore Dr. Rattray's exceptional participation since 1964 at various sessions of the Assembly and in the world forum on international civil aviation.

"Kenneth Rattray is motivated by a remarkable spirit of international co-operation. I have known him personally for more than three decades, during which time I have had an opportunity to work with him. I have come to appreciate his formidable negotiating skills and his sensitive and adroit management of very delicate issues," said Dr. Kotaite at a special ceremony held in the presence of delegates from ICAO's Contracting States.

In making the presentation, Dr. Kotaite cited Dr. Rattray's significant role in the development of important legal instruments in the field of aviation security, and in particular his "substantive and creative contributions" at a number of International Conferences on Air Law held under the auspices of ICAO which considered, among others, the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft (The Hague, 1970), the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation (Montreal, 1971) and the Protocol Supplementary to the Montreal Convention (Montreal, 1988).

Dr. Kotaite highlighted the part played by Dr. Rattray in the adoption of the Convention on the Marking of Plastic Explosives, on 1 March 1991. Mr. Rattray was then President of the International Conference on Air Law held in Montreal also under the auspices of ICAO.

"The adoption of this important Convention in such a short period of time – the first initiative had taken place in 1989 – is unprecedented in the process of international law making," emphasized the President.

Dr. Kotaite concluded by saying that "achieving flight safety has been at the heart of the mission of the International Civil Aviation Organization since the very beginning. In Dr. Rattray, ICAO has found one of its most passionate supporters of this vital objective."

Dr. Rattray was educated at Beckford & Smith's School and London University, and holds the degrees of Bachelor of Laws (Hons) (1956), Master of Laws (1960) and Doctor of Philosophy (Company Law) (1966). In 1959, he received the Buchanan Prize arising from the results of the Bar Final Examination. Dr. Rattray has held the position of Solicitor General of Jamaica since 1972 and has been Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary since 1974.

The Edward Warner Award is bestowed, in the form of a gold medal, on an individual or institution in recognition of outstanding contributions to the safe and orderly development of civil air transport. Edward Warner (U.S.A.) was the first President of the Council of ICAO, from 1945 to 1957.

ICAO was created in 1944 to promote the safe and orderly development of civil aviation in the world. A specialized agency of the United Nations, it sets international standards and regulations necessary for the safety, security, efficiency and regularity of air transport and serves as the medium for cooperation in all fields of civil aviation among its 185 Contracting States.