



ICAO

# INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

A UN SPECIALIZED AGENCY

Thirteenth North American, Central American and Caribbean Directors of Civil Aviation Meeting  
(NACC/DCA/13)

## P/2 Agenda Item 3

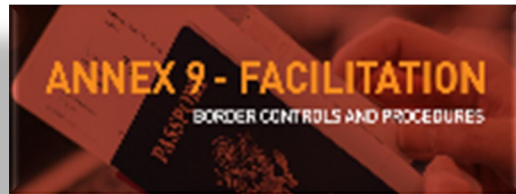
### Towards More Effective Implementation: Aviation Security (AVSEC) and Facilitation (FAL)

Presented by the Secretariat

# Developments in ICAO Facilitation

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# THREE INTERRELATED FACILITATION PROGRAMMES



# Key Developments Annex 9 – Facilitation

- **Thirteenth Meeting of the Facilitation Panel (FALP/13) Montréal, Canada (26 February to 1 March 2024)**

Amendment 30 to Annex 9 - Adopted by the Council on 5 November 2024. Council prescribes Amendment 30 become applicable on 11 July 2025.

- **Intersessional Meeting of the Facilitation Panel: Doha, Qatar (12–13 April 2025)**

Convened in collaboration with TAG/TRIP and the ICAO PKD Board

- **New Guidance Material**

The Facilitation Manual, Doc 9957(2<sup>nd</sup> Edition)

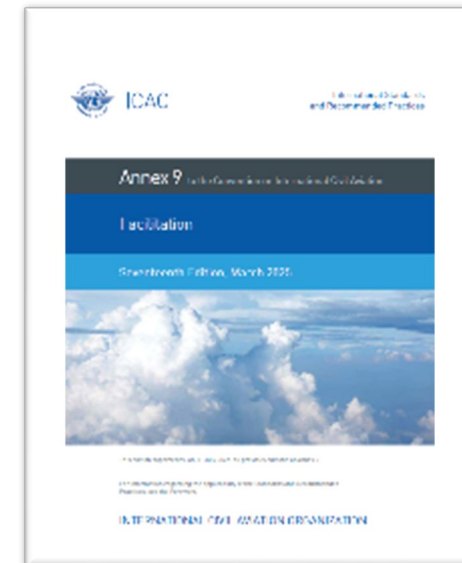
- **New Working Group**

Working Group on Facilitation Capacity Building (WGFCB)

- **FAL Capacity Building (five training courses and four iPacks )**

New Training Course :Managing Air Transport Facilitation

New iPacks : Establishing National Facilitation Oversight Mechanisms  
Assistance to Aircraft Accident Victims and Their Families  
(Coming Soon) Implementation support for the ICAO TRIP Strategy Roadmap



**FACILITATION  
CONFERENCE  
(FALC 2025)**

**14 to 17  
April 2025  
Doha, Qatar**

**High-level Ministerial Segment**

**17 April 2025**

**High-level attendance by 53 Ministers**

**Adopted Doha Declaration by acclamation**

## 79 Recommendations

62 for States



Facilitation operational measures - the pandemic and beyond



Enhancing national coordination and international cooperation



Enhancing digital data sharing for seamless/contactless processes



Future approaches – management of sustainable health-related FAL measures, passenger experience and implementation monitoring



Other Facilitation related issues

# Importance of Completing the Questionnaire

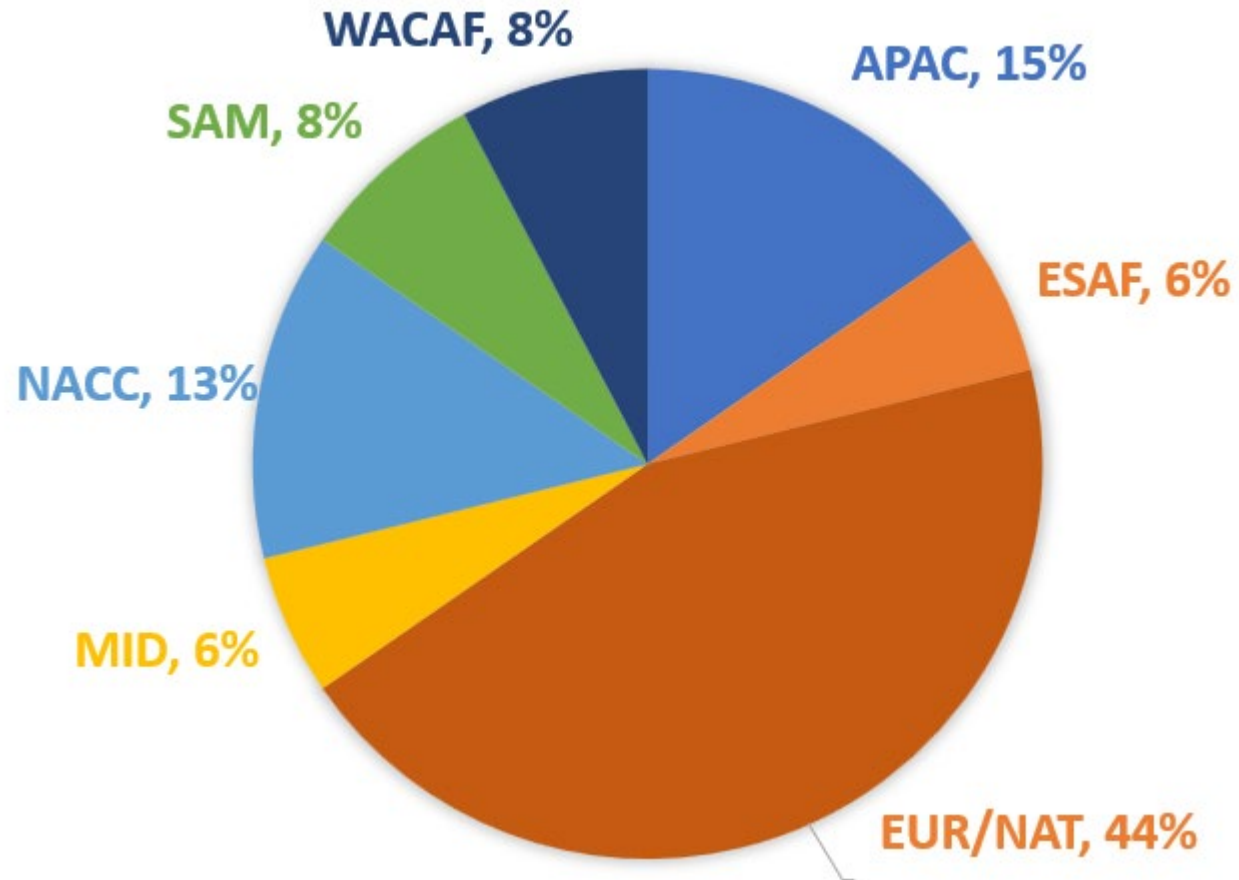
## Supporting the Implementation of Key FAL Stream Recommendations:

The questionnaire ensures that states can evaluate their progress in key areas addressed by the HLCC 2021 FAL Stream recommendations, such as:

- Facilitation operational measures during pandemics and beyond (Agenda Item 6): Assessing risk, implementing health-related measures at borders, and ensuring safe travel.
- Enhancing national coordination and international cooperation (Agenda Item 7): Strengthening collaboration between aviation and public health authorities to improve the resilience of aviation systems.
- Enhancing digital data sharing for seamless and contactless processes (Agenda Item 8): Encouraging the adoption of digital health certificates like VDS-NC and implementing biometric passenger processing systems.



## Percentage of State Response to the HLCC Questionnaire by Region



# RECONNECTING THE WORLD

## ICAO'S HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON COVID-19



### Accessing the HLCC 2021 FAL Stream Questionnaire on ICAO Secure Portal

Log on to:

<https://portal.icao.int/surveys/En/Lists/Questionnaire%20on%20the%20Status%20of%20States%20Implementati/NewForm.aspx> with your secure site login credentials.

To view/amend your response, please use the below link

<https://portal.icao.int/surveys/En/Lists/Questionnaire%20on%20the%20Status%20of%20States%20Implementati/AllItems.aspx>

For more details on the details and access to the questionnaire, please refer to [ICAO Webinar on States' Implementation of the HLCC 2021 Facilitation Stream Recommendations \(17 October 2024\)](#)

<https://www.icao.tv/videos/icao-webinar-on-the-completion-of-the-high-level-conference-on-covid-19>

Building on  
the ICAO Year  
of Facilitation  
2024

# 2024 YEAR OF **FACILITATION**



# Reflecting on FAL2024

Raise awareness of the importance of facilitation and work ongoing; mark the milestone 75th Anniversary of Annex 9

- Quarterly newsletters
- Dedicated programme flyers distributed globally
- Social media work
- Outreach through States and international organizations

Strengthen global cooperation

- Events in every ICAO region
- Outreach through States and international organizations

Enhance capacity building

- Global training outreach through 2024
- New courses, including through partners



5430

Unique impressions on ICAO 75th Anniversary webpage and social media posts on Annex 9 history

46842

Unique impressions on FAL2024 social media posts

149

Entities participating in ICAO FAL2024 events

# Doha Declaration on the Facilitation of International Air Transport

## FALC 2025 REVISED DRAFT MINISTERIAL DECLARATION

Doha, Qatar, 17 April 2025

### DOHA DECLARATION ON FACILITATION OF INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORT

We, the Ministers, and Heads of Delegation, meeting at the Ministerial Segment of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Facilitation Conference (FALC2025) held in Doha, Qatar, on 17 April 2025, in the presence of senior representatives of the aviation industry:

**Recalling** ICAO Assembly Resolutions A41-17: *Consolidated statement of continuing ICAO policies, related to facilitation*, A41-16: *Development and implementation of facilitation provisions — combating human trafficking*, A41-15: *Accessibility to International Civil Aviation*, A41-14: *Assistance to victims of aviation accidents and their families*, A41-12: *Maintaining health and sustaining safe international air transport during public health emergencies affecting air travel*; and A41-11: *Declaration on air transport facilitation affirming global commitment to enable the safe and efficient recovery of aviation from the COVID-19 pandemic, and to make aviation more resilient in the future*, that endorse the global commitment of Member States and ICAO to enhance air transport facilitation;

**Affirming** the critical role of air transport facilitation in ensuring the efficient and seamless movement of passengers, crew, cargo, and aircraft across borders, and noting the continuing importance of Annex 9 — *Facilitation to the Convention on International Civil Aviation, 1944* (Annex 9) in this regard;

**Recognizing** the impact of recent global challenges, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, on the aviation industry and the necessity to incorporate lessons learned and assure a more harmonized global approach to enhance the resilience and future-proofing of international air transport;

**Acknowledging** the ongoing work of ICAO in leading global efforts to standardize and improve air transport facilitation measures through the development of Annex 9, the ICAO Traveller Identification Programme (TRIP) Strategy, and the ICAO Public Key Directory (PKD) programmes, as well as through the establishment of technical specifications, policies, guidance material, capacity building and assistance, and collaboration with relevant international organizations;

**Acknowledging** that air transport has an essential role in connecting people, facilitating trade, improving sustainable social, and economic, development and consequently the quality of life, while ensuring that international civil aviation continues to contribute to the achievement of the relevant United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);

**Emphasizing** the need for Member States to support actively ICAO's efforts to improve air transport facilitation through voluntary contributions, including the secondment of staff, and to promote closer collaboration with national and international agencies, including immigration, border control, customs, and public health entities; and

**Acknowledging** that humanitarian response in major crisis relies heavily on swift transportation of aid and relief by air.

comprehensive and unified framework for passengers and shippers on international

Central Protocol 2014 and consider the

that trafficking in persons are based on a

by enhancing efficiency of the movement

facilitation issues related to inadmissible

ch to the implementation of innovative

plementation and evolution of the ICAO

for air transport facilitation and focus on

professionals while promoting policies and

use internationally, advocating for its use

er control agencies, customs, public health

relevant stakeholders to develop a national

— END —

- An affirmation of global commitment to air transport facilitation
- Policy direction for the 42nd ICAO Assembly and beyond

[Doha Declaration on Facilitation of International Air Transport](#)

## Update on the ICAO PKD



# The ICAO Public Key Directory (PKD)



15



Electronic  
Passports



Electronic ID  
cards



Digital Travel  
Credentials



Digital  
barcodes  
(visa/health)

The ICAO PKD supports the verification of digital  
data in travel documents

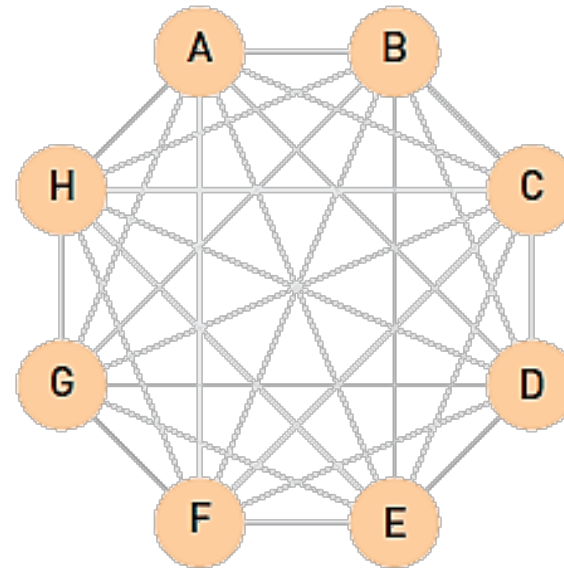
# Public Keys are Needed to Electronically Verify eMRTDs



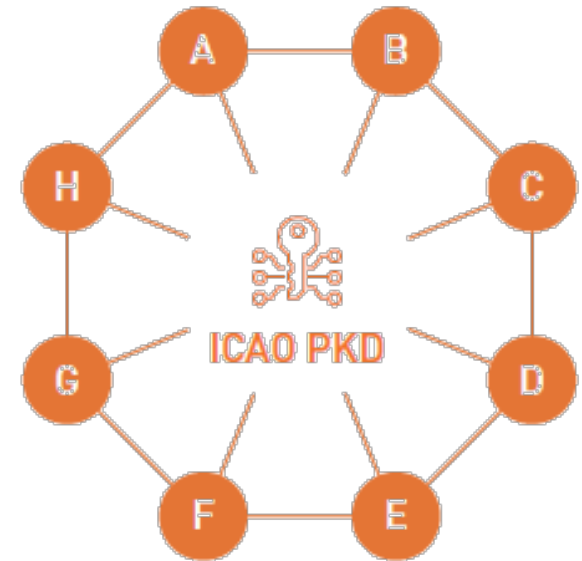
The document is digitally signed

Verifying the cryptographic signature with the key verifies authenticity and integrity

## The ICAO Public Key Directory (PKD) makes it easier to share public keys internationally



Without the PKD

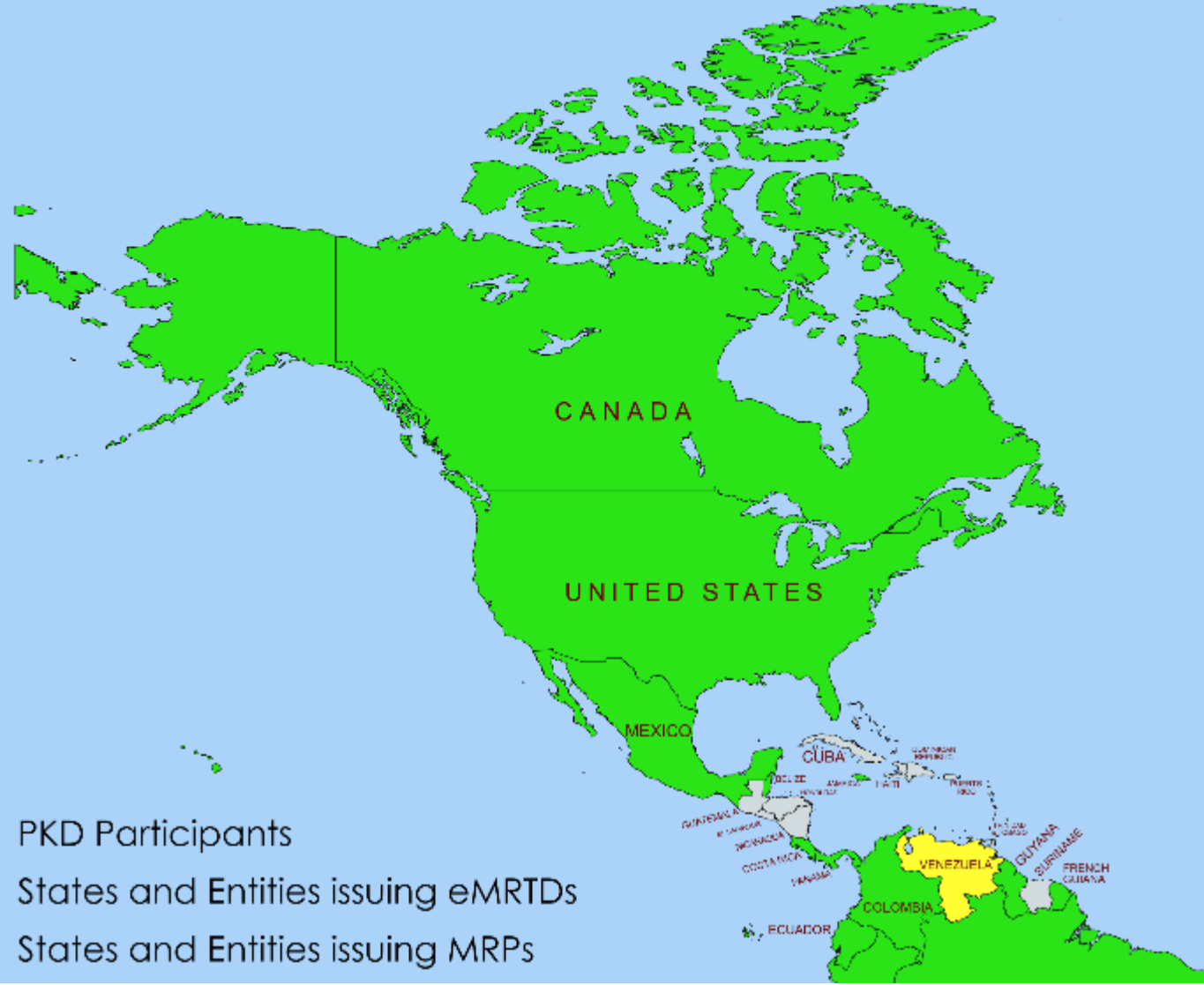


With the PKD



We welcome **Saint Kitts and Nevis** as a new PKD participant in 2024. NACC now has 8 participants (+1 territory)

We also welcome **Bermuda (United Kingdom)** as a new PKD Board member elected in 2024 (alongside existing members **USA** and **Canada**)



# The new ICAO PKD – coming Q1 2025

*Get Ready for the digital transformation of travel and aviation*

## Doha declaration:

*"Develop a strategic, prioritized, forward-looking vision that addresses emerging trends, technological advancements, and global imperatives such as seamless movement of people and goods, inclusivity and sustainability"*

*"Improve passenger travel experience and cargo facilitation by enhancing efficiency of the movement of aircraft, passengers, crew and cargo"*

*"Support ICAO Public Key Directory (PKD) and its active use internationally, advocating for its use in both governmental and private sectors to provide the foundation for the verification of travel documents and related digital credentials globally"*

Future ready  
e.g. for post-  
quantum  
cryptography

Easier  
connectivity,  
seamless  
transition

Improved  
monitoring  
and  
reporting

Capability for  
new data  
formats and  
types

Lower costs  
for States  
and ICAO

# FAL Achievements in the NACC Region

- ✈ General Guidelines for Passengers with Disabilities (*recommendations incorporated in Annex 9*)
- ✈ Guidance material on Airport Terminal Signage (*available at the AVSEC-FAL-RG portal*)
- ✈ 2024 FAL Questionnaire (developed jointly with LACAC)
- ✈ 8<sup>th</sup> CAPSCA Americas (*Mexico City, 27-29 February 2024*)
- ✈ ICAO Facilitation Global Forum (*Bogotá, 21-23 October 2024*)
- ✈ Crash Course Session TRIP (*St. John, 2 June 2025*)
- ✈ Human Trafficking Workshop (*St. John, 3 June 2025*)

**UNDER  
PREPARATION**

9<sup>th</sup> CAPSCA Americas (*Brasilia, 5-8 August 2025*)



# FAL Initiatives and Projects in the NACC Region



## Implementation Support Group (ISG)

2026-NACC/2123 Pending

Title  
**Development of Emergency Plans for the NAM and CAR Regions**

NACC: Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Grenada, Saint Kitts and

\$100,000.00      36 months Q1/2026

Evaluation (3-step):  
Validity (NACC): Yes  
**Content (ATB): To be determined**  
Funding (ATB): To be determined

**Featured in Catalogue**

[PDF](#)

Pending

Title  
**CAPSCA Technical Assistance for the NAM and CAR Regions**

NACC: ICAO NACC States (22): Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas,

\$60,000.00      36 months Q1/2026

Evaluation (3-step):  
**Validity (NACC): To be confirmed**  
Content (To be determined): To be deter...  
Funding (To be determined): To be deter...

**Featured in Catalogue**

[PDF](#)



### FAL Inspectors Course ( under ICAO Talent Mobility)

Different States from the ICAO NAM and CAR regions are incorporating the Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) of Annex 9 into the oversight functions of their national inspectors. Currently, ICAO offers a course on Annex 9, *Managing Air Transport Facilitation (MATF)*, and has developed an iPack to establish oversight mechanisms for Annex 9. The ICAO NACC Regional Office aims to build on these precedents and the course for national aviation security (AVSEC) inspectors to develop a course for national facilitation (FAL) inspectors.

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# Thank You

