



**Recorded Remarks by the
Secretary General of the
International Civil Aviation Organization
Mr. Juan Carlos Salazar
to the ICAO/EASA Third Global RSOO - RAIO Forum for Aviation Safety
29 September 2026**

1. It is my honour to welcome you to this ICAO/EASA Third Global Forum on Regional Safety Oversight and Accident Investigation Organizations.
2. I want to thank both EASA for its partnership on this important initiative and the Government of Guyana for hosting us.
3. The EASA and Guyana's commitments to regional cooperation and safety are greatly valued.
4. Today, you gather as States face mounting pressures.
5. States are tasked with greater oversight responsibilities despite constrained resources and increasing complexity.
6. In this context, regional cooperation becomes essential.
7. No State should face these challenges alone. RSOOs and RAIOs can and must help.
8. European States have provided a clear example, as have States here in the Americas.
9. Let me highlight the Central American Aviation Safety Agency, the Caribbean Aviation Safety and Security Oversight System, CASSOS, the Regional Group for Air Accidents Investigation, GRIAA, and the Regional Safety Oversight Cooperation System, or SRVSOP, and the South American Accident Investigation Regional Cooperation Mechanism.

10. These mechanisms are helping States build technical capacity, enhance oversight, and significantly improve safety outcomes.
11. Robust regional cooperation has proven to be the best way to ensure States meet their duties under the Chicago Convention and strengthen aviation safety.
12. Our previous meetings in Eswatini and Kenya recognized this fact.
13. Now we have another opportunity to progress further.
14. We must now ensure our partnerships are clear, reliable, and scalable.
15. ‘Clear’ means delegation must rest on firm legal foundations, operate with transparency, and uphold accountability.
16. ‘Reliable’ means regional services must always meet ICAO standards and recommended practices.
17. ‘Scalable’ means these systems should grow, welcoming new members and domains, without loss of quality.
18. To succeed, we must strengthen RSOOs and RAIOS, ensuring they are sustainably funded, well governed, and able to attract and retain skilled professionals.
19. Success here requires clear commitment from Member States.
20. We must also pursue effective models for delegation. When clear and managed well, delegation allows States to benefit from regional expertise.
21. Sharing models and lessons is critical.
22. Finally, we must build strong assurance frameworks to ensure the delegation by States achieves the States’ safety objectives.

23. In this regard, the RSOO/RAIO Assessment Programme offers a voluntary, credible assessment of regional organizations. I encourage you to use this resource and recognize its value.
24. Through its Resolutions, the ICAO Assembly has mandated stronger organizations, better delegation, and credible assurance.
25. Now, this Forum must find ways to ensure those mandates result in greater action.
26. As you move forward, you will continue to be supported by ICAO's capacity- building activities, our audit programmes, and of course the work we carry out through our Regional Offices, all in alignment with ICAO's No Country Left Behind strategic goal.
27. In this way, we will deliver measurable progress towards the ICAO strategic vision of air transport for all by 2050, with net-zero carbon emissions and zero fatalities.
28. I wish you a fruitful and productive meeting ahead.