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PIO 11/04

**DR. ASSAD KOTAITE ELECTED PRESIDENT
OF 35TH SESSION OF ICAO ASSEMBLY**

MONTREAL, 1 October 2004 – Dr. Assad Kotaite, President of the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), was elected President of the 35th Session of the ICAO Assembly by acclamation earlier this week and will chair the world aviation meeting until its conclusion on 8 October 2004.

More than 1,100 delegates from 178 ICAO Contracting States and 29 international organizations will be reviewing issues of strategic importance to the future development of global air transport, including aviation safety, security and protection of the environment. Also on the agenda are the liberalization of the air transport industry, global air navigation policies, recent developments in the legal field, and various financial and administrative questions.

“In my opinion, this is the most substantive Assembly in the history of ICAO, since decisions reached will provide direction for all aspects of international civil aviation in the decades to come. It is a privilege for me to have been asked to provide leadership and focus as we tackle many complex and sometimes controversial issues,” said Dr. Kotaite at the outcome of the election.

The full agenda of the 35th Session of the ICAO Assembly and related working papers are available on the ICAO web site: www.icao.int.

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 and regularity, as well as for aviation environmental protection. The Organization serves as the forum for cooperation in all fields of civil aviation among its 188 Contracting States.

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