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**Closing Remarks by Mr. Sylvain Lefoyer,
ICAO Deputy Director, Aviation Security
and Facilitation**

**to the ICAO Traveller Identification Programme (ICAO
TRIP) Regional Seminar (*Hong Kong, 11 - 13 July 2017*)**

Mr. Alan Shum, Assistant Director General,
Hong Kong Civil Aviation Department

Distinguished Delegates and Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. The ICAO Traveller Identification Programme (ICAO TRIP) Seminar has come to an end. It has been a pleasure to be with you here today and the days before in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR) of the People's Republic of China, and especially to help celebrate its 20th Anniversary.
2. As Dr Fang Liu did it at the welcome ceremony, I am sincerely thankful to the Civil Aviation Department of Hong Kong for its provision of such excellent organization and facilities in support of this seminar, and for its warm welcome.
3. I would also like to thank again the Hong Kong International Airport for its very generous additional support.
4. ICAO greatly appreciates the time and thoughtful viewpoints you have shared with us this week. And, we have been fortunate to have representatives drawn from all of the government and industry stakeholders involved in the implementation of the TRIP Strategy. Some 200 participants took part, representing 37 States, 10 international organizations and industry partners.
5. Over the last few days, as we addressed our theme of Strengthening Aviation Security through Improved Traveller Identification, we have explored every element



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of the ICAO TRIP Strategy. And we have recognized that the implementation of the strategy provides the basis for ICAO's leadership on Traveller Identification Management.

6. As with previous regional seminars, this Seminar provided a global and regional forum for the exchange of information on all aspects of traveller identification management and the ICAO TRIP Strategy. I trust it provided you with valuable insight on current and emerging issues.
7. We all recognized that there is still a significant work ahead for our States and ICAO in the implementation of coordinated activities aimed at rectifying aviation security and facilitation deficiencies in a sustainable manner.
8. Cooperation, in all its forms, remains the fundamental premise upon which the relationship between ICAO, its Member States and our many industry partners is built. This forum was an invaluable opportunity to shape the future of global traveller identification together.
9. We have heard many views and examples over the last three days on the challenges, opportunities and achievements that come with our work in this field.
 - The need for secure breeder documents to ensure robust evidence of identity
 - The security enhancements in our new MRTDs and ePassports
 - The massive national investments in travel document issuance
 - The importance of accurately reading ePassports at our borders
 - The role of global databases to help manage risks to aviation
 - The need for constant vigilance to combat fraud



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10. The important role of the ICAO Public Key Directory was also reiterated many times toward ensuring the authentication of ePassports. This is important to help improve – and maintain – border security and facilitation.
11. Much was spoken too of the important Resolutions of the United Nations in the area of aviation security and facilitation. These touch all aspects of the work being conducted on traveller identification. They highlight how the many international organizations in this field are working together – and we heard many examples of this during the presentations this week.
12. This is a high point for me to end on because it is a great example of how we must all continue to work together – across all borders and organizational boundaries – as we strive to keep international civil aviation safe, secure and enjoyable for all passengers.
13. It remains for me to offer my sincere thanks to everyone involved in making this seminar a success. It would be impossible for me to name every person involved in this great team effort. But I would just like to highlight:
14. All our government and industry partners for their excellent presentations and exhibits; and All of the ICAO team who have worked diligently, largely behind the scenes, to enable us to enjoy this week's programme.
15. And while we look forward to welcoming you to the Thirteenth Symposium and Exhibition on the Traveller Identification Programme in October 2017, I wish you all safe travels home as we now close the Asia Pacific regional seminar on the Traveller Identification Programme.

Thank you very much.