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## **CANADA LAUNCHES PERMANENT COMMEMORATIVE PHOTO EXHIBIT CELEBRATING ICAO PRESENCE IN MONTRÉAL**

**MONTRÉAL, 25 September 2013** – ICAO Secretary General, Raymond Benjamin, was joined today by the Honourable Denis Lebel, Minister of Infrastructure, Communities, and Intergovernmental Affairs and Minister of the Economic Development Agency of Canada for the Regions of Quebec, on behalf of the Honourable Lisa Raitt, Federal Minister of Transport, at the unveiling of a new photo exhibit at the International Civil Aviation Organization's (ICAO's) Headquarters in Montréal entitled:

*"Montréal and ICAO: A Panoramic View of our History"*

The 30-panel photo exhibit donated by the Government of Canada provides a historical view of Montréal's contribution to international civil aviation since 1907. It also marks 2013 as the 30th time Canada has hosted an Assembly on behalf of the Organization, which now comprises 191 Member States.

"ICAO is very grateful to Canada for this excellent exhibit which will now be permanently located within our Montréal Headquarters," commented ICAO Secretary General, Raymond Benjamin. "Its depictions of ICAO's long history here in Montréal are particularly fitting given Canada's strong historic commitment to our Organization and, by extension, to the entire global civil aviation community we serve."

"Canada is proud of its rich history with this important UN organization, in particular, our contribution through government support at various levels as well as synergies with private industry and academia. The new photo exhibit celebrates this history, while motivating us to keep that legacy going forward," said Minister Lebel. "As an international leader in aviation safety and security, Canada supports ICAO's efforts to ensure aviation worldwide is not only safe and secure, but also economically and environmentally sustainable. The Government of Canada is committed to ensuring Montréal continues to provide a fertile ground for ICAO to continue to grow."

Since its inception in 1947, Montréal has been the international Headquarters or 'Permanent Seat' of ICAO.

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, capacity and environmental protection, amongst many other priorities. The Organization serves as the forum for cooperation in all fields of civil aviation among its 191 Member States.

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