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News Release

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## **ICAO PREDICTS CONTINUED PASSENGER TRAFFIC GROWTH AND REBOUND IN FREIGHT TRAFFIC THROUGH 2016**

**MONTRÉAL, 16 July 2014** - World scheduled air passenger traffic grew by 5.5 per cent in 2013, reaching 5.8 trillion passenger-kilometres performed (PKP) and is expected to increase by 6.0, 6.3 and 6.5 per cent in 2014, 2015 and 2016, respectively, according to the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

The 5.5 per cent growth in PKP (international and domestic services combined) recorded in 2013 by airlines of the 191 Member States of ICAO was higher than the 5.3 per cent increase posted in 2012. The number of passengers grew by some 4.5 per cent to 3.1 billion, while departures were up 1.2 per cent to 32 million globally.

World scheduled air freight traffic expressed in freight tonne-kilometres performed (FTK) grew by 0.4 per cent in 2013, and is expected to increase by 3.7, 4.2, and 4.4 per cent in 2014, 2015, and 2016, respectively.

### **Short- and Medium-term Passenger Traffic Forecasts**

ICAO expects global scheduled air passenger traffic, in terms of PKP, to grow by 6.0 per cent in 2014, a slight upturn from the 5.5 per cent growth rate recorded in 2013. According to IHS/Global Insight, a major economic forecasting organization, world Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in real terms will grow by 2.9 per cent in 2014, up from 2.5 per cent last year.

The Middle East is expected to remain the fastest growing region in terms of PKP, with an estimated growth rate of 11.6 per cent in 2014. Strong expansion of the network of air carriers in the region will support this double-digit traffic growth.

Latin America and Caribbean passenger traffic will benefit from the FIFA World Cup in Brazil, with an estimated growth rate of 8.9 per cent in 2014.

Passenger traffic in the Asia and Pacific Region is also expected to continue its steady growth, at an estimated rate of 7.2 per cent in 2014. Its growth was impacted by the slowdown of the Chinese economy in the first half of the year but there is indication that the deceleration of the Chinese economy is now coming to an end.

European passenger traffic is expected to grow by 5.4 per cent in 2014. Its general economy has shown steady improvement in the first half of the year and the recovery trend is expected to continue in the

coming months. African passenger traffic is expected to grow by 4.8 per cent in 2014 in line with its steady economic growth.

North American passenger traffic should grow by 2.7 per cent this year, in light of the fact that economic activity in the United States has rebounded and the employment rate has increased.

Current expectations of 3.5 (2015) and 3.7 (2016) per cent annual world GDP growth rates should support world passenger traffic growth of 6.3 and 6.5, respectively over the next two years.

## Medium-term Passenger Traffic Forecasts to 2016

### *International and Domestic Traffic*

*Passenger-kilometres performed (PKP)*

Region of State's AOC Holders	Annual Growth Rates				
	History		Forecasts		
	2012	2013*	2014	2015	2016
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
Europe	4.8	4.6	5.4	5.7	5.9
Africa	2.2	4.4	4.8	5.9	6.3
Middle East	14.3	11.2	11.6	12.1	12.3
Asia and Pacific	6.7	7.7	7.2	7.4	7.5
North America	1.6	2.0	2.7	3.1	3.3
Latin America and Caribbean	9.0	6.7	8.9	8.2	8.6
<b>World</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>6.5</b>

\*preliminary figures

The historical passenger traffic results are the revised figures in May 2014.

## Short- and Medium-term Freight Traffic Forecasts

ICAO expects global scheduled air freight traffic, in terms of FTK, to grow by 3.7 per cent in 2014, a rebound from the 0.4 per cent growth rate recorded in 2013. According to IHS/Global Insight, world trade in real terms, measured by exports and imports volumes, will grow by 4.2 per cent in 2014 up from the 2.2 per cent in 2013.

Similar to its passenger results, the Middle East is expected to remain the fastest growing region in terms of FTK in 2014, with an estimated growth rate of 12.1 per cent. Growing world trade activities and the strong performance of Middle East carriers in international markets should provide a solid base for the region's freight traffic growth.

Europe is expected to grow by 2.7 per cent in freight traffic in 2014, supported by economic recovery and improvement in trade of the region.

A growth trend in trade volumes of Africa should also continue, with the region's freight traffic estimated to grow by 3.1 per cent this year. The Asia and Pacific Region, meanwhile, which accounted for almost 40 per cent of world freight traffic in 2013, is expected to grow by 3.0 per cent in 2014. With the improvement of the European and U.S. economies, rising demand for Asia and Pacific manufactured goods should support export volume increases and air freight growth.

With a base of solid trade growth, Latin America and Caribbean freight traffic should continue growing at a rate of 3.0 per cent in 2014. Freight traffic in North America is expected to grow by 1.4 per cent in 2014.

Current expectations of annual world trade growth rates of 5.3 and 5.1 per cent over 2015 and 2016 should support world freight traffic growth rates of 4.2 and 4.4 per cent respectively.

## Freight Traffic Medium-term Forecasts to 2016

### *International and Domestic Traffic*

*Freight tonne-kilometres performed (FTK)*

Region of State's AOC Holders	Annual Growth Rates				
	History		Forecasts		
	2012	2013*	2014	2015	2016
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
Europe	-2.4	-0.1	2.7	3.1	3.2
Africa	13.9	4.0	3.1	3.4	3.6
Middle East	13.9	12.0	12.1	12.3	12.4
Asia and Pacific	-4.3	0.2	3.0	3.5	3.7
North America	-1.3	-4.9	1.4	1.6	1.7
Latin America and Caribbean	2.3	2.7	3.0	3.5	3.7
<b>World</b>	<b>-1.0</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>4.4</b>

\*preliminary figures

The historical freight traffic results are the revised figures in May 2014.

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#### Resources for editors:

The ICAO Monthly Monitor: <http://www.icao.int/sustainability/Documents/Monthly-Monitor.pdf>

ICAO Data+: <http://www.icao.int/dataplus/Pages/default.aspx>

ICAO Air Services Negotiation Conference (ICAN): <http://www.icao.int/Meetings/ICAN2014/Pages/default.aspx>

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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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