

UNITING AVIATION

News Release www.icao.int

INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION DAY 2015

MONTRÉAL, 7 DECEMBER 2015 – The Council President of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), Dr. Olumuyiwa Benard Aliu, and ICAO Secretary General, Dr. Fang Liu, issued a joint statement today on the occasion of International Civil Aviation Day, 2015:

The air transport sector today stands on the cusp of a very important era in the history of international civil aviation.

Given the established pattern whereby the global air transport network doubles in flight and passenger volumes every 15 years, and its significant importance to the prosperity of societies and businesses all over the world, the commitments and actions on behalf of world States and organizations toward modernized and expanded civil aviation infrastructure and capacities have never been more important.

Under its 'No Country Left Behind' programme, ICAO is working with great determination today to raise global awareness on the fundamental importance of the effective implementation of ICAO Standards and Policies, which together support the enhanced safety, efficiency, security, economic development and environmental protection of the international aviation system.

This is the most important and urgently required first step which must be undertaken if a State or Region hopes to improve its ability to access and realize the significant socio-economic benefits which derive from the availability of safe and reliable air services.

ICAO and its Governing Council also recognize that cooperation and consensus have been the most important qualities contributing to air transport progress since the dawn of the civil aviation era, and that future objectives and solutions will require even greater partnership and collaboration on the part of all players to ensure that air transport will continue to serve as a significant enabler of global peace and prosperity, wherever aircraft fly.

The ICAO Council has therefore selected a new theme for International Civil Aviation Day which will stay in place for the years 2015-2018 inclusive, stressing its value and importance to civil aviation everywhere, and which reinforces the above priorities and considerations, as follows:

"Working Together to Ensure No Country is Left Behind"

- 30 -

Resources for Editors:

<u>The ICAO International Civil Aviation Day website</u>
Banners, posters and print and web adverts highlighting the 2018 theme
<u>The ICAO No Country Left Behind initiative</u>

For more information please contact: communications@icao.int