EXPRESSION OF CONDOLENCES: FLYDUBAI FLIGHT FZ981

MONTRÉAL, 21 MARCH 2016 – The Council President of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), Dr. Olumuyiwa Benard Aliu, expressed the UN agency's deepest condolences today for the families and friends of the victims of FlyDubai FZ981, a charter flight from Dubai to Rostov-On-Don (URRR) Airport in Southern Russia, carrying passengers from nine countries, which was lost due to still unknown causes on 19 March.

"Any accident or incident resulting in loss of life is always a matter of utmost concern to ICAO and to the entire air transport community," President Aliu remarked. "ICAO will await the Annex 13 accident investigation Preliminary and Final Reports to learn more about the causes and contributing factors of this event, and ultimately we will work with the global civil aviation community on any associated risk mitigation recommendations appropriate to our role."

An accident investigation into the loss of Flight FZ981 has been launched under the responsibility of the Interstate Aviation Committee in the Russian Federation as per the provisions of Annex 13 to the *Convention on International Civil Aviation* (Chicago Convention).

The attached Fact Sheet explains how those States are determined, as well as the process prescribing the issuance of an accident investigation Preliminary Report (within 30 days of the event) and Final Report (within 12 months of the event). Accident investigation Final Reports ultimately provide as much official information as possible on the causes of the event, as well as official recommendations on how the air transport safety framework might be amended in light of those causes.

ICAO does not normally participate in aircraft accident investigations, except in rare circumstances when the State or States with authority under Annex 13 request its assistance. In those exceptional circumstances, said assistance normally involves ICAO acting as an official observer and/or clarifying various Annex 13 technical requirements when requested.

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