



ICAO Secretary General meets with Chancellor Merkel and highlights challenges and opportunities for aviation during Berlin Aviation Summit

For immediate release

Montréal and Berlin, 26 April 2018 – ICAO Secretary General Dr. Fang Liu was in Berlin earlier this week to deliver an important message on air transport growth and sustainability during a panel event at the Berlin Aviation Summit, and to tour the Berlin Air Show with German Chancellor Angela Merkel.

During the Berlin Aviation Summit panel discussion on the topic of *Who will shape the future of aviation*, Dr. Liu stressed to the German and international participants that “By just after 2030 we expect that as many people will travel by air in a single year as currently occupy the entire planet, close to 8 billion people. Aviation is very hard at work preparing for this challenge today, and it’s critical that the world’s governments understand how important it is to have sufficient capacity in place to manage future air traffic demand.”

The ICAO Secretary General also highlighted the evolution underway in air transport today as new and emerging technologies continue to evolve for both passengers and freight “higher, faster and greener than ever before.”

“At one end of this spectrum we’ll see drones navigating to deliver goods and services in dense urban environments,” she emphasized, “and at the other new sub-orbital planes will soon be moving at super or hyper sonic speeds and at altitudes well beyond what we now know as ‘controlled airspace’.”

Dr. Liu underscored that, as the world’s civil aviation standards-setter, “it’s ICAO’s job to anticipate these new developments and ensure the global regulatory framework is ready to accommodate them.”

During her mission to Germany, Dr. Liu met with German Chancellor Angela Merkel at the opening ceremonies of the Berlin Air Show. Together they toured its exhibits, and with the State’s Minister of Transport and Digital Infrastructure, Mr. Andreas Scheuer, they discussed Germany’s leadership in innovative aeronautical technologies for sustainable aviation development and future aviation capacity challenges and the strengthened cooperation between ICAO and Germany. Dr. Liu also met with a wide range of industry representatives as they toured the various exhibits.

Meetings were also held between ICAO Secretary General and the State’s Director General of Civil Aviation, Mr. Johann Friedrich Colzman, and the Executive Director of the German Aviation Association (BDL), Mr. Matthias von Randow. Discussions with these officials focused mainly on the important role and contributions by industry to the implementation of ICAO standards, policies and programmes, the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSA) and aviation security in particular.

Dr. Liu expressed her gratitude to Germany for its support and contributions to ICAO, noting in addition the upcoming CORSA standards to be considered by the ICAO Council this June. She encouraged the State’s support for the envisaged adoption of the Roadmap to implement the new Global Aviation Security Plan at the upcoming ICAO Regional Conference, and to participate in ICAO’s assistance and capacity-building projects under its *No Country Left Behind* initiative.



ICAO Secretary General Dr. Fang Liu touring the Berlin Air Show with German Chancellor Angela Merkel and accompanying officials.

Resources for Editors

About 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 192 Member States.

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Contacts

Anthony Philbin

Chief, Communications
aphilbin@icao.int
+1 514-954-8220
+1 438-402-8886 (mobile)
Twitter: [@ICAO](#)

William Raillant-Clark

Communications Officer
wraillantclark@icao.int
+1 514-954-6705
+1 514-409-0705 (mobile)
Twitter: [@wraillantclark](#)
LinkedIn: [linkedin.com/in/raillantclark/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/raillantclark/)