



ICAO Aviation Security Week forges important progress on coordinating responses to terrorist mobility and emerging threats

For immediate release

Montréal, 30 November 2018 –The security of global air transport operations took an important step forward this week, with a series of new agreements and recommendations being forged during the 2018 ICAO AVSEC Week by the world’s most prominent aviation security administrations and bodies.

More than 500 delegates representing 107 countries and 22 international organizations participating in ICAO’s Second High-level Conference on Aviation Security (HLCAS/2) finalized recommendations for new security standards and strategies to be reviewed by the 40th ICAO Assembly next year. These recommendations were reflected in the HLCAS/2 [Communiqué](#) endorsed by the high-level delegates in attendance.

The conference was opened by the President of the Council, Dr. Olumuyiwa Benard Aliu in conjunction with Canada’s Deputy Minister of Transport Mr. Michael Keenan.

In his opening remarks, the President of the Council, Dr. Olumuyiwa Benard Aliu, highlighted the importance of information sharing and that “the present threat environment is more dynamic, diverse, and challenging than ever before.” He tasked HLCAS/2 participants with defining security measures which are effective, efficient, operationally viable, and economically sustainable, recognizing as well the important need to assess the impacts of any considered measures on air transport’s much more prevalent low-risk passengers.

Areas of focus he stressed in this regard included threats from insiders and Remotely-piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS), chemical, biological and radiological (CBR) attacks, and cybersecurity vulnerabilities.

“Our message to the world could not be clearer,” underscored ICAO Secretary General Dr. Fang Liu in her closing remarks to the conference. “ICAO, its Member States, the industry and our other partners are addressing the threat to civil aviation with great determination, ambition, and unity of purpose.”

She also focused on the importance of striking an effective balance between the effectiveness of security measures and their impacts on the air transport customer base, noting that “from the consumers’ standpoint, it is nothing short of vital that we address security risks with solutions which pose a minimum of passenger or shipper inconvenience. Any other approach will not be sustainable.”

In closing, Dr. Liu reminded the experts and senior officials present that “the true measure of our AVSEC success lies ultimately in the successful and sustainable prevention of unlawful interference with civil aviation.”

The HLCAS/2 was preceded by ICAO’s Global Aviation Security Symposium (AVSEC2018), where industry, academic and government experts collectively addressed security innovation and implementation priorities.



Canada's Deputy Minister of Transport, Mr. Michael Keenan; the President of the ICAO Council, Dr. Olumuyiwa Benard Aliu; and the Secretary General of ICAO, Dr. Fang Liu, at the opening of ICAO's Second High-level Conference on Aviation Security (HLCAS/2). The important global security event delivered critical recommendations to ICAO's 192 Member States and the ICAO Secretariat which will be reviewed next year at ICAO's 40th Assembly.

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.

[HLCAS/2 Communiqué](#)

[ICAO's Aviation Security Strategic Objective](#)

[ICAO's No Country Left Behind initiative](#)

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