Mr. Juan Carlos Salazar of Colombia appointed new Secretary General of ICAO

For immediate release

Montréal, 25 February 2021 – The 36-State governing body of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the ICAO Council, has appointed Mr. Juan Carlos Salazar of Colombia as the new Secretary General of the Organization for a three-year term, beginning 1 August 2021.

He succeeds Dr. Fang Liu of China, who has held the position for two consecutive terms since 2015.

Mr. Salazar was appointed based on his extensive professional experience in the administration of complex organizations at the national, regional and international levels. He is also an expert in aviation law and standards with more than 26 years of experience in international negotiations in the fields of aviation, management, and public policy.

Since January 2018, Mr. Salazar has been serving as Director General of Civil Aviation of Colombia at Aerocivil, a complex civil aviation organization with more than 3,100 employees and 12 trade unions. He is in charge of a network of 72 public airports and of the sole air navigation service provider in a country that serves as a key hub for air routes in Latin America. He has also served as Chief Executive Officer of the Colombian Civil Aviation Organisation and as Senior Advisor to the Civil Aviation Authority of the United Arab Emirates.

Mr Salazar holds master's degrees in public administration and air and space law, and speaks fluent Spanish, English, French and Arabic.



Mr. Juan Carlos Salazar of Colombia, new ICAO Secretary General

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The ICAO Council

About ICAO

A specialized agency of the United Nations, ICAO was created by governments in 1944 to support their diplomacy on international air transport matters. Since that time, countries have adopted over 12,000 standards and practices through ICAO which help to align their national regulations relevant to aviation safety, security, efficiency, capacity and environmental protection, enabling a truly global network to be realized. ICAO forums also provide opportunities for advice and advocacy to be shared with government decision-makers by industry groups, civil society NGOs, and other officially-recognized air transport stakeholders.

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