



ICAO FACILITATION CONFERENCE

17 April 2025

Doha, State of Qatar

Statement of the Republic of Rwanda



REPUBLIC OF RWANDA

REMARKS AT THE ICAO FACILITATION CONFERENCE 2025

- His Excellency, Minister of Transport of the State of Qatar
- Your Excellencies, Ministers
- The President of ICAO Council
- The Secretary General of ICAO
- The Acting President of Qatar Civil Aviation Authority
- Heads of Delegations
- Delegates
- Representatives of International Organizations
- Ladies and Gentlemen

I wish to thank the Government of the State of Qatar for hosting this important Conference and for the hospitality accorded to us since our arrival in this beautiful city of Doha.

This Facilitation Conference is convened at an opportune moment, as the aviation community is undergoing a critical transformation period. It has given the aviation fraternity an excellent platform to share best practices to enhance facilitation for the quick and smooth movement of passengers and goods across the globe without compromising safety, security, and efficiency. We commend ICAO and the State of Qatar for organizing this significant event. We thank the various panelists who readily shared their vast knowledge and experiences in the field of facilitation.

Rwanda, being at the heart of Africa, recognizes the importance and impact of air transport. In this regard, Rwanda has prioritized the development of aviation to serve all users of air transport. As ICAO projects more than a two-fold increase in passenger and cargo traffic, we are committed to collaborating with all stakeholders to uphold standards while advancing the adoption of technologies and innovative solutions to enhance the experience of aviation users.



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In line with ICAO provisions, Rwanda has implemented the ICAO Traveler Identification Programme. In 2020, Rwanda joined ICAO PKD. Currently, all travel documents issued are e-MRTDs. This has greatly supported the implementation of an interactive API in Rwanda and the progressive implementation of Passenger Name Record (PNR). The continued collaboration of all States will be important in realizing the ICAO provisions on Passenger Data Exchange, especially concerning PNR.

Additionally, in an effort to promote seamless travel, in 2019, Rwanda started issuing visas on arrival for all States, with over 86 States not requiring any visas. To further enhance passengers' experience with regard to airport processes, Kigali International Airport is progressively implementing Automated Border Control and self-check-in kiosks.

The lessons learned from COVID-19 highlighted the effectiveness of various cooperation mechanisms, such as the National Air Transport Facilitation Committee and the National Aviation Security Committee. These committees have streamlined cooperation, collaboration, and decision-making among state agencies responsible for security and facilitation. Through this inter-agency collaboration, several solutions were quickly implemented to enable seamless travel. As discussed during the conference panels, we continue to learn and evolve these mechanisms to improve the experiences for both passengers and cargo.

We shall continue to advocate and support the use of technological solutions towards ensuring a better experience for the traveling public. Starting with the various initiatives by ICAO, States and the industry have a critical part to play in making the needed transformation a reality.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

Under Rwanda's vision, we are committed to developing air transport and implementing solutions towards enhancing air transport users' experience, as well as advancing the needed evolution of solutions and compliance mechanisms.

Once again, I extend special thanks to ICAO, Qatar CAA, and the development partners for their collaboration and support for the sustainable growth of aviation sector.

Thank you