

## Closing Remarks by Dr. Narjes Abdennebi, ICAO Chief Facilitation Section, Aviation Security and Facilitation, Air Transport Bureau

## to the ICAO Traveller Identification Progamme (ICAO TRIP) Regional Seminar (*Jamaica*, 28 - 30 November 2017)

Mr. Nari Williams-Singh, Director General, Jamaica Civil Aviation Authority

Distinguished Delegates and Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

- 1. The ICAO Traveller Identification Programme (ICAO TRIP) Seminar has come to an end. It has been a pleasure to be with you here today and the days before in Montego Bay, Jamaica.
- 2. On behalf of ICAO, I am sincerely thankful to the Civil Aviation Authority of Jamaica for its provision of such excellent organization and facilities in support of this seminar, and for its warm welcome. Thank you so much for this welcome cocktail which was a great and friendly moment of entertainment.
- 3. ICAO greatly appreciates the time and thoughtful viewpoints you have shared with us this week. And, we have been fortunate to have representatives drawn from all of the government and industry stakeholders involved in the implementation of the TRIP Strategy. More than 150 participants took part, representing 25 States, 11 international organizations and 5 industry partners.



- 4. Over the last few days, as we addressed our theme of Making Air Travel More Secure and Efficient, we have explored every element of the ICAO TRIP Strategy with reference to the travel cycle. And we have recognized that the implementation of the strategy provides the basis for ICAO's leadership on Traveller Identification Management.
- 5. As with previous regional seminars, this One provided a global and regional forum for the exchange of information on all aspects of traveller identification management and the ICAO TRIP Strategy. I trust it provided you with valuable insight on current and emerging issues.
- 6. We all recognized that there is still a significant work ahead for our States and ICAO in the implementation of coordinated activities aimed at rectifying aviation security and facilitation deficiencies in a sustainable manner.
- 7. New ideas and technologies will help to achieve this goal. In this regard, the exhibition outside this hall provided an opportunity to see the latest solutions on facilitation processes and on minimizing risk in document fraud.
- 8. Cooperation, in all its forms, remains the fundamental premise upon which the relationship between ICAO, its Member States and our many sister Organizations and industry partners is built. This forum was an invaluable opportunity to shape the future of global traveller identification together.



- 9. The value of a Machine Readable Travel Document (MRTD) is measured by the trust and confidence placed in it. The document's physical composition is one important aspect of inspiring this confidence while, the criteria applied in determining entitlement are very important considerations. There should be a level of confidence that the bearer and the document are both legitimate.
- 10. This chain of trust has many links that must all support the collective foundation for reliable border checks.
- 11. We have heard many views and examples over the last three days on the challenges, opportunities and achievements that come with our work in this field:
- 12. The need to address and harmonize the interests of all entities involved in facilitation in implementing a National Air Transport Facilitation Programme;
- 13. The need for a robust identity and secured travel documents;
- 14. The security enhancements in our new MRTDs and ePassports;
- 15. The national investments in travel documents issuance;
- 16. The need for a constant vigilance to combat fraud;
- 17. The role of global database to help manage risks to aviation;



- 18. Generally speaking, the importance of a border control management.
- 19. The important role of the ICAO Public Key Directory was also reiterated many times toward ensuring the authentication of ePassports. This is important to help improve and maintain border security and facilitation.
- 20. Much was spoken too of the important Resolutions of the United Nations in the area of aviation security and facilitation. These touch all aspects of the work being conducted on traveller identification. They highlight how the many international organizations in this field are working together and we heard many examples of this during the presentations this week.
- 21. This is a high point for me to end on because it is a great example of how we must all continue to work together across all borders and organizational boundaries as we strive to keep international civil aviation safe, secure and bringing an enjoyable travel experience for all passengers.
- 22. It remains for me to offer my sincere thanks to everyone involved in making this seminar a success. It would be impossible for me to name every person involved in this great team effort. But I would just like to highlight:
- 23. All our government and industry partners for their excellent presentations and exhibits; all the Jamaica Civil Aviation Authority team



as well as All of the ICAO teams who have worked diligently, largely behind the scenes, to enable us to enjoy this week's programme.

24. And while we look forward to welcoming you to the Fourteenth Symposium and Exhibition on the Traveller Identification Programme in October 2018 from 23 to 25. I wish you all safe travels home as we now close the Jamaica regional seminar on the Traveller Identification Programme.