

## **DRAFT REMARKS**

by

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for delivery at the

## **ICAO TRIP SEMINAR**

**The Hilton Rosehall Hotel**

on

**Tuesday, November 28, 2017**

**9:30 A.M.**

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- **Mr. Melvin Cintron**, ICAO Regional Director for the North American, Central American and Caribbean (NACC) Office
- **Mr. Brian Quigley, Jr.**, Deputy Executive Secretary, Inter-American Committee against Terrorism for the Organization of American States (OAS)
- **Mrs. Jennifer Bramlette**, of the United Nations Security Council's **Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED)**
- Distinguished delegates
- Guests
- Members of the media
- Ladies and gentlemen

Good morning.

It is with profound delight that I welcome all delegates, organisational representatives, guests and the media to this ICAO Regional Traveller Identification Programme (TRIP) Seminar, which is being hosted by ICAO, in collaboration with the Jamaica Civil Aviation Authority and the Government of Jamaica. We trust that your stay will be meaningful and pleasant, as we collaborate to ensure **enhanced** Traveller Identification Management processes for a more secure and efficient air transportation industry.

While we discuss **mission-critical** initiatives that are key to the safe and secure operation of our industry, it is also our hope that our *visitors*, especially, will be provided with the opportunity to enjoy some authentic Jamaican experiences and hospitality.

Ladies and gentlemen, the air transportation industry continues to perform as a growth-enabled and buoyant industry, in its own right, that is critical to human welfare and progress. Industry development and expansion have been achieved, while we, simultaneously, function as an *engine of growth* for virtually all other industries, economic and social pursuits – among them trade, tourism and cross-cultural connections.

In this context, as we prepare for the phenomenal and sustained expansion of our industry's role, as a trusted provider of critical and safe air transportation services, our **deliberations, plans** and **processes** continue to be guided by a risk-based approach to making air transportation more secure, safe and efficient. It is, therefore, apt for us to **intensify** and continuously review our focus on the rudimentary and critical security platforms, encompassing the gamut of traveller identification management.

All of us may agree that, while significant progress continues to be achieved through the enhancement of document and border inspection systems, as well as cross-border data-sharing, the industry has to continuously renew and improve its methods to combat identity fraud, given the grave security implications.

In line with the Seminar's theme, Traveller Identification Management processes, at the regional, national and global levels, must address the broad spectrum of identity management systems, starting with the management and integrity of processes designed to capture, manage, store and reproduce vital statistics, records and identification documents. This constitutes a **cross-organisational** and **cross-national** partnership, as such processes are essential, for the regional and global aviation communities to effectively manage or reduce the security risks and vulnerabilities, related to identity fraud and manipulation, which can compromise the safe and secure operations of our industry.

I congratulate all delegates and guests for being here today, as your participation collectively demonstrates the region's proactivity and resolve to ensuring a secure and sustainable aviation future. The issues which will be discussed at this Seminar are **timely** and no doubt complex, but even while we are a subset of a larger aviation body, our performance and contribution, to date, clearly demonstrate that we have valuable resolve, and intellectual capital to make a worthwhile and meaningful contribution to the global effort to enhance our industry's safety and security.

Jamaica is proud to be a participant and co-facilitator of this process, as we, simultaneously undertake measures to enhance our National Identification

Management practices, and improve the effectiveness and integrity of Traveller Identification Management across the travel continuum.

May the collective wisdom emanating from spirited discussions, and the sharing of best practices, constitute valuable material for the air transport community.

In closing, I invite you to remember that:

- there is strength in numbers ***and***
- “a trickle of water can cut through rocks, not by its power, but because of its **persistence**”

Best wishes for a stimulating and productive conference, and a wonderful stay in our beautiful island!