



# ICAO Facilitation Conference

Doha, Qatar, 14 – 17 April 2025



## SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

## OPENING CEREMONY

### H.E. Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulla bin Mohammed Al Thani, Minister of Transport, Qatar



H.E. Shiekh Mohammed bin Abdulla bin Mohammed Al Thani was appointed as Minister of Transport in November 2024. H.E. Shiekh Mohammed bin Abdulla bin Mohammed Al Thani has extensive experience in finance, governance, communications, and digital transformation. Earlier in his career, he was a senior officer at the Qatar Armed Forces (General Headquarters), then later was assigned to several leadership and executive positions in the Ooredoo Group such as Deputy Chief Executive Officer of Ooredoo Group, Chief Executive Officer of Ooredoo Qatar, Chief Executive Officer of Ooredoo Kuwait, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Ooredoo Oman, Ooredoo Kuwait, Ooredoo Myanmar and Ooredoo Algeria. His positions also included being the Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of Asiaccell Iraq, President Commissioner of Indosat Ooredoo, Board Member of both INJAZ

Qatar and United Networks, and member of the Qatar Association of Certified Public Accountants. H.E. Shiekh Mohammed bin Abdulla bin Mohammed Al Thani holds a Master of Science in Accounting and Finance from Cardiff University, Wales, the UK, and a B.A. in Economics and Administrative Science, majored in accounting, from Qatar University. He also holds certifications from the Leadership Program for Executives from the Qatar Leadership Centre including courses by Harvard Business School and HEC Paris, and from the Intensive Executive Breakthrough Program by Egon Zehnder and Mobius Executive Leadership.

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### H.E. Mohamed bin Faleh Al-Hajri, Acting President, Civil Aviation Authority, Qatar



He has held the position of In Charge of Managing QCAA in the State of Qatar since October 2021. With over 25 years of experience in air transport, international relations, and economic policy related to the aviation sector, he previously served as the Director of the Air Transport Department at the Authority.

His expertise includes international agreements, treaties, and protocols. He has represented the State of Qatar in numerous high-level international aviation forums and is an active member of various executive boards, expert committees, and technical working groups within the civil aviation sector.

## Mr. Salvatore Sciacchitano, President of the Council, International Civil Aviation Organization



Mr. Sciacchitano graduated in Telecommunications Engineering from the University of Catania and began his career in aviation in 1980, joining the Italian Airworthiness Authority (RAI) where he held positions of increasing responsibility, serving as the organization's Regulation Director in 1992, then as Technical Director and, in 1996, as Director General. With the merger of the aviation branch of the Ministry of Transport and RAI and the subsequent establishment of the Italian Civil Aviation Authority (ENAC), Mr. Sciacchitano assumed the position of Deputy Director General. In this position, he played an instrumental role in coordinating the core business divisions of the newly founded structure. He was also entrusted with multiple international mandates, chairing the Permanent

Commission of EUROCONTROL, representing Italy in the Management Board of European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), holding the Vice-Presidency of the EUROCONTROL Provisional Council and coordinating the Italian delegation during ICAO Assemblies. As a result of his extensive experience in aviation international affairs, Mr. Sciacchitano was appointed Executive Secretary of the European Civil Aviation Conference (ECAC) in 2010. In February 2019, he joined the Italian Delegation on the Council of ICAO, where he served until assuming his duties as President of the Council.

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## Setting the Scene

### Mr. Juan Carlos Salazar, Secretary General, ICAO



Mr. Juan Carlos Salazar is the Secretary General of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). He was first appointed for a three-year term starting August 2021. On 11 March 2024, the ICAO Council renewed his appointment for a second consecutive three-year term, to begin August 2024.

His career in international civil aviation spans over 30 years in various advisory and leadership roles. Prior to his appointment as Secretary General, Mr. Salazar served as Director General of Aeronautica Civil of Colombia – Aerocivil.

For the twelve years prior to joining Aerocivil, Mr. Salazar was a Senior Advisor to the UAE General Civil Aviation Authority. His professional experience also includes terms as the President of Latin American Civil Aviation Commission (LACAC), Secretary of the Colombian Civil Aviation Board and Director of its Air Transport Office, Director General of Air Transport at the Colombian Ministry of Transport, Corporate Secretary and Director of the Legal Department of Tampa Cargo (currently known as Avianca Cargo). Mr. Salazar is a lawyer and has earned advanced degrees from Harvard University (Master in Public Administration - MPA) and McGill University (Master in Air and Space Law - LLM), and was awarded an Honorary Doctorate degree in Law from Korea Aerospace University. He is fluent in Spanish, English and French, and speaks basic Arabic.

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## Session 1 High-level Panel for Exchange of Views on Expectations for FALC 2025 Facilitating the Future of Air Transport Facilitation

**Mr. Mohamed Khalifa Rahma**, Director, Air Transport Bureau, International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)



Mr. Mohamed Khalifa Rahma assumed his position as Director, Air Transport Bureau, of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) in April 2020. Before his appointment, Mr. Rahma was the Regional Director of the ICAO Middle East Regional Office since March 2016. The current work portfolio of Mr. Rahma covers a wide range of global aviation domain including Air Transport, Aviation Security and Facilitation and Environmental protection. He is currently the Secretary of the Council Aviation Recovery Task Force (CART). During his tenure in ICAO Middle East Office, he was instrumental in strengthening regional and inter-regional collaboration in aviation industry. This effort included enhancing risk awareness and response, promoting technologies while fostering new innovations, and improving oversight and quality assurance. Mr. Rahma continues to significantly increase

cooperation among member States, international and Regional organizations. Prior to Joining ICAO, Mr. Rahma was the Undersecretary of International and Internal Affairs at the Ministry of Civil Aviation of Egypt and previously the advisor to the Egyptian Minister of Civil Aviation. During his tenure at the Egyptian government, Mr. Rahma played a substantial role and led influential projects that actively supported and enhanced aviation capacity and efficiency in Egypt. He developed cooperative relationships with government bodies and investors while paving the way for future business partnerships and opportunities. Mr. Rahma was a board member of various companies including Cairo Airport Company, Aerotel Company and EMAC Aqaba Company and chaired many strategic committees under the umbrella of the Ministry of Civil Aviation for special projects. He led and participated in many high level national and regional committees. Mr. Rahma has 30 years of aviation experience in various fields including aviation management, airline management, operation, safety, training, corporate communication, and crisis management. He holds a Master's Degree in Aviation Management and speaks fluent English and Arabic.

**Mr. Willie Walsh**, Director General, International Air Transport Association (IATA)



Willie Walsh became the eighth person to lead the International Air Transport Association (IATA) when he took on the role of Director General in April 2021.

Prior to joining IATA, Walsh spent his entire career in the airline industry, beginning as a cadet pilot with Aer Lingus in 1979 and rising to the position of Chief Executive at the airline in 2001. In 2005 he was appointed Chief Executive of British Airways (BA). He led BA through the 2008/09 global financial crisis, established a transatlantic joint business venture with Iberia, Finnair and American Airlines, and oversaw the 2011 merger of BA and Iberia under a newly

established parent company, International Airlines Group (IAG). He was Chief Executive of IAG from its inception until September 2020.

Under Walsh's leadership, IATA has focused on supporting the industry's emergence from the COVID-19 crisis as well as aviation's ambitious and historic commitment to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050. Walsh has also advocated for infrastructure partners to avoid recouping their COVID losses from their customers including airlines and air travelers.



Walsh is deeply familiar with IATA, having also served on the IATA Board of Governors between 2005 to 2018, including serving as Chair (2016-2017). A citizen of Ireland, Walsh was born in Dublin, Ireland, in 1961. Walsh holds a Master of Science and Business Administration from Trinity College, Dublin.

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### **Ms. Poppy Khoza, Director, South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA)**



Ms Poppy Khoza is the Director of Civil Aviation (DG) at the South African Civil Aviation Authority having been re-appointed by the South African Government for a third successive five-year term that began on 1 December 2023. Among her leadership accomplishments, Ms Khoza has chaired two ICAO panels – the Aviation Security and the High-Level Conference on the Covid-19 pandemic. She was later elected President of the 2022 ICAO General Assembly where she, historically, became the first woman to preside over an Assembly since the formation of ICAO in 1944. Ms Khoza is a recipient of many accolades that include the 2023 IATA Inspirational Role Model Award - Diversity and Inclusion Awards, the Aviation Sector and Regional Leader Award, Best

Chief Executive Officer Awards, Top Empowered Business Leader, Public Service Leader of the year, as well as South Africa's Most Influential Woman in Business and Government in the Agencies and Regulatory Authorities. She was also the first recipient of the Flight Safety Foundation's Gloria Heath Award that recognises notable woman achievements in civil aviation as well as Ms Khoza's leadership towards promoting gender diversity in international aviation. The African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC) and the AFI group also honoured her with an accolade to acknowledge her contribution towards the development of civil aviation in Africa. Ms Khoza is a passionate advocate for gender equality in the aviation industry globally. She has championed the transformation of the SACAA that now boasts a 51% make-up of female employees and a 50% make-up of capable women serving in Executive Management positions. In collaboration with ICAO, UNESCO and the United Nations Women, Ms Khoza was instrumental in the concept and implementation of the first-ever Global Aviation Gender Summit that was hosted in August 2018 in South Africa. Under her stewardship, the SACAA scooped the Best Performing Institution in Transport Award on four (4) occasions, while the entity achieved eleven (11) clean audits over 12 financial years from the office of the Auditor-General South Africa for good corporate governance. The SACAA was also honoured as a Top Performing Public Service Award where they were recognised for investing in People; a recipient of an award as a Transformation Champion and have received certification as a Top Employer by the Top Employer Institute for exemplary human resources programmes.

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### **Mr. Olivier Onidi, Deputy Director General, DG Home Affairs, European Commission**



Since May 2016, Olivier Onidi is Deputy Director-General of the Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs (DG HOME) at the European Commission with particular responsibility over Schengen and Internal Security. In this capacity, he oversees the activities in the fields of Schengen, borders, information systems, innovation, terrorism and violent extremism, organized crime and cybersecurity. He also led the European Commission's Task Force for the Security Union and held respectively the EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator and Counter-Terrorism Coordinator positions. Since July 2022, Olivier Onidi is also the EU Schengen Coordinator. Olivier Onidi's last assignment was Deputy Director-General of DG HOME with the specific task to coordinate the Commission-wide work in the context of the refugees' crisis 2015-2016. Previously, he was Director for the European Mobility Network within the Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport, responsible for the development of

the Trans-European Transport Network infrastructure, the implementation of the Connecting Europe Facility funding instrument, the creation of a Single European Rail Area and policy around ports. Prior to this, he was Director for Innovative and Sustainable Mobility in charge of transport security, clean and urban transport, intelligent transport systems and road safety.

Olivier Onidi also worked as Deputy Head of Cabinet of the Energy Commissioner, Mr Günther H. Oettinger, as Head of Unit for air transport services, aviation safety and environment and was Head of the Satellite Navigation System programme - GALILEO. His first posts in the Commission were Assistant to Directors-General in the areas of Energy and Transport and External Relations. He then moved to the Secretariat General and afterwards became Member of Cabinet of the Commissioner for Research and Development, Innovation, Education and Training. Before joining the Commission, Olivier Onidi worked as Adviser to the Executive Committee of Belgacom and as Public Policy Manager at American Express International. Olivier Onidi holds Master degrees in International Economics, European Studies and Business Administration. He has French citizenship.

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### **Mr. Essa Al-Malki, Representative of Qatar on the Council of ICAO & Chairperson, ICAO Air Transport Committee**



Mr. Essa Al-Malki serves as the Representative of the State of Qatar on the Council since October 2022 and was appointed as the Permanent Representative of the State of Qatar to ICAO since June 2017 when he was entrusted with the establishment of the first Permanent Office of the State of Qatar to ICAO. During his term as Permanent Representative, the ICAO-Qatar relations have been greatly strengthened. Mr. Al-Malki has been instrumental in enhancing Qatar's collaboration with ICAO throughout the years. Prior to his assignment to ICAO, he has served in several leadership roles at the Qatar Civil Aviation Authority (QCAA) as a legal expert, before assuming the senior position of the Head of the Air Transport Agreement Section. During his tenure, Mr. Al-Malki was responsible for the negotiation and grant of traffic rights for the National Carrier

Qatar Airways, as an experienced international negotiator for Air Transport Agreements between the State of Qatar and other states. Besides his robust knowledge of the aviation industry, with expertise in negotiation, management, and protocol, his participation in ICAO's work has further enriched his expertise and global perspective. He served as chair of the ICAO's Technical Co-operation and Implementation Support Committee (TCC), between 2023 and 2024 and is currently chair of the Air Transport Committee (ATC) for years 2024-2025. Undertaking these roles reflects the international community's recognition of Qatar's leadership in civil aviation as well as its active participation in addressing global challenges. Mr. Al-Malki, holder of a bachelor's degree in political and legal Studies from the Indiana State University, USA (2012) and a master's degree from Hamad Bin Khalifa University in Qatar, brings a wealth of professional excellence to his role, marking a distinguished career in aviation and diplomatic representation. Through his leadership and dedication, Mr. Al-Malki aims to continue to strengthen Qatar's position as an active partner in the international civil aviation community and advance its role in global aviation, while addressing evolving challenges and responding to the rapid developments in civil aviation.

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### **Mr. Darryl Dowd, Vice-President, Safety Security Operations, Airports Council International (ACI)**



Darryl Dowd is the Vice President of Safety, Security, and Operations at ACI World. With over 25 years of experience in the aviation industry, Darryl has held various executive roles at airports, gaining expertise throughout his career in regulatory compliance, terminal and airfield operations, and strategic planning. He holds a master's degree in aviation management. At ACI World, Darryl leads advocacy and industry engagement initiatives, focusing on airport operations, safety, security, slots, and IT/Cybersecurity.

## Session 2 Cooperation, Collaboration and Inter-Agency Coordination

### Ms. Valdis Adalsteinsdottir, Representative of Iceland on the Council of ICAO



Ms. Valdis Ásta Aðalsteinsdóttir has over 30 years of experience across a wide spectrum of aviation and leaderships related businesses, with both public and private sector perspectives. She has held leading change management posts in organizations and is the first woman to be Iceland's Representative on the Council of ICAO. From October 2019, Ms. Aðalsteinsdóttir has been a part of the NORDICAO rotation group and served as Alternate Representative of the Republic of Finland on the Council until 1 October 2022 when she became the Representative of Iceland on the Council of ICAO.

From 2004 until her appointment as Alternate Representative on the Council of ICAO she held various positions in the Icelandic Civil Aviation Authority (now the Icelandic Transport Authority – ICETRA). Among her professional experience, Ms. Aðalsteinsdóttir has served as ICAO's Public Relations Manager, Manager Special Projects, Director Customer Service

Division as well as being a member of ICETRA's Executive team. She was Iceland's Aviation Council's Secretary for seven years and around ten years of experience with Icelandair in various positions from ground handling to Project Manager. Ms. Aðalsteinsdóttir is a Bachelor of Art graduate in sociology from the University of Iceland and has two Diplomas in Human Resource Management and Public Administration. She has taken part in various seminars regarding management training, change management, public and information rights, management systems, human factor and human relations, quality and risk-based management, as well as internal and external audits. During Ms. Aðalsteinsdóttir's vast experience in the field, she has gained general knowledge of international aviation cooperation and of ICAO's Council's procedures. Ms. Aðalsteinsdóttir was nominated for Stjórnvísir 2019, Icelandic Management Award. Ms. Aðalsteinsdóttir remains strongly committed to support ICAO's work and to promote a safe, secure and sustainable civil aviation in a transparent and efficient way. The challenges civil aviation is facing today gives ICAO even a bigger role as a strong global facilitator, which calls for a strong commitment from all ICAO Member States. Let's all fly again!

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### Mr. Abdennebi Manar, Director General, Arab Civil Aviation Organization (ACAO)



Eng. Abdennebi Manar is the Director General of Arab Civil Aviation Organization (ACAO). He is Civil Aviation Engineer from National School of Civil Aviation of Toulouse - France (ENAC), Prior to his appointment as DG of ACAO, he held several roles including: Acting Director General of Morocco Civil Aviation Authority, Civil Aeronautics Director, Air Navigation Director, Airport Quality, security and Safety Director, Acting as Air transport Director. During the 39 years in the civil aviation, Mr. Manar has been achieved a several international experiences such a working as: ICAO Council Member, ICAO CART member, ACAO Executive Council Member, Expert to Arab Civil Aviation Organization, Morocco Representative to the Mixed Commission for the

Implementation of the Agreement on the Liberalization of Air Transport between Morocco and the European Union, Member of the African Planning and Implementation Regional Group, Morocco Representative in the AEFMP (Algeria, Spain, France, Morocco and Portugal) Air Navigation Harmonization Group and Member of the Panel of Experts of the Global Navigation Satellite System of the International Civil Aviation Organization

## **Ms. Adefunke Adeyemi, Secretary General, African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC)**



Adefunke Adeyemi was elected and appointed the Secretary-General of the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC) resuming office on 1st September, 2022. AFCAC is the Specialized Agency of the African Union (AU) on all Civil Aviation matters and the Executing Agency of the Yamoussoukro Decision (YD) and the Single African Air Transport Market (SAATM). Her role is to promote Safety, Security, Air Transport Liberalization, Environmental protection and overall sustainability of the African Air Transport sector across the continent. In November 2024, during AFCAC's 35th Plenary Ordinary Session, she was re-elected for another three-year term, reaffirming her exemplary leadership and commitment to advancing African civil aviation. With an international career spanning over 25 years, Adefunke has been recognized as one of the 100 Most Inspirational African Women. She was also honoured as one of the 200 globally Most Influential People of African Descent (MIPAD) in affiliation with the United Nations Decade for People of African Descent. She is also the 2021 Recipient of the Ato Girma Wake Lifetime Achievement Award for Services to African Air Transport and Trade development. She studied Law at the University of Lagos, Nigeria and qualified as a Barrister and Solicitor of the Nigerian Supreme Court in 1998, holds a Master of Laws (LL.M.) from the prestigious University of Cambridge, United Kingdom and a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from Nanyang Business School, Singapore in collaboration with Wharton Business School, Philadelphia and Berkeley Hass Business School, California.

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## **Ms. Patricia Reverdy, Executive Secretary, European Civil Aviation Conference (ECAC)**



As the Deputy Executive Secretary of the European Civil Aviation Conference (ECAC) Patricia REVERDY leads ECAC's coordination for international meetings and events. She manages the implementation of ECAC's work programme, in particular on economic and legal matters, as well as on security and facilitation. She also supports the activities of the ECAC expert group on accident investigations. In all these fields of activities, she leads the works among ECAC 44 Member States, and contributes to various international groups.

Patricia has over 20 years of experience in civil aviation. She first joined ECAC in September 2001 as Aviation Security Audit and Assistance Officer having previously worked for the Swiss Federal Office of Civil Aviation.

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## **Mr. Jaime Binder, Secretary General, Latin American Commission of Civil Aviation (LACAC)**



Jaime Binder is a lawyer from the University of Chile, holds a Master's degree in Management and Public Policies from the same institution, and a Diploma of Advanced Studies in Government and Public Administration from the Complutense University of Madrid. He has served as a university professor in subjects related to public policy, public management, negotiation, and air transport law. Since January 2019, he has served as Secretary of the Latin American Civil Aviation Commission (LACAC). He has over 22 years of experience in the public sector, particularly in land and air transport. He has held positions as Counselor and later as Secretary General of the Civil Aviation Board of the Ministry of Transport and Telecommunications of Chile. He also served as Director of the State Railways Company (EFE-Chile) and the Arica-La Paz Railway Company (FCALP-Chile), as well as Executive Director of the Land Transport Inspection Program of the Undersecretariat of Transport of Chile. In the course of his duties, he has led international negotiations,



promoted liberalization and facilitation processes in commercial air transport, and organized seminars, courses, and workshops both nationally and internationally on aviation-related topics. In his role at LACAC, he actively promotes cooperation among 22 States from Latin America and the Caribbean, fostering regional integration in civil aviation.

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



Mr. Nari Williams-Singh joined the Jamaica Civil Aviation Authority (JCAA) in 1997 as an Aviation Safety Inspector – Airworthiness/Avionics, having previously studied in Toronto, Canada and worked in both Canada and Jamaica in the field of aircraft maintenance. He has amassed a wealth of experience in the air transport industry, in aircraft maintenance, safety and security oversight, provision of air navigation services, and civil aviation administration. His successful career at the JCAA has spanned various assignments of progressive responsibility, with appointments as Manager – Airworthiness; Director - Flight Safety; Deputy Director General – Regulatory Affairs and Director General. Mr. Williams- Singh has held the position of Director General of the Jamaica Civil Aviation Authority (JCAA) since October 2014. He serves on the Boards of the JCAA, AEROTEL Limited (a subsidiary of the JCAA) and is currently the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Caribbean Aviation Safety and Security Oversight System (CASSOS). Mr. Williams-Singh's was elected and served as President of the International Civil Aviation Organisation's (ICAO) (40th) General Assembly in 2019. In 2022 Jamaica was elected to the Council of ICAO and Mr. Williams-Singh has been a Member of the Delegation representing Jamaica on the ICAO Council for the 2022-2025 triennium.

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### **Mr. Douglas Yeo, Director, Security Policy & Emergency Preparedness, International Relations and Security Division, Ministry of Transport, Singapore, Chairperson, Facilitation Panel (FALP)**



Douglas Yeo is the Director for Security Policy and Emergency Preparedness with the Ministry of Transport, Singapore. His team oversees all aspects of Land, Air and Maritime transport security policies, including cybersecurity and emergency preparedness. Prior to joining the Ministry, Douglas served as the Deputy Director for Aviation Security and Emergency Preparedness with the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore, as well as with the Singapore Police Force. In his 20 years of service with the Singapore Police Force, Douglas saw duty in a range of roles spanning command, investigations and operations in various police units. Douglas left the Singapore Police Force with the rank of Superintendent of Police and was at that time in-charge of aviation security and quality control with the Airport Police Division. Douglas led Singapore's effort in developing and implementing an air cargo supply chain security regime. He was also instrumental in developing and implementing Singapore's national civil aviation security quality control programme, as well as fronting Singapore's compliance efforts for the Universal Security Audit Programme conducted by the International Civil Aviation Organisation in 2006, 2012, and 2023. Douglas is the Chair of the ICAO Facilitation Panel, as well as Singapore's representative on the Panel. He is also Singapore's alternate representative for the ICAO Aviation Security Panel, and Vice-Chair of the ICAO Asia and Pacific Regional Aviation Security Coordination Forum (RASCF). Douglas was chair of the Aviation Security & Facilitation sub-group of the ICAO APAC COVID-19 Contingency and Recovery Planning Group. He has also been the Rapporteur of the ICAO Facilitation Panel's Working Group on Guidance Material since 2016. Douglas graduated in 1993 with an Honours degree in Economics and holds professional qualifications as an Avsec Professional Manager, ICAO Certified AVSEC Instructor and ICAO Certified USAP-CMA Auditor.

## Session 3 Passenger Experience

### Mr. Ángel Luis Arias Serrano, Representative of Spain on the Council of ICAO



Mr. Ángel-Luis Arias is the Representative of Spain on the ICAO Council since June 2023. Before ICAO Council and since 2015, Mr. Arias was the Director General of ENAIRE, the Spanish ANSP and President of CRIDA, a company dedicated to the research and development of innovative solutions in air traffic management (ATM). Since 2012, Mr. Arias held the positions of Director General of Civil Aviation (DGAC) and Chairman of the Aviation Safety and Security Agency of Spain (AESA) and Vice-President of the European Agency for the Safety of Air Navigation (EUROCONTROL). Mr. Arias also worked at AENA, the National Spanish Airport Operator, occupying diverse technical and managerial positions. Before joining AENA, he worked as officer in the Spanish Air Force. Mr. Arias holds Master's degrees in Aeronautical Engineering and in Business Administration.

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### Ms. Andile Mtetwa-Amaeshi, Director General, Civil Aviation Authority, Eswatini



Andile Mtetwa-Amaeshi is the Director General of Civil Aviation in the Kingdom of Eswatini, overseeing the country's civil aviation authority, including airport operations and air navigation service provision (ANSP). With over 18 years of experience in the aviation sector, she has held senior leadership roles in both startup and established airlines, as well as civil aviation regulatory bodies within Southern Africa. Her expertise lies in aviation security risk management, having served as Head of Security Risk Management at South African Airways, where she was responsible for the airline's Security Operations Centre. She also held the position of Head of Quality Assurance, leading efforts to maintain and coordinate the Air Operator Certificate. Ms. Mtetwa-Amashi has played an active role in regional aviation governance, representing SADC on the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC) Bureau for two terms and serving as a member of the Civil Aviation Committee of the SADC Aviation Safety Organisation (SASO). She has also contributed to advancing gender equality in aviation, delivering awareness workshops for women in the air transport sector on behalf of COMESA across the Eastern Africa, Southern Africa, and Indian Ocean (EA-SA-IO) region. She holds an Honours Degree from the University of the Witwatersrand and a Graduate Business Degree from the Gordon Institute of Business Science (University of Pretoria) in Johannesburg, South Africa, along with multiple certifications in aviation security and safety. Now in her second term as Director General, she was recognized for her leadership with the Standard Bank SHEROS Award in 2023.

**Mr. Abdulaziz A. Aldahmash, Executive Vice President for Quality and Customer Experience, Civil Aviation, Saudi Arabia**



Abdulaziz Aldahmash currently serves as the Executive Vice President for Quality and Customer Experience at the General Authority of Civil Aviation (GACA) in Saudi Arabia. In this capacity, he has been instrumental in developing a regulatory and organizational framework aimed at enhancing the overall passenger experience within the Kingdom. His strategic initiatives have redefined the standards of customer service and operational excellence in the aviation sector. In addition to his key responsibilities at the General Authority of Civil Aviation (GACA), Mr. Aldahmash holds key positions as board member at AL-TANFEETHI

Company, and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Saudi Aviation Academy. His extensive career also includes numerous memberships in the public, private sectors and non-profit organizations in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, where he has consistently leveraged his practical experience to drive development and innovation across various fields. Mr. Aldahmash began his professional career in the petrochemical industry at SABIC, where he specialized in supply chain management, business process optimization, and process reengineering. His early experience laid a robust foundation for his subsequent transition into the technology sector with Elm. At Elm, he played a pivotal role in delivering consulting services, managing quality and performance metrics, enhancing customer experience, and establishing new operational sectors and teams during critical phases of transformation and change. Following his tenure at Elm, he advanced his career as an Executive Advisor at the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Development. In this role, he oversaw several high-impact initiatives, including the National Transformation Program for the nonprofit sector, which further demonstrated his capacity to drive comprehensive organizational reform. Mr. Aldahmash's academic credentials further complement his professional accomplishments. He holds a master's degree in engineering management from the University of Southern California (USC) and has augmented his expertise with numerous certifications and executive training programs from esteemed institutions such as the Alternative Executive MBA program at Harvard University, multiple training programs at Stanford University, and other internationally recognized educational bodies. His academic background, combined with his extensive professional experience, uniquely positions him as a leader in quality management and organizational transformation within the aviation and broader industrial sectors.

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**Ms. Feng Zhiwei, General Manager, Division of Exchanges and Conventions, Air Transport Association, China**



Ms. Feng Zhiwei worked at China Southern Airlines from 1995 to 2022, holding various roles including cabin crew training and human resource management. She gained substantial experience in airline operations and international passenger travel. From 2017 to 2022, she served as Vice President of the Beijing Daxing International Airport Construction Headquarters for China Southern Airlines, contributing to the airline's base construction at the airport and acquiring insights into airport and airline-related infrastructure projects. Since July 2022, Ms. Feng has been with the China Air Transport Association (CATA), initially as General Manager of the Human Resources Management Department. In January 2024, she assumed the role of General Manager of Department of Communication, Conference & Exhibition. Later by the end of 2024, she was appointed as the

CATA Liaison Officer to the Civil Aviation Facilitation Sub-Committee under the National Facilitation Transport Committee. Drawing on her airline experience, Ms. Feng has collaborated with government bodies, member airlines, and airports to facilitate civil aviation procedures in China, gaining a deep understanding of the international passenger experience in and out of China.

## Mr. Hamad Ali Al-Khater, Chief Operating Officer, Hamad International Airport, Doha



Hamad is an experienced executive with a background in airport management, infrastructure operations, and investment strategy. As Chief Operating Officer of Hamad International Airport (HIA), he leads the airport's strategic direction, safety & operational management, financial governance, and commercial development. Ensuring seamless efficiency, passenger experience, and long-term growth. With a career spanning business development and M&A, strategy, and large-scale operations, Hamad has held leadership roles in both the aviation and energy sectors. Before joining HIA, he was responsible for global investment deal delivery, market expansion, and complex negotiations at QatarEnergy, overseeing key projects across multiple regions. His ability to navigate complex regulatory environments, drive operational improvements, and engage stakeholders has

been central to his leadership approach. Hamad has also served on the boards of several organizations, spanning fertilizer production, energy products trading, insurance and power generation contributing to governance, financial oversight, and strategic planning. A graduate of the University of Kent Business School, he has also pursued executive education in leadership, airport operations, crisis management, and aviation security, supporting his role in overseeing a major international hub.

His focus remains on strengthening HIA's position as a global aviation leader.

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## Mr. Abdul Wahab Teffaha, Secretary General, Arab Air Carriers Organization (AACO)



After completing postgraduate studies in socio-economic development and political sociology, Mr. Teffaha joined AACO in 1980 as an assistant tariff analyst and rose through the ranks until 1992, when he was appointed assistant secretary general. In June 1996, he was elected Secretary General of the Association, a position he still holds to date. AACO now is recognized as one of the leading associations both at the regional and global levels. It plays an important role in the policy making of the industry in a broad spectrum of strategic issues, such as climate change, digital transformation, aero political strategies and contributing to making the voice of the Arab Airlines heard regionally and globally. AACO, under Mr. Teffaha's leadership, was transformed into an added value instrument to its members through its focus on the synergies that such an association can create

between them.



## Session 4 Cargo Release Clearance and Automation Processes

### Ms. Hiwot Mosisa Deressa, Representative of Ethiopia on the Council of ICAO



Hiwot Deressa has been serving as a Head of Ethiopian Delegation to ICAO since February 2022. She was appointed as representative of Ethiopia (on behalf of Eastern African States) on the Council of ICAO in October 2022. Mrs. Deressa had served as a Vice-chair and Chairperson of Air Transport Standing Committee of the Council for two consecutive years. Currently she is serving as a member of four advisory small groups of the Council namely Financing for Aviation Co2 Emissions Reduction Measures, Social Dimension of Sustainability, Economic Development of Air Transport and Industry Consultative Group. And she is also serving as a chairperson of the ICAO Comprehensive Regional Implementation Plan for African Security and Facilitation and an Ad-hoc member of the Bureau of AFCAC. Mrs. Deressa has over 23 years of work experience in the public sector. Among various leadership posts she was assigned to, Mrs. Deressa served as State Minister of Transport (2018 - 2020) and played remarkable role in transport policy making and overseeing Ethiopian Civil Aviation Authority's activities including managing Ethiopia's regional and international relations in Aviation. She also served as Deputy CEO of Ethiopian Airports Enterprise (2015 - 2017) being responsible for Civil and IT infrastructure development, facilitation and operations of 22 airports in Ethiopia including Addis Ababa Bole International Airport. She is a graduate of civil engineering from Addis Ababa Institute of Technology and acquired master's degree in construction management from University of Reading, UK.

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### Mr. Carlos Grau Tanner, Director General, Global Express Association (GEA)



Carlos Grau Tanner has been the Director General of the Geneva-based Global Express Association (GEA) since 2010. GEA represents the three leading express delivery carriers: DHL, FedEx, and UPS. The industry regularly contributes to ICAO's Panels on Aviation Security, Dangerous Goods, Air Transport Regulation, and Facilitation. Carlos holds dual Swiss and Spanish citizenship. He has a Law Degree from the University of Barcelona, Spain, and a Master of Arts in Law and Diplomacy from The Fletcher School at Tufts University (Boston, USA). Previously, Carlos worked in the airline industry at Swissair and IATA, where he was Director of Government and Industry Affairs, and for the Council of Europe, an inter-governmental organization.

**Ms. Özlem Soysanli, Acting Deputy Director, Compliance and Facilitation, World Customs Organization (WCO)**



Ms. Özlem SOYSANLI serves as the Acting Deputy Director in Compliance and Facilitation Directorate at the World Customs Organization (WCO) in Brussels, Belgium. In this role she leads the Procedures and Facilitation Sub-Directorate and directs the development, implementation and maintenance of international treaties, conventions, standards, guidelines and other trade facilitation and Customs procedure tools. Ms. Soysanli provides counsel to the Director, Deputy Secretary General and Secretary General on matters relating to the Sub-Directorate. She joined the WCO Compliance and Facilitation Directorate in August 2018. She previously worked in various capacities in the Turkish Customs Administration for over 22 years, mainly in the area of Customs legislation. She also worked as the Customs Counsellor at the

Turkish Embassy in Brussels from 2014 to 2018 with the responsibility of representing the Turkish Customs at the WCO as well as at Belgium Customs.

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**Ms. Yanying Li, Legal Office Negotiable Cargo Documents, United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL)**



*Yanying Li is a legal officer at the International Trade Law Division (ITLD), Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations, which serves as the secretariat to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL). Since 2019, Yanying has been involved in the exploratory and preparatory work for the development of a legal instrument on negotiable cargo documents. The project was assigned to [UNCITRAL Working Group VI](#) in 2022. The draft UN convention on negotiable cargo documents intends to create a new type of document of title entitled “negotiable cargo document”, which could perform a similar function as a maritime bill of lading for the carriage of goods by any mode of transport in a multimodal or*

*unimodal context. It also provides for a legal framework for the recognition and use of electronic negotiable cargo documents. Currently, Yanying is the Secretary of UNCITRAL Working Group VI (Negotiable Cargo Documents). She is also responsible for the organization of the annual sessions of UNCITRAL as well as UNCITRAL matters related to the UN General Assembly. Before joining the ITLD, she worked in the field of banking and international arbitration at the Asian Development Bank (Manila), Clifford Chance LLP (London) and the Permanent Court of Arbitration (the Hague).*

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**Ms. Maria Vournou, Advisor to the Governor on Customs Related Matters, Independent Authority for Public Revenue & Chairperson, WCO Revised Kyoto Convention Management Committee, Greece**



Maria VOURNOU has been a customs officer since 2011, actively contributing to trade facilitation and customs modernization. As part of a four-year reform project in Greek customs, Ms VOURNOU played a key role in enhancing procedures and aligning national practices with international standards. With a strong academic background, including a master's thesis on the European Union's relations with the World Customs Organization (WCO), Ms VOURNOU developed expertise in customs policy and international cooperation. This specialization led to an appointment as a Seconded National Expert (SNE) to the European Commission's Directorate-General for Taxation and Customs Union (DG TAXUD), where she was entrusted with the review of the Revised Kyoto Convention (RKC), the flagship Convention for the simplification and harmonization of global customs procedures. In 2021, Maria VOURNOU was elected Chairperson of the WCO Revised Kyoto Convention Management Committee (RKCMC), a role that involves facilitating in-depth discussions among almost 130 Contracting Parties and key stakeholders. Through this position, Ms VOURNOU has been instrumental in shaping policy dialogues on modernizing customs frameworks, fostering international cooperation, and addressing emerging trade challenges. By steering high-level discussions and fostering consensus on key reforms, Maria VOURNOU continues to support global efforts to create more efficient and transparent customs environments, ultimately promoting seamless international trade. Her expertise in customs simplification and harmonization aligns closely with the objectives of this workshop, where discussions on ICAO initiatives and Annex 9 implementation will provide valuable insights into cargo release and clearance.

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**Mr. Fatti Atti, Senior Vice President, Aeropolitical and Corporate Affairs, Qatar Airways**



Fathi brings with him a wealth of over 35 years of aviation experience in key roles across international organizations such as the Arab Air Carrier Organization (AACO) and the International Air Transport Association (IATA) as well as global carriers; starting from training as part of Program of Developing Nations Airlines (PDNA) at Lufthansa in the 1980s excelling through to various leadership roles at IATA, Kuwait Airways, Emirates Airlines, Etihad Airways and Qatar Airways. He has worked at 30 airports globally, contributing significantly to IATA initiatives such as regional training centers, the Agenda for Freedom, and the World Passenger Symposium. Fathi has advanced studies and a Post Graduate degree from the UK and Switzerland. He is part of the advisory council at the Geneva School of Diplomacy. He was holding an advisory role in ICAO Air Transport Panel and is a keynote speaker in Global Aviation Forums. He has negotiated with over 150 countries on various air transport issues and Air Service Agreements, for bilateral and multilateral traffic rights agreements.

## Session 5 Travel Document Integrity and Border Control

**Mr. Dion Chamberlain**, Director International and Product Strategy, Department Internal Affairs, New Zealand



Dion has worked in DIA since 2003 in leadership roles spanning travel documents, citizenship, digital identity, biometrics and civil registration. Dion is the Chair of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) Implementation and Capacity Building Working Group (ICBWG) and represents New Zealand on the ICAO Facilitation Panel (FAL) and the ICAO Technical Advisory Group for Traveller Identification (TAG-TRIP). He also leads the policy sub-group for the development of the ICAO Digital Travel Credentials. Dion has been editor or contributor to key ICAO guidance across all the five elements of the ICAO TRIP Strategy, is experienced in governance roles both inside and outside Government, and currently sits on the Board of Directors for the Biometrics Institute. He oversees New Zealand's contribution to ISO SC17 (Cards and Security

Devices for Personal Identification) and SC37 (Biometrics) technical standards working groups. Dion has also led assistance and capacity building missions in the South Pacific, focussing on the implementation of new passport and civil registration systems, and supporting legislative and operational policy change for traveller identification and facilitation.

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**Dr. Uwe Seidel**, Head of Department, IT Forensics Documents, German Federal Criminal Police Office, Chairperson, New Technologies Working Group (NTWG) of TAG/TRIP



Dr. Uwe Seidel received his Ph.D. degree in experimental physics and optics from the University of Jena, Germany. After some years in industry, he joined the Forensic Science Institute of the German Federal Criminal Police Office (Bundeskriminalamt) as an ID document expert in 2000 and is now heading the BKA's IT Forensics and Document section. This assignment also involves overseeing R&D projects for increasing the counterfeit resistance of German official documents. Since 2019, he is the chairman of ICAO's New Technology Working Group and Germany's Alternate Member for the ICAO Technical Advisory Group TAG/TRIP.



**Mr. Florent Tournois, Project Director - France Identity, Agence Nationale des Titres Sécurisés (ANTS), France**



Florent TOURNOIS is the Director of Identity, Trust Services, and Production (DISCOP) at the French National Agency for Secure Documents (ANTS), under the French Ministry of the Interior. Since March 2022, he has led the "France Identité" program, which focuses on digitizing the French ID card and developing the French digital identity wallet. He also coordinates the EU-funded POTENTIAL project, testing the interoperability of digital identity wallets across 18 EU countries and Ukraine, as well as the newly-selected consortium APTITUDE working on Digital Travel Credentials (DTC) with 11 EU countries and Ukraine.

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**Mr. Cor de Jonge, Team Lead & Business Owner Public Key Infrastructure (PKI), Ministry of Justice and Security of The Netherlands & Chairperson, ICAO Public Directory (PKD) Board**



After more than 20 years in the world of projects in the field of Information Technology with the focus on policy and organizational aspects with strong IT-components/dependencies and creating a solid the link between business and IT, I've lead the development and implementation of the Public Key Infrastructure for Extended Access Control (PKI EAC) for border management and immigration in the Netherlands. I'm based in Almelo, The Netherlands. Beside my activities for ICAO, at the moment I'm the chair of ICAO PKD, I participate in the Technical Subgroup of the European Commission advising the Commission in technical matters regarding border crossing, breeder- and ID documents as described in the Rules of Procedure of the EU.

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**Mr. R. Rajeshkumar, International Organization for Standardization (ISO) Liaison Officer to ICAO**



Mr. R Rajeshkumar is the convener of ISO/IEC JTC1 SC17/WG3, the ISO body that creates the specifications for Traveller Identification. Within that group, he is also the leader of Task Force 5, which deals with the electronic part of the eMRTD. He is the editor of Doc 9303-9, Doc 9303-12, the specifications for Digital Travel Credentials (DTC), VDS-NC, 39794-5 Application Profile and ICAO Datastructure for Barcodes (IDB). He is an active participant in ICAO's New Technologies Working Group (NTWG) and Implementation and Capacity Building Working Group (ICBWG), and a member of the ICBWG sub-group examining non-compliant travel documents, with focus on issues related to eMRTDs and/or the digital PKI certificates associated with eMRTDs. Mr. Rajeshkumar helped develop an ICAO TRIP strategy course for ICAO Global Aviation Training, and is a Master Trainer for the same course. In 2023, Rajeshkumar was the recipient of ICAO TRIP Award of Excellence, which is bestowed in recognition of the outstanding contribution of individuals to the development, promotion and implementation of the Traveller Identification Programme as a pillar of enhanced civil aviation security and facilitation worldwide. Rajeshkumar is the Chief Executive of Auctorizium Pte Ltd, a Singapore-based company specialising in solutions for ePassport PKI and the validation of ePassports

## Session 6 Addressing Inadmissible Persons, Deportees, Refugees and Stateless Persons

### Ms. Maria Cristina Liliana Ioniță, Representative of Romania on the Council of ICAO



Ms. Maria Cristina Liliana Ioniță was appointed the Representative of Romania on the ICAO Council on 11 August 2023. -Ms. Ioniță has over 25 years of extensive experience in the civil aviation field and held various leadership positions in aviation domains such as: air operations, aerodromes, and in the last 10 years, regulations and oversight of the Air Navigation Service Provider in Romania in the Romanian Aeronautical Authority. She is also knowledgeable in safety management, air transport policies and statistics of the Air Navigation Services performance and charging scheme in the Single European Sky.-Ms. Ioniță has represented Romania in several Working Groups and was part of the Romanian delegation at many bilateral and multilateral meetings and negotiations at the International and European levels. She was the Manager and the Focal Point on different aviation subjects in relation to ICAO, European Commission, EUROCONTROL, EASA and Performance Review Body of the European Commission. Over the years, she has also collaborated with International associations like IATA and International telecommunication companies like SITA. -Ms. Ioniță holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees in aviation (1991 -1997) from the Faculty of Airspace Engineering - Politechnica University of Bucharest and she also holds a Bachelor's degree in International Relations and European Studies (2014 - 2017) from the Faculty of Juridical, Political and Administrative sciences - Spiru Haret University of Bucharest, encompassed by several courses in aviation, audit and project management.-Ms. Ioniță was born in Bucharest, Romania. She is married and has two children.

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### Mr. Nelson Goncalves, Head Legal Identity Unit, International Organization for Migration (IOM)



As the former Manager of the IOM African Capacity Building Centre, Nelson developed the IOM training manuals on Border Management, namely the Passport Examination Procedure Manual (PEPM) and the Document Examination Laboratory Manual for the Immigration Environment (DELMIE). He also coordinated the design and implementation of Facial Matching Systems and the PEPM III App. This new IOM On-device computation application verifies the integrity and identity matching of MRP's and e-MRP's by performing facial recognition offline. Nelson coordinated the development of IOM's Legal Identity Strategy (LIS), which focuses on facilitation and security aspects for global mobility. He is responsible for designing of IOM capacity development tools such as the Legal Identity Toolkit, the Legal Identity Master Class, the Legal Identity Roadshow, the Free Movement Zones the Biometrics Manual, the Compendium of Good Practices for Registration of Undocumented Migrants, amongst others. Nelson is currently developing the IOM Digital Identity manual and the subsequent mockup system for IOM Member States.

**Mr. Ahmed Mohsen, UNHCR Representative, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Qatar**



Mohsen has over 20 years of experience working in various operational contexts for UNHCR, serving in different managerial, legal, protection and external relations capacities in countries including Egypt, Eritrea, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, South Sudan, Sudan, and Syria. His most recent position was as Deputy Representative to the Gulf Cooperation Council Countries in Riyadh, KSA.

He holds three master's degrees, one in International Human Rights Law (MA) from the American University in Cairo (AUC), another in International Criminal Justice (LLM) from the University of London, and a third in Risk, Crisis, and Disaster Management (MSc) from the University of Leicester.

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**Mr. Saad Salem Al-Dosari, Assistant Director of Human Rights Department, Ministry of Interior, Qatar**



-Assistant Director of Human Rights Department - Ministry of Interior (since 2014 - present).

-Member of the National Committee for International Humanitarian Law (NCIHL).

-Member of the National Committee for Women, Children, Elderly, and Persons with Disabilities Affairs.

-Previously worked in Legal Affairs Department - Ministry of Interior (since 1999 - 2005).

-Currently working in Human Rights Department - Ministry of Interior (since 2005 - present).

-Participated in the Conferences of Arab Police and Security Leaders as well as the Conferences of Human Rights Officials in Arab Ministries of Interior.

-Participated in the discussion of periodic national reports regarding the state's implementation of human rights agreements.

-Participated in several seminars, workshops and conferences on human rights issues.

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**Ms. Linda Ristagno, Assistant Director, External Affairs, Infrastructure and Customer Experience, International Air Transport Association (IATA)**



Since 2018, Linda has passionately advocated for a safe and dignified customer experience, championing accessibility across all segments of the travel and tourism industry. Her involvement in the UN Tourism event, which led to the historic San Marino Declaration in 2023, firmly established IATA as a global leader for travel and tourism. In 2024, she had the privilege of speaking at the first-ever G7 Summit on Disability, proudly showcasing the aviation industry's commitment to accessible air travel. Linda serves as the Secretary of the IATA Working Group on Accessibility, co-chairs the US Department of Transportation Advisory Committee on Accessible Aviation and is a member of the newly formed Task and Finish Task Force under the UK Secretary of State for Transport. With an Executive master's degree in advocacy,

International Negotiation, and Policymaking from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, Linda balances her impactful career with the joys of being a mother to two wonderful girls.

## Session 7 Addressing Human Trafficking and Irregular Migration

**Mr. Sergio Martes**, Representative of Italy on the Council of ICAO



Born in Carbonia (Cagliari) on 24 march 1973, married with two children. He joined the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1997 and during these 26 years, he has been involved in a variety of areas dealing both with bilateral and multilateral decision-making process, related to the political relationships, the economic development, the Consular issues and the Human resources policies.

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**Mrs. Simona Ardivino**, Head of Unit Migration Management Response and Counter-Smuggling, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs (DG HOME), European Commission



Since March 2022, Simona Ardivino is the Head of the unit responsible for Migration Management Response and Counter-Smuggling in the European Commission's Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs (DG HOME). As of 2019 she has been deputy Head of unit in DG HOME in charge of migration management with a focus on the situation of Member States at the southern external border of the EU, and prior to that she has worked at the Commission on various aspects of migration policy and law including integration and legal migration, search and rescue, counter-smuggling and counter-trafficking. She has also worked as an administrator at the Committee of the Regions on regional and local policies in the field of justice and home affairs. Before joining the EU in 2007, Ms Ardivino has worked for the International Development Law Organization IDLO, with a focus on the rule of law and development cooperation with West African countries. A graduate in political science, she holds a PhD in International Human Rights from the Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies in Pisa, and a Master of Arts in European Studies from the College of Europe in Bruges. She has teaching and research experience, including at the European Court of Human Rights and as a consultant for research institutions.



## **Dr. Sabelo Mbokazi, Head of Labour, Employment and Migration Division, African Union**



Sabelo Mbokazi holds PhD in Cybersecurity focusing on Public Policy (Walden University, USA) and MCom (University of KwaZulu Natal, RSA). He is working for the African Union Commission as Head of Labour, Employment & Migration. He has gained extensive experience in Public Policy formulation, Research, Analysis and Advisory role at Head of State and Minister levels. He provided expert advice to guide the formulation Trafficking in Persons (TiP) and Smuggling of Migrants (SoM) continental policies. He is charged with a responsibility to provide strategic direction to advance African Union Migration Policy Framework as well as Labour and Employment policies toward achieving Agenda 2063 continental strategic vision. Dr. Mbokazi spearheaded several continental initiatives including establishment of

Africa Migration Data and Research Centres in Mali, Morocco and Khartoum, AU-Gulf Labour Migration Dialogue. Dr. Mbokazi has extensive experience in multilateral institutions, including working for SADC Parliamentary Forum and UN-IOM. He is the current Co-Chair of AU-EU continent-to-continent (C2C) Migration and Mobility Dialogue. Furthermore, Dr. Mbokazi provides strategic leadership to AU-EU-UN Tripartite Taskforce which coordinates repatriation of stranded migrants in Libya and along the Mediterranean area. Dr. Mbokazi represents AU and serves and contribute to Migration, Labour and Social Protection policy discourse in global technical working groups and Communities of Practice (CoP), including World Economic Forum Leadership Council, UN Taskforce on Social and Solidarity Economy.

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## **Mr. Bhaskar Mishra, Global Technical Lead, Legal Identity, United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF)**



Bhaskar Mishra works as the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics and Legal Identity Specialist with UNICEF HQ, New York. He also supports UNICEF's work on the UN Legal Identity Agenda. From 2016 to 2021, Bhaskar worked with UNICEF Tanzania CO as the Child Protection Specialist for Birth & Death Registration, supporting the Government of Tanzania in scaling up the simplified birth and death registration system. Previously, Bhaskar worked as the Deputy Registrar General responsible for implementing India's birth and death registration system.

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## **Mr. Luis Benavides, United Nations Security Council Expert on Haiti**



Luis Benavides holds a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Law from the Faculty of Law at the National Autonomous University of Mexico, as well as a Master's and Doctorate in International Law from the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva, Switzerland. His academic background has laid a strong foundation for a distinguished career in international law and human rights. He has worked in a variety of international and national institutions, including the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Switzerland, REDRESS in the United Kingdom, the Administrative Tribunal of the World Bank in the United States, and Mexico's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and National Human Rights Commission. In the field of multilateral work, Mr. Benavides was appointed in

2013 to the United Nations Security Council Panel of Experts on Sudan. He later served on the Panel of Experts for the Central African Republic from 2016 until February 2018. Since 2022, he has been serving as the Humanitarian Affairs Expert on the Panel of Experts on Haiti. In each of these appointments, he was designated by the UN Secretary-General as an Expert on humanitarian issues. Mr. Benavides has also been active in academia, teaching international

law in public and private institutions, both in Mexico and abroad. He is a current member of the Editorial Committee of the Mexican Yearbook of International Law and a former member of the Editorial Committee of International Legal Materials. His areas of specialization include International Human Rights Law, International Criminal Law, and International Humanitarian Law.

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## Session 8 Assistance to Aircraft Accident Victims and their Families

### Mr. Pascal Luciani, Deputy Director, Air Navigation and Aviation Safety, ICAO



Pascal Luciani is an engineer with 25 years of experience in transport in the civil administration of France and international organizations, 15 years of which in civil aviation. Prior to joining ICAO as Deputy Director for Air Navigation and Aviation Safety, he served as Deputy Director for the French Safety Oversight Authority from 2018 to 2022. From 2014 to 2018 Pascal was the Aviation Counselor at the Permanent Representation for France with the European Union, covering all fields of aviation and was also responsible for Shipping. In 2008 he was tasked with creating the Sustainable Aviation Department, DGAC, France, which he headed from 2008 to 2013. Pascal's experience in public service before joining the aviation sector includes Road Infrastructure and Road Safety (1997 – 2001), Port Infrastructure and Development (2001- 2005). He also served for two years as technical advisor for the Ministers of Environment and Transport (2005 – 2007). Pascal also headed the Modernization Mission in charge of supervising the merging of the Ministries of Transport and Environment in France (2007-2008).

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### Mr. David Benito Astudillo, Director General, National Civil Aviation Administration, Spain



Born in Madrid in 1971, David Benito Astudillo holds a degree in Aeronautical Engineering from the Polytechnic University of Madrid and is a career civil servant in the Aeronautical Engineering Corps. He began his professional career as a consultant in the field of information technology and telecommunications, and later worked as an advisor on air transport regulation in the public company SENASA, until he joined the Aeronautical Engineering Corps in 2010. As a civil servant, he has held the positions of national civil aviation security auditor at the Spanish Aviation Safety and Security Agency (AESA), head of the international agreements area at the Directorate General of Civil Aviation and, since July 2015, Deputy Director General of Air Transport. In 2022, he was appointed Director General of Civil Aviation and President of AESA. In recognition of his work, he was awarded the Officer's Cross of the Order of Civil Merit in July 2019.

**Ms. Pilar Vera Palmés, President AVJK5022 Accident Victims Association and Chair, Air Crash Victims' Families' Federation International (ACVFFI)**



President of the Association of People Affected by Flight JK5022 since 2010. Chairwoman of Air Crash Victims Families' Federation International, which she founded in Madrid in 2015, with the Associations of Germany and Pakistan. ACVFFI was recognized by the ICAO Council in 2016 as the first Organization to bring together victims and families of air accidents. Founder and President of the A20 Aviation Safety Foundation, created in 2023 to collect the legacy of her advocacy at the head of previous Organizations and ensure their continuity. Since 2010 she has participated at ICAO with important achievements; the approval of ICAO Victim and Family Assistance Policy Document 9998 and its inclusion as a recommendation and then as a standard in Annex 9, in the

USOAP Program; the Manual 9973; the Declaration of February 20 as the International Day of Victims and Families of Air Accidents; Ensuring planning of Symposia every 3 years (2021 and 2024) dedicated to promoting dialogue between victims and families with industry, States, airports, airlines, media, insurers, etc..., to propose lessons learned and their solutions. She has participated as speaker in numerous national, European and international events, carrying the message of the lessons learned in air disasters to improve management in emergencies and avoid additional suffering to people who suffer them in the future. She works in "the memory of those who died in air accidents for the safety of aviation users-professionals".

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**Ms. Aysha Al Hamili, Assistant Director General, Air Accident Investigations Sector, United Arab Emirates (UAE)**



Captain Aysha Al Hamili was appointed Assistant Director General –Air Accident Investigation Sector (AAIS) in April 2021, the sole authority of air accident investigations in the UAE. Since then, she has introduced many strategies to position the AAIS within the top organizations globally. Al Hamili made history at 16 by becoming the first female pilot in the UAE in 1998. This achievement set the stage for her future success in the aviation industry. Alhameli broke the record for being the youngest Permanent Representative in ICAO Council throughout the organization's history. Her tenure at the ICAO spanned over a decade (2009-2020). She led several panels, committees, task forces, and working groups to

establish new ICAO strategies and improve the existing ones. Before that, Al Hamili established the Air Transport Department, where she led more than 80 bilateral and multilateral agreements for three years. Her first post at the GCAA was as Air Accidents and Regulations Senior Officer. In 2019 She was awarded an Honorary Doctorate Degree from Aegean University (Greece) for her contributions to the world air transport, Air and Space law post-graduate certificate from McGill (Canada), a Master's in Air Transport Management from City University (London), a Bachelor of Social and Behavioral Sciences from Zayed University (UAE). In addition, she holds CPL and ATPL from the UAE and Jordan.



## Mr. Albert Urdiroz, Deputy Head of Accident Investigations and Prevention, Airbus Commercial Aircraft



Albert Urdiroz joined Airbus in the mid-80's. Initially working in the Test Centre and in Customer Engineering Services as a Flight Controls Engineer and Flight Data Analyst, in 2004, he moved to the Aviation Safety department of Airbus Commercial Aircraft as an Incident and Accident Investigator, a position that he continues to develop today. Within his 30 years of investigation experience, he has acted as Airbus Lead Investigator in a number of major cases on civil, military transport and flight test aircraft. As a Senior Expert, he bridges with the sister organisations Airbus Helicopters, Airbus Defence & Space, and the cousin ATR, to ensure synergy and state-of-the-art response to a serious incident or an accident. He has developed internal and external investigation training. Albert Urdiroz acts as the Deputy of the Head of Accident Investigations & Prevention at Airbus Commercial Aircraft, on investigation matters. Albert Urdiroz represents the manufacturers and service providers at the ICAO AIGP, the accident investigation panel, as a member of the ASD and of the ICCAIA, respectively the Aerospace, Security and Defence Industries Association of Europe and the International Organization for Aerospace Industry Associations.

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## Mr. Richard Ossendorp, Representative of Netherlands to ICAO



Richard Ossendorp is the Representative of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to ICAO. Before he became a member of the ICAO Council, Richard headed the negotiating teams for transport, environment and climate action at the Dutch Permanent Representation to the European Union. During this time he was deeply involved in EU transport policy, including civil aviation. Richard's home-base is the Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management in The Hague, where he fulfilled various management positions before moving to Brussels. Furthermore, as senior policy advisor at the Directorate-General for Civil Aviation, Richard previously worked on a broad range of international policy questions relating to aviation safety, security, air navigation services and airspace design, passenger rights, market access and environmental regulation.

## Session 9 Capacity Building and Implementation Support for States

### Mr. Jorge Vargas, Director, Capacity Development and Implementation, ICAO



Mr. Jorge Vargas was appointed as Director of the Capacity Development and Implementation (CDI) Bureau, former Technical Cooperation Bureau of ICAO in May 2018. Mr. Vargas has over twenty-eight years of experience in the international scope and context of civil aviation and has held several leadership positions including Executive President of the Central American Corporation for Air Navigation Services (COCESNA), Director of the Agency on International Safety for Central America (ACSA), Deputy Director of Civil Aviation of Costa Rica, Member of the Technical Council of Civil Aviation (CETAC), Flight Standards Coordinator, Chief of Air Navigation and Air Traffic Controller. Throughout his career in civil aviation, Mr. Vargas has exercised leadership responsibilities in managing complex portfolios including, among others, civil aviation master planning, economic regulation of air transport, multilateral strategies and negotiations, and capacity building of civil aviation authorities. Mr. Vargas has been a champion in promoting efficient, safe, sustainable and environmentally responsible civil aviation sector. He also has extensive experience in project management and audit of States' civil aviation capabilities on safety and security based on international civil aviation standards and recommended practices. Mr. Vargas holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from the Universidad Latina of Costa Rica and a Master's Degree in Business Administration from INCAE Business School in Managua, Nicaragua.

### Ms. Florence Cormon Veyssi re, Representative of France on the Council of ICAO



Ms. Florence Cormon-Veyssi re is Ambassador, Permanent Representative of France to the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), since August 22, 2024.

Before, Ms. Cormon-Veyssi re had a distinguished career at the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs:

- Negotiation Advisor, Responsible for monitoring the work of the Finance and Administrative Commission and for monitoring scientific programs, Permanent Representation of France to UNESCO (1996-1999),
- Asia and Oceania Directorate, Far East Sub-Directorate, Responsible for Europe-Asia Dialogue and member of the China team, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (2002-2005),
- European Cooperation Directorate, Sub-Directorate for External Relations of the European Communities, Responsible for the Maghreb/Mashreq region and development cooperation issues, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (2005-2007),
- Negotiating Advisor on Economic, Social, and Development Issues, Permanent Representation of France to the United Nations (New York) (2008-2010),
- Embassy of France to the Kingdom of Belgium, Number 2 (2010-2014),
- General Secretariat for European Affairs, Head of Sector responsible for Neighborhood Policy (Eastern Europe, Mediterranean), Sanctions, Focal Point for the Preparation of Foreign Affairs, General Affairs, and European Council Meetings, Office of the Prime Minister (2014-2016),

- Directorate for the United Nations, International Organizations, Human Rights, and Francophonie (NUOI), Sub-Directorate for Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs, Deputy Director, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (2016-2021),

- Directorate for the United Nations, International Organizations, Human Rights, and Francophonie (NUOI), Deputy Director, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (2021-2024)

Ms. Cormon-Veyssière holds a Bachelor's degree in Oriental Languages and Civilizations (Chinese) from the National Institute of Oriental Languages and Civilizations (INALCO) and a Diploma from the Institute of Political Studies (IEP) in Paris.

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### **Mr. Celier Aparicio Arispe Rosas, Representative of Bolivia on the Council of ICAO**



Celier Aparicio Arispe Rosas is a professional with an outstanding career in the field of aviation and aeronautical management. With a background in Aeronautical Sciences and Auditing, complemented by postgraduate studies in administration, strategic planning, and safety, he has developed a career focused on the modernization and regulation of the aviation sector. His experience includes specialization in air operations, operational safety, and the development of policies for civil aviation. He has held key positions in aeronautical administration, serving as the Director General of the Civil Aviation Authority of Bolivia (DGAC) during several terms. During his leadership, he worked on implementing international standards and improving the supervision of civil aviation, contributing to the strengthening of the sector in the country. Currently, he

represents the Plurinational State of Bolivia at the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) in Montreal, Canada, where he participates in the formulation of strategies and regulations for the development of global aviation. His knowledge and experience continue to be key in promoting safety and efficiency in air transport.

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### **Mr. Dion Chamberlain, Chairperson of the Implementation and Capacity Building Working Group (ICBWG) of the TAG/TRIP**



Dion has worked in DIA since 2003 in leadership roles spanning travel documents, citizenship, digital identity, biometrics and civil registration. Dion is the Chair of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) Implementation and Capacity Building Working Group (ICBWG) and represents New Zealand on the ICAO Facilitation Panel (FAL) and the ICAO Technical Advisory Group for Traveller Identification (TAG-TRIP). He also leads the policy sub-group for the development of the ICAO Digital Travel Credentials. Dion has been editor or contributor to key ICAO guidance across all the five elements of the ICAO TRIP Strategy, is experienced in governance roles both inside and outside Government, and currently sits on the Board of Directors for the Biometrics Institute. He oversees New Zealand's contribution to ISO SC17 (Cards and Security

Devices for Personal Identification) and SC37 (Biometrics) technical standards working groups. Dion has also led assistance and capacity building missions in the South Pacific, focussing on the implementation of new passport and civil registration systems, and supporting legislative and operational policy change for traveller identification and facilitation.

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**Ms. Wafa Abdulla Al Obaidli, Senior Director Oversight and Inspection, Aviation Security Affairs, General Civil Aviation Authority, United Arab Emirates**



Mrs. Wafa Abdullah Al Obaidli is currently the Senior Director of the Department of Oversight & Inspections within the Aviation Security Affairs Sector in the General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA) of the United Arab Emirates (UAE). She has 21 years of experience in the field of Civil Aviation Security, Facilitation and Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air. She holds a Master's Degree in Strategic and Security Studies from the UAE National Defense College. She is the first Emirati women who, specializes in the fields of Aviation Security and Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air. She is also the first Emirati women, who was certified as a National AVSEC Auditor. She was nominated by the Government of UAE as a member of the ICAO Facilitation Panel. She the Chairperson of the ICAO Working Group on Facilitation Capacity Building and the

Chairperson of the UAE innovation aviation security and facilitation committee. She contributes in the ICAO panels and working groups such as Aviation Security Panel, Facilitation Panel, Dangerous Goods Panel and represents UAE in other working groups and international forums. As part of her duties as responsibilities, she is responsible for providing aviation security safeguards, measures and procedures at all international and domestic civil airports within the UAE in order to safeguard civil aviation operations against acts of unlawful interference. This is achieved by insure compliance and undertaking quality control activities on a regular basis to determine the status of implementation of the aviation security measures in accordance with national requirements.

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**Ms. Olive Lumonya, Deputy Director General, Civil Aviation Authority, Uganda**



Ms. Olive Birungi Lumonya is the Deputy Director General of Uganda Civil Aviation authority. She is an accomplished leader with over 25 years' experience in the Private, Public and NGO sectors in Uganda with enormous corporate governance experience as Board member in over 10 organizations including Banks, Insurance, International and local NGOs among others. Recently, Ms. Lumonya received the Global Women Leadership Impact award by the Centre for Economic and Leadership Development CELD in partnership with the City University of New York (CUNY)'s Women's Centre at an event hosted at the sidelines of the UN General Assembly 2024 in New York. In 2022, she received the Africa Women in Leadership award in Mauritius. Olive holds a master's in business administration degree from

ESAMI, y, a Chartered Marketer (UK), a Certified Balanced Score Card Champion (USA) and an Africa Board Fellow (ABF) and holds a degree in Mass Communication from Makerere University Kampala. She is an alumnus of the London Business School studying Markets driving forces. She joined the aviation industry in 2014 and has gained significant knowledge and continues to learn. She has attended several leadership programmes, governance, strategy in the Aviation Industry. Prior to joining UCAA, she served as the Country Director for SOS Children's Villages for 7 years, Head of Marketing and Communications with the National Social Security Fund for 9 years Brand Marketing Manager South African Breweries (SAB-Miller) Limited for 10 years.

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**Ms. Anita Adjei Nmashie, Representative of Ghana on the Council of ICAO**





## Session 10 Passenger Data Systems

### Mr. Michael Gill, Director, Legal Bureau (LEB), ICAO



Michael Gill is a UK and French national. He was appointed as Director, Legal Affairs & External Relations Bureau at ICAO, the organisation's senior legal official leading the legal, external relations and communications functions, in September 2021. The Bureau advises the ICAO Secretary General and Council on constitutional, administrative and procedural matters, as well as substantive international and air law issues. It also coordinates ICAO's relations with states, other UN organisations and international bodies and provides policy advice on political developments affecting ICAO's work. The Director serves as the Secretary to relevant bodies of ICAO's triennial Assembly and Legal Committee. From 2013 until his appointment to ICAO, Michael Gill served in the dual roles of Director, Aviation Environment at the International Air

Transport Association (IATA) and Executive Director of the Air Transport Action Group (ATAG) in Geneva. From 2007-2013, he was Senior Legal Counsel in IATA, supporting its external affairs portfolio. Before joining IATA, Michael was an aviation lawyer in private practice in London and Paris. He holds law degrees from King's College, London and the Sorbonne University in Paris, as well as a Master's degree from the University of Edinburgh. He is admitted as a Solicitor in England & Wales and as an Avocat in France. Michael is a Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society and former Chairman of its Air Law Group and a Committee member of the European Air Law Association. He has been a contributing editor of Shawcross & Beaumont on Air Law since 2011.

### Mr. Motaz Al-Rababah, Countering Terrorist Travel, United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT)



Mr. Motaz Al-Rababah currently serves as a Programme Management Officer in the Countering Terrorist Travel Section within the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT). In this role, he leads the coordination and implementation of the Counter-Terrorist Travel Programme across the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. He also oversees the pre-implementation phase for all new member states joining the programme, ensuring their smooth integration and alignment with international standards for border security and counterterrorism efforts. Before his current position, Mr. Al-Rababah successfully led the implementation of the UNOCT project in Sudan, where he worked closely with national authorities to enhance their counterterrorism capabilities. Mr. Al-Rababah's career also includes

significant experience in law enforcement and peacebuilding. From 2017 to 2019, he served as a police prosecutor within the Public Security Directorate of Jordan, contributing to national efforts in law enforcement, justice, and counterterrorism. From 2015 to 2017, he worked with the United States Institute of Peace, focusing on community policing in the context of countering violent extremism. In this role, he led initiatives to strengthen community resilience and engagement in preventing radicalization. His extensive law enforcement experience also includes assignments with the United Nations from 1998 to 2016, where he contributed to global peacekeeping and security efforts in various regions, including Kosovo, Haiti, and Liberia. Mr. Al-Rababah holds a PhD in Political Science, as well as master's degrees in Policing, Intelligence, and Counter Terrorism from Macquarie University in Australia. Fluent in both Arabic and English.

## Lieutenant Colonel Michael Jones, Executive Director, Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (IMPACS) of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM)



Lt. Col. Michael Jones joined CARICOM IMPACS in March 2009 as the Deputy Director of the Joint Regional Communications Centre (JRCC) and was promoted to Director the following year in 2010. On the retirement of the previous Executive Director, he was granted permission to act in that capacity in January 2018 while maintaining his substantive duties as Chief Operations Officer (COO), Border Security at the JRCC based in Barbados. He was confirmed as Executive Director in March 2021. A national of Barbados, he holds a baccalaureate degree in Mathematics and Computer Science, and a MSc in Project Management and Evaluation, both from the University of the West Indies (UWI), Cave Hill

Campus and a Master of Research, Business Administration from the University of Liverpool. He has been a serving member of the Barbados Defence Force as a Commissioned Officer (Reserves) for the last 27 years and served as the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee for the Force up until June 2023. He previously taught in the areas of Information Systems and Computer Applications for the Business Management Studies Department and currently serves as a member of the inaugural Advisory Committee of the Centre for Biosecurity Studies at Cave Hill Campus. Under his tenure of leadership, a strategic plan has been developed to guide the transformation of the organisation which has, in accordance with the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 16 and 17 in particular, adopted the motto of “*Mutual Security through Partnerships*”.

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## Mr. Fabrizio DiCarlo, Senior Coordinator of Police Data Management, International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol)



Mr. Fabrizio Di Carlo is Senior Coordinator of Police Data Management at the INTERPOL General Secretariat. He supervises the Database and Criminal Data Management Branches, while also serving on the Committee for the Revision of the INTERPOL Rules on the Processing of Data. He is in charge of INTERPOL's main border management databases, in particular FIELDS (Frontex INTERPOL Electronic Library Document System) - focusing on bringing fraudulent travel document information to first line border/police officials. Mr. Di Carlo also represents the organization within international fora to strengthen the security of international borders and to prevent counterfeiting, forgery or fraudulent use of identity papers and travel documents by enhancing passenger security procedures. He holds a master degree in Strategic Border Management, university degrees in both Political Science

and Law, and a Junior degree in Engineering focusing in Telecommunication. Before joining INTERPOL he worked in Italy for the Polizia di Stato from 1993 to 2009 where he held numerous roles in international cooperation and operational areas.

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## Ms. Sabine Kloss-Tullius, Head of Applications Processing Unit, Frontex-ETIAS



Ms. Sabine Kloss-Tullius is the Head of the Applications Processing Unit of the ETIAS Central Unit at the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex). ETIAS stands for European Travel and Information and Authorisation System. Starting in autumn 2026, some 1.4 billion people from over 60 visa-exempt countries are required to have a travel authorisation to enter 30 European countries for a short stay. Sabine has been involved in this project since February 2022, contributing to the setting up of the unit structure, recruiting operators that will be processing ETIAS applications, following closely the legal and regulatory development of ETIAS and Interoperability. Prior to taking over ETIAS responsibilities, she was leading the Task Force responsible for preparing and deploying the first European Border and Coast Guard Standing Corps; before that, she managed units in administrative

areas such as Finance, Procurement, Corporate Services or Human Resources. Before joining Frontex in 2005, she worked for the European Commission in Poland as Project Manager for Justice and Home Affairs projects in view of preparing Poland's accession to the EU. She holds a Master in Political Science, Contemporary History and French and also graduated from Sciences Po in Paris.

## Session 11 Accessibility in International Civil Aviation

### Dr. Olumuyiwa Benard Aliu, Lifetime Goodwill Ambassador of ICAO



Dr. Olumuyiwa Benard Aliu is the founder and President of the International Partners for Aviation Development, Innovation and Sustainability (iPADIS). iPADIS partners with governments, global and regional organizations, industry and civil society stakeholders to promote innovative, inclusive and sustainable development of international civil aviation and its contribution to peace, economic prosperity and social progress around the world. Prior to this, Dr. Aliu was the fifth President of the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) from January 2014 to December 2019. He has been recognized globally for refocusing ICAO on the assistance and capacity building aspects of its mandate under the highly successful and acclaimed ‘*No Country Left Behind*’ initiative as well as for his diplomatic

determination and leadership in forging global consensus for the historic adoption of the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme in Aviation (CORSIA) aimed at reducing the impact of aviation on climate change. He further led ICAO’s prioritization on technological innovation and its critical importance to ensuring sustainable air transport progress in the years to come. Upon completion of his term of office he was named Lifetime Goodwill Ambassador of ICAO, and the ICAO Museum was named after him as ‘*Olumuyiwa Benard Aliu Museum*’. Dr Aliu has also been bestowed with numerous international honours and awards for his many notable accomplishments including the Nigeria’s National Honour, Commander of the Order of the Federal Republic (CFR) and the renaming of the Akure Airport, in Nigeria as “Olumuyiwa Bernard Aliu Airport, Akure”. Dr. Aliu’s extensive professional experience in civil aviation spans over 40 years. He was the Permanent Representative of Nigeria on the Council of ICAO from January 2005 until end of 2013. He also served Nigeria in various positions of increasing responsibility in the areas of safety oversight, economic regulation and negotiations of bilateral and multilateral agreements, including as Chief Airworthiness Surveyor, Director Air Transport Regulation and Technical Adviser to the Minister of Aviation. Dr. Aliu graduated in 1983 with MSc. Degree in Aeronautical Engineering from the National Aviation University, Kiev, and further obtained a PhD in 1987. He holds an Aircraft Maintenance Engineer’s Licence, an IATA Diploma in Civil Aviation Management as well as a Graduate Certificate in Air and Space Law from McGill University, Canada. He is a fellow of many academic and professional bodies.

### Ms. France Pégeot, CEO, Canadian Transportation Agency



France Pégeot is the Chair and CEO of the Canadian Transportation Agency (CTA), an independent regulator and quasi-judicial tribunal which contributes to a competitive, economic, efficient and accessible national transportation system with the responsibility to protect the human right of persons with disabilities to an accessible transportation network. Highly committed to public service for over 35 years, and an agent of change within the organizations where she works, France has diversified management experience, including in the fields of regulation and economic development. Some of the departments where she has worked include, Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Agriculture and Agrifood Canada, Justice Canada, and Industry Canada. She is the Chair of the OECD’s

Network of Economic Regulators. She holds a Master of Policy Analysis and a Bachelor of Food Science and Technology, both from Laval University, Quebec city.

### **Mr. Turki Ahmed Halabi, Consultant, Disability Inclusion, Saudi Arabia**



Turki Halabi is a Disability Inclusion Consultant from Saudi Arabia with over 20 years of experience in strategic planning, diversity, and inclusion. As a person with a disability, he brings both professional expertise and lived experience to advancing accessibility in institutional and service environments, including the aviation sector. Turki collaborates with public, private and NGO's entities to develop policies and services that address the diverse needs of persons with disabilities. He is a strong advocate for inclusive design and multi-stakeholder cooperation to build more equitable and accessible air transport systems.

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### **Ms. Linda Ristagno, Assistant Director, External Affairs, Infrastructure and Customer Experience, International Air Transport Association (IATA)**



Since 2018, Linda has passionately advocated for a safe and dignified customer experience, championing accessibility across all segments of the travel and tourism industry. Her involvement in the UN Tourism event, which led to the historic San Marino Declaration in 2023, firmly established IATA as a global leader for travel and tourism. In 2024, she had the privilege of speaking at the first-ever G7 Summit on Disability, proudly showcasing the aviation industry's commitment to accessible air travel. Linda serves as the Secretary of the IATA Working Group on Accessibility, co-chairs the US Department of Transportation Advisory Committee on Accessible Aviation and is a member of the newly formed Task and Finish Task Force under the UK Secretary of State for Transport. With an Executive master's degree in advocacy,

International Negotiation, and Policymaking from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, Linda balances her impactful career with the joys of being a mother to two wonderful girls.

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### **Mr. Roberto Castiglioni, Director, Reduced Mobility Rights Ltd., London**



Roberto, a distinguished aviation accessibility consultant at EasyJet Assisted Travel Advisory Board and a senior researcher at INCLAVI, an Erasmus+ funded project, brings over a decade of experience to his role. His primary focus is championing and advancing equal access to air travel for all. His zeal lies in transforming aviation into a more inclusive and enjoyable experience, ensuring that individuals with disabilities and reduced mobility can travel with dignity and confidence. Numerous achievements mark Roberto's professional journey. He has effectively collaborated with regulators, airports, airlines, and other stakeholders, crafting and implementing accessibility solutions that strike a balance between service excellence and cost.

His contributions to policy and standards development at national and international levels, along with his leadership in advisory boards and panels, underscore his ability to navigate complex environments. In 2022, Roberto's dedication and contributions were recognised by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II with the MBE, a testament to his services to aviation accessibility. His goal, one that inspires hope, is to make flying accessible to everyone, one flight at a time.





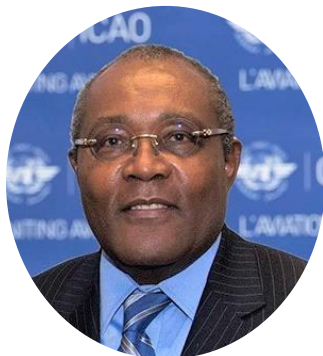
Mark De Laurentiis is the Director of the ENAC Protection of Passenger Rights Department since 2021. In April 2024 he has been appointed as Chair of the ECAC Facilitation Sub-Group on the Transport of Persons with Disabilities and Reduced Mobility (PRMs). Mark has worked in aviation since 2008. He has been Head of Passenger Rights and Airport Quality Services Unit since June 2018. Previously he has been Director of the Air Transport and Environment Regulation Department and for more than ten years he has been involved in economic and charges regulation in air transport, statistics and economic studies at the Economic Analysis and Airport Charges Department in ENAC. He participated in several international fora (ICAO, ECAC, DG MOVE, IATA, Eurocontrol) and, acting as expert, he has joined two Twinnings, in Egypt and in Jordan, one TAIEX in

North Macedonia and has covered the role of coordinator of an ECAC Expert Group on PRM matters. In 2018 he has been the National Coordinator for the ECAC Quality Assessment Programme for Passengers with disabilities and reduced mobility. Graduated in Economics of International Commerce and Currency Markets and has a postgraduate degree in Communication and Business Administration. Before joining the air transport sector he worked as consultant in management and marketing companies and in the banking sector.

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## Session 12 Maintaining Health and Sustaining Safe International Air Transport During Public Health Emergencies of International Concern Affecting Air Travel

**Mr. Esono Anguesomo**, Representative of Equatorial Guinea on the Council of ICAO, Chairperson of the Council Aviation Recovery Task Force (CART)



From 1985 to 2014, Ambassador Esono Anguesomo, a former Senior Officer in the United Nations, has worked in Administration and Human Resources Departments within the following Organizations and Specialized Agencies of the United Nations Common System: International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), United Nations Human Settlements (Habitat), United Nations Environmental Programme, Department of Peacekeeping Operations, and International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and former Yugoslavia. In 2014, Ambassador Esono Anguesomo, Senior Officer from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, was appointed Permanent Representative of Equatorial Guinea to ICAO, Montreal, Canada. In 2019, he was elected member of the ICAO Council and re-elected for the 2022-2025 triennium to

represent Equatorial Guinea, as well as the eleven (11) ICAO Members States on Rotation for Central Africa Subregion. During this period, he has been performing the following functions: he served as 3rd Vice-President (2019-2020) and 2nd Vice-President (2021-2022) of the ICAO Council; Chaired the following ICAO Committees and Working Groups: Air Transport Committee (ATC), Council Aviation Recovery Task Force (CART): Phase II and III, Small Working Group on the High Level Meeting on Long-term Aspirational Goal (HLM on LTAG - 2022), Human Resource Committee (HRC), and Committee on Governance (COG). He has also been Member of the following committees: Relations with Host Country (RHCC), Technical Cooperation (TCC), Cooperation with External Parties (CCEP), Finance (FIN), and the Small Group on the Ethics Framework Review. He currently is the 1st Vice-President (2024-2025) and chairs the Council Aviation Recovery Task Force (CART) and the Small Group on Selection of External Auditor. Ambassador Esono Anguesomo is a member of the Equatorial Guinea Diplomatic Corps and Member of the College of Masters and Doctors of Pure Philosophy and Private/Public International Law. He holds a Master's Degree in Pure Philosophy and Private/Public International Law from Complutense University, Madrid, Spain, and a Diploma in Aviation Management from IATA, Montreal, Canada

**Dr. Ninglan Wang**, Head Border Health, Points of Entry and Mass Gatherings, World Health Organization (WHO)



Ninglan Wang holds a Medical Degree from Tongji Medical University, China, an MSc in public health from London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK, and a Master of Art from Jinan University, China. She is the Unit Head of Border Health and Mass Gathering unit in the Healthy Emergency Program in WHO HQ. Ninglan has a long record of local, national, and international experience in capacity building for cross-border risk management and in providing policy, guidance and evidence for international travel including Points of Entry, population movements and mass gathering events. She started her career as a front-line health professional working at PoE, international travel health Clinics, engaged in the preparation and delivery of mass gathering events including Beijing Summer Olympics in 2008. She was in the national delegation during the

negotiation process of the IHR (2005). Ninglan joined WHO in 2009, her main role has been to support countries in strengthening public health preparedness, readiness and response related to PoE, population movement and for mass gathering events, in close collaboration with regions and partners. She has been dedicated to fostering

partnerships and served as an interface for health across partner organizations that are relevant to these areas of work, as well as peer community on the technical level. She has contributed to coordinated global preparedness and response during Pandemic H1N1, EVD, COVID-19, MoPX, MVD.

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### **Dr. Ansa Jordaan, Chief, Aviation Medicine Section, ICAO**



Dr Ansa Jordaan joined ICAO in October 2015 as the Chief of the Aviation Medicine Section, responsible for aviation medical standards and the CAPSCA programme. She is a medical doctor with two post-graduate degrees (Aerospace Medicine and Occupational Health). She established the Aviation Medicine department in the South African CAA, after having worked in the South African Military Institute of Aviation Medicine. She was also the Medical Director South African Airways, Project Director of Occupational Health for Transnet Freight Rail, Medical Director of Occupational Health at International SOS and an Independent Consultant in the aviation industry.

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### **Dr. Soha Al-Bayat, Department director at Ministry of Public Health, Qatar**



Dr. Soha Albayat, Director of the emergency health department at MOPH and former head of Vaccination at the Ministry of Public Health, Qatar . To her, public health and vaccination is not a job, but a passion and she is a strong advocate of vaccination. She is a community medicine consultant with an Arab board degree in community medicine. Dr. Soha also holds several other degrees. She is trained in aviation medicine, and occupational medicine, holds a master's degree in healthcare management from the Royal College of Surgeons Ireland, a Diploma in travel medicine from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons Glasgow, and is a fellow of the faculty of travel medicine in

the same college. Dr. Soha is a NITAG member and has worked on the introduction of new vaccines like the HPV vaccine in Qatar along with colleagues in NITAG, MOPH, and HMC. Dr. Soha has also worked in the aviation industry for 14 years prior to joining MoPH.

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### **Ms. Diantha Raadgers, Coordinating Senior Policy Advisor, Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management Directorate General of Transport and Aviation Safety and Security Unit, Kingdom of the Netherlands**



Mrs. Raadgers is an experienced international regulator with a demonstrated history in developing global policies, standards and recommendations. She has more than 30 years' experience as regulator within the Ministry of Transport, Directorate Civil Aviation, in the Netherlands. Preceded by 6 years' operational experience as Head of the Transport Inspection at Amsterdam Airport Schiphol. She has contributed to or performed as chairman of a variety of ICAO, UN and European working groups among which the ICAO Annex 18 Panel Transport of Dangerous Goods (Vice-Chairman), ICAO Annex 9 Taskforce on COVID (Chairman 2 of the 4 workstreams), ECAC Working Group on Assistance to

Aircraft Victims and their Families (Chairman), ICAO Annex 9 Facilitation Panel, United Nations Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and IATA ICAO WCO Contact Committee on API and PNR.

## Dr. Bargo Yousif, National Coordinator, CAPSCA, Chad Civil Aviation Authority



Emergency Medicine Consultant | Aviation Medicine Specialist | Chairperson, CAPSCA Africa Bureau Dr. Bargo Mahamat Yousif is a specialist in emergency and aviation medicine, serving as Chairperson of the CAPSCA Africa Bureau, Aviation Medicine Assessor for Chad Civil Aviation Authority and Head of Medical Services for the Office of the Prime Minister of Chad. He is an Aviation Medical Examiner (FAA, DGAC France), member of SOFRAMAS (Société française de médecine aérospatiale) and The Aerospace Medical Association (AsMA) and Co-Founder & President of the African Aerospace Medicine Association (AFRASMA). With expertise in public health risk management, aviation health policy, and medical insurance, has actively contributed to ICAO Facilitation discussions. He was the President of the Organizing Committee for the 10th CAPSCA Africa Conference in N'Djamena, a speaker at the 9th CAPSCA Africa Conference in Mombasa, and moderator of the Public Health Management session at the ICAO Facilitation Regional Forum in Yaoundé. A member of the International Academy of Aviation and Space Medicine (IAASM), he will present at the ICAO Facilitation Conference 2025 in Doha on sustaining safe international air transport during public health emergencies. He holds a Diploma in Aviation Medicine from Lorraine University and is fluent in English, Arabic, and French.

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## Session 13 Innovation in Facilitation



### Mr. Christian Schleifer, Representative of Austria on the Council of ICAO

Christian started his aviation career 36 years ago as Avionics Maintenance Engineer and currently is the Representative of Austria and the Abis Group on the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). Next to his role as Council member, he was appointed as chair of the ICAO Group on Innovation as well as the Industry Consultative Forum responsible for the collaboration with the industry on strategy inputs. He also got elected to chair the ICAO Committee on Joint Support of Air Navigation Services (JSC). Between 2014 and 2022 Christian Schleifer served as the

Director General and CEO of EUROCAE, a leading international Standard Developing Organisation (SDO), specialised in high quality and safety critical standards, based in Paris/France. In this role he was responsible for the operational management, development, restructuring and growth of EUROCAE. From 2009 until 2013 Christian was appointed as Air Navigation Commissioner (ANC) at ICAO. During 2012 and 2013 as President of the Air Navigation Commission, he was responsible for developing Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) in the field of Air Navigation and Safety. Prior to his posting at ICAO, Christian oversaw Aircraft and Equipment Certification, Airworthiness and Operational Requirements at the Austrian Civil Aviation Authority (Austro Control). In this role, Christian was a specialised Certification and Flight Test Engineer for Avionics, Electrics and Human-Machine interface. After his return from ICAO, he was involved in the strategic development of the ATM part of Austro Control, contributing to the European and Global Air Navigation modernisation programmes. Being an avid supporter of the Next Generation of Aviation Professionals (NGAP), Christian initiated the development of a department for Aviation Electronics (Avionic) at Vienna's Donaustadt-Akademie. He is also an academic lecturer at the Joanneum University of Applied Science in Graz/Austria. Christian has a background in Electronic Engineering and holds a Commercial Pilot License (CPL), actively flying single and multi-engine aircrafts. Besides his technical and operational aviation background, he holds a Global Executive MBA in Economics from the University of Minnesota and the Vienna University. He complemented his education with several management trainings at MIT, Mc Gill and other Universities.

### Mr. R. Rajeshkumar, International Organization for Standardization (ISO) Liaison Officer to ICAO



Mr. R Rajeshkumar is the convener of ISO/IEC JTC1 SC17/WG3, the ISO body that creates the specifications for Traveller Identification. Within that group, he is also the leader of Task Force 5, which deals with the electronic part of the eMRTD. He is the editor of Doc 9303-9, Doc 9303-12, the specifications for Digital Travel Credentials (DTC), VDS-NC, 39794-5 Application Profile and ICAO Datastructure for Barcodes (IDB). He is an active participant in ICAO's New Technologies Working Group (NTWG) and Implementation and Capacity Building Working Group (ICBWG), and a member of the ICBWG sub-group examining non-compliant travel documents, with focus on issues related to eMRTDs and/or the digital PKI certificates associated with eMRTDs. Mr. Rajeshkumar helped develop an ICAO TRIP strategy course for ICAO Global Aviation Training, and is a Master

Trainer for the same course. In 2023, Rajeshkumar was the recipient of ICAO TRIP Award of Excellence, which is bestowed in recognition of the outstanding contribution of individuals to the development, promotion and implementation of the Traveller Identification Programme as a pillar of enhanced civil aviation security and facilitation worldwide. Rajeshkumar is the Chief Executive of Auctorizium Pte Ltd, a Singapore-based company specialising in solutions for ePassport PKI and the validation of ePassports

**Mr. Soonil Hwang, Deputy Director Fast Travel Team, Incheon International Airport Corporation (IIAC)**



Mr. Soonil Hwang started his aviation career at Incheon Airport in 2004, has experienced in several fields such as HR, Strategic Planning, Retail Marketing, PR, however, mainly developed his competency at Terminal Operation areas. While he worked at Terminal Operation Group from 2008 to 2011, he was involved in the Passenger Facilitation Project based on e-passport & biometrics (Facial Recognition). Regarding this project, Incheon Airport developed the automated immigration (border control) system & boarding gate based on Facial Recognition and performed the pilot test with Korea Immigration Office as well as national carrier (KE/OZ). Optimistic results of the pilot test led to accelerate the expansion of automated immigration system as well as the deployment of automated security check,

boarding process.

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**Ms. Linda Schucroft, Vice President Innovation and Guest Experience, King Salman International Airport, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**



Linda Schucroft is Vice President of Innovation & Customer Experience at King Salman International Airport Development Company, bringing over 15 years of experience in digital transformation, technology, and passenger experience. With her expertise in strategy and innovation, Linda has redefined how airports connect with passengers through cutting-edge digital solutions. At King Salman International Airport, her focus is on creating seamless, customer-centric experiences while integrating advanced technology into one of the world's premier aviation hubs. Before joining King Salman International Airport Development Company, Linda was a key leader at Vancouver Airport Authority (YVR), where she led industry-changing projects and launched innovative, first-to-market products that transformed the

passenger experience. Under her leadership, innovations like BorderXpress and the use of a digital twin not only diversified revenue but also earned YVR global recognition, including the Skytrax award for Best Airport in North America for 11 straight years. A dynamic leader, Linda excels in building partnerships, fostering collaboration, and driving change in fast-paced environments. Her leadership inspires teams to tackle challenges creatively, execute bold strategies, and deliver measurable success. Known for her clear communication and ability to build consensus, Linda is dedicated to shaping the future of customer experience and innovation at King Salman International Airport, ensuring its standing as a global leader in passenger satisfaction and operational excellence.

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**Mr. Gaëtan Pradel, Cybersecurity Specialist, Cryptography and ID Management, Luxembourg**



Gaëtan has been working at INCERT, a public agency from Luxembourg, for over 8 years, gaining expertise in applied cryptography and standardisation for ID management. Holding of a PhD in cryptography, Gaëtan represents Luxembourg in international standardisation organisations such as the ICAO, ISO and IATA. As an editor of multiple cryptography-related standards, Gaëtan has contributed to encryption algorithms, random bit generation, and more recently post-quantum digital signatures.

**Mr. Bader Al Sada**, Assistant Director, Cyber Threat Department, National Cyber Security Agency, Qatar



He holds a PhD in Computer Science and Engineering with a specialization in Cyber Threat Analysis from Hamad Bin Khalifa University. His current role is Assistant Director of Cyber Threat Department at Qatar - National Cyber Security Agency. He obtained a Master's degree in Cyber security and a Bachelor's degree in Computer Networks. He has more than nine years of experience in the field of cyber security, he also holds interest in several innovative areas such as artificial intelligence, blockchain technology, and quantum computing from cyber security perspective.

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## OPENING HIGH-LEVEL ADDRESSES

### H.E. Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulla bin Mohammed Al Thani, Minister of Transport, Qatar



H.E. Shiekh Mohammed bin Abdulla bin Mohammed Al Thani was appointed as Minister of Transport in November 2024. H.E. Shiekh Mohammed bin Abdulla bin Mohammed Al Thani has extensive experience in finance, governance, communications, and digital transformation. Earlier in his career, he was a senior officer at the Qatar Armed Forces (General Headquarters), then later was assigned to several leadership and executive positions in the Ooredoo Group such as Deputy Chief Executive Officer of Ooredoo Group, Chief Executive Officer of Ooredoo Qatar, Chief Executive Officer of Ooredoo Kuwait, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Ooredoo Oman, Ooredoo Kuwait, Ooredoo Myanmar and Ooredoo Algeria. His positions also included being the Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of Asiaccell Iraq, President Commissioner of Indosat Ooredoo, Board Member of both INJAZ

Qatar and United Networks, and member of the Qatar Association of Certified Public Accountants. H.E. Shiekh Mohammed bin Abdulla bin Mohammed Al Thani holds a Master of Science in Accounting and Finance from Cardiff University, Wales, the UK, and a B.A. in Economics and Administrative Science, majored in accounting, from Qatar University. He also holds certifications from the Leadership Program for Executives from the Qatar Leadership Centre including courses by Harvard Business School and HEC Paris, and from the Intensive Executive Breakthrough Program by Egon Zehnder and Mobius Executive Leadership.

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### Mr. Salvatore Sciacchitano, President of the Council, International Civil Aviation Organization

Mr. Sciacchitano graduated in Telecommunications Engineering from the University of Catania and began his career in



aviation in 1980, joining the Italian Airworthiness Authority (RAI) where he held positions of increasing responsibility, serving as the organization's Regulation Director in 1992, then as Technical Director and, in 1996, as Director General. With the merger of the aviation branch of the Ministry of Transport and RAI and the subsequent establishment of the Italian Civil Aviation Authority (ENAC), Mr. Sciacchitano assumed the position of Deputy Director General. In this position, he played an instrumental role in coordinating the core business divisions of the newly founded structure. He was also entrusted with multiple international mandates, chairing the Permanent Commission of EUROCONTROL, representing Italy in the Management Board of European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA),

holding the Vice-Presidency of the EUROCONTROL Provisional Council and coordinating the Italian delegation during ICAO Assemblies. As a result of his extensive experience in aviation international affairs, Mr. Sciacchitano was appointed Executive Secretary of the European Civil Aviation Conference (ECAC) in 2010. In February 2019, he joined the Italian Delegation on the Council of ICAO, where he served until assuming his duties as President of the Council.

## CLOSING OF MINISTERIAL SEGMENT

### Mr. Juan Carlos Salazar, Secretary General, ICAO



Mr. Juan Carlos Salazar is the Secretary General of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). He was first appointed for a three-year term starting August 2021. On 11 March 2024, the ICAO Council renewed his appointment for a second consecutive three-year term, to begin August 2024.

His career in international civil aviation spans over 30 years in various advisory and leadership roles. Prior to his appointment as Secretary General, Mr. Salazar served as Director General of Aeronautica Civil of Colombia – Aerocivil.

For the twelve years prior to joining Aerocivil, Mr. Salazar was a Senior Advisor to the UAE General Civil Aviation Authority. His professional experience also includes terms as the President of Latin American Civil Aviation Commission (LACAC), Secretary of the Colombian Civil Aviation Board and Director of its Air Transport Office, Director General of Air Transport at the Colombian Ministry of Transport, Corporate Secretary and Director of the Legal Department of Tampa Cargo (currently known as Avianca Cargo). Mr. Salazar is a lawyer and has earned advanced degrees from Harvard University (Master in Public Administration - MPA) and McGill University (Master in Air and Space Law - LLM), and was awarded an Honorary Doctorate degree in Law from Korea Aerospace University. He is fluent in Spanish, English and French, and speaks basic Arabic.

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### H.E. Mohamed bin Faleh Al-Hajri, Acting President, Civil Aviation Authority, Qatar



He has held the position of In Charge of Managing QCAA in the State of Qatar since October 2021. With over 25 years of experience in air transport, international relations, and economic policy related to the aviation sector, he previously served as the Director of the Air Transport Department at the Authority.

His expertise includes international agreements, treaties, and protocols. He has represented the State of Qatar in numerous high-level international aviation forums and is an active member of various executive boards, expert committees, and technical working groups within the civil aviation sector.