

Em: 25 JUL. 2023

Entrada N<sup>o</sup> 599 Tipo *Cable*  
Rubrica do receptor: *[Signature]*



International  
Civil Aviation  
Organization

Organisation  
de l'aviation civile  
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Organización  
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Международная  
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авиации

منظمة الطيران  
المدني الدولي

国际民用  
航空组织

Tel.: +1 514-954-8219 ext. 8034

Ref.: M18/1.1-23/50

24 July 2023

**Subject:** 2024 ICAO Innovation Fair  
(Montréal, Canada, 12 to 14 March 2024)

**Action required:** a) Delegates are invited to register for the 2024 ICAO Innovation Fair by 16 February 2024; b) States are encouraged to share this invitation with interested Organizations in their State; c) States are invited to consider exhibit and sponsorship opportunities; d) States are invited to send a list of start-up innovators within their States, which are developing products and services of relevance to international civil aviation; e) States are invited to identify a student who could participate in the session "My Thesis in 180 seconds" by 8 December 2023.

Sir/Madam,

1. I have the honour to invite you to participate in the 2024 ICAO Innovation Fair, which will be convened by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) from 12 to 14 March 2024, in Montréal, Canada.

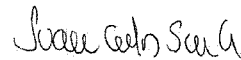
2. The theme of the 2024 ICAO Innovation Fair will be "*Digital Aviation: the Future is Now*" and will be held over three days. The Fair will allow for representatives of States, international organizations, industry, private sector, academia, aviation research, United Nations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to have substantive conversations on innovation in aviation and how to adjust systems, processes, structures to better ensure future innovation brings value for aviation and its contribution to States achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

3. The Fair will feature diverse formats for knowledge exchange, including panel discussions, start-up roundtables and presentations from students on relevant research areas. The panels will cover a large perimeter of themes, such as information management, the use of AI (Artificial Intelligence) and advanced modelling for aviation, passenger experience, or digital transformations. Risks inherent to digitalization, ethics and societal challenges will also be addressed.

4. The 2024 Innovation Fair will welcome start-ups, academia and research centres to share their experience regarding the experimentation and development of innovative digital technologies or services for aviation. In particular, the finalists of the ICAO Innovation Competition<sup>1</sup> will be invited to present their innovative ideas.

5. Information on administrative arrangements and online registration for the Fair are available on the event website at <https://www.icao.int/Meetings/InnovationFair2024>. In addition to online registration, confirmation of the participation of your Government or organization is requested by email to [innovation@icao.int](mailto:innovation@icao.int), with the names and positions of participants, no later than 16 February 2024. The identification of students who could participate in the session “*My Thesis in 180 seconds*” is requested by email to [innovation@icao.int](mailto:innovation@icao.int), no later than 8 December 2023. The identification of start-ups with products or services or relevance to aviation is requested by email to [innovation@icao.int](mailto:innovation@icao.int), no later than 13 October 2023, as these contacts will support the establishment of the 2024 Innovation Fair “Start-up Roundtable” on Wednesday 13 March 2024.

Accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Juan Carlos Salazar  
Secretary General

**Enclosure:**

2024 ICAO Innovation Fair Preliminary Programme

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<sup>1</sup> ICAO launched a global competition for students under the theme of “*Innovation and Resilience in aviation*”. The deadline for submissions is 30 September 2023. The detailed problem statement and entry requirements are available at: <https://www.icao.int/innovation/Competition/Pages/default.aspx>

ATTACHMENT to State Letter M 18/1.1-23/50

**2024 ICAO INNOVATION FAIR  
PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME  
(Montréal, Canada, 12 to 14 March 2024)**

**Digital Aviation: The Future is Now**

**Day 1 – Tuesday 12 March 2024**

9:00-9:05	Administrative announcement
9:05-9:15	Opening remarks by Mr. Salvatore Sciacchitano, President of the ICAO Council
9:15-10:00	Opening of the exhibition and coffee break
10:00-11:30	<b>Directors General Panel: A strategy for a Civil Aviation Authority 2.0: digital ideas to serve the aviation ecosystem to the benefit of the community.</b> <i>The involvement of new stakeholders in international civil aviation has led Civil Aviation Authorities to reconsider their approach to regulation and certification, while maintaining the highest levels of safety, security, efficiency, economic development, and environmental sustainability. As they are embarking into transformation to accompany a fast-evolving aviation ecosystem, they also need to maintain the commitment of their personnel and the trust of the public. Directors General of Civil Aviation Authorities will lay out their plans to develop user-oriented services that support the timely deployment of digital innovations in their civil aviation system.</i>
11:30-12:00	<b>My thesis in 180 seconds</b> <i>Students in STEM fields related to aviation from universities across the globe will be invited to present the main topic of their thesis, exploring various technical or policy aspects of digitalization in aviation – all in 180 seconds.</i>
12:00-12:30	Sky Talks
12:30-13:30	Lunch break
13:30-15:00	<b>Digital twins in aviation: twice as many opportunities?</b> <i>Aviation stakeholders have progressively captured their physical assets in a digital format. This has led to the creation of digital twins and to new opportunities. Manufacturers have taken advantage of the technology and created live digital models of their products, machinery and even their manufacturing floors. In addition, digital twins can be used to enhance aircraft systems design and manufacturing, or maintenance operations.</i>
15:00-15:30	Coffee break
15:30-17:00	<b>Digitalization in aviation: tackling the challenges</b>

	<i>A digital world suggests a dedicated set of policies and regulations that guarantee at least similar levels of consumer protection, ethics, safety and security as in a physical world. In addition, the digitalization of the aviation system poses challenges for a number of Civil Aviation Authorities, as it disrupts long-established practices. The transition from paper to digital data-driven technologies comes with important changes and challenges for aviation stakeholders, particularly in relation to data management, interoperability, advanced analytics and cybersecurity, to name a few. The objective of this session will be to explore these various challenges and identify how CAAs can prepare for a responsible use of innovations towards building up resilient systems.</i>
17:30	Welcome reception

#### Day 2 – Wednesday 13 March 2024

9:00-9:05	Administrative announcement
9:05-10:30	<b>Digital information management and data exchange: moving people and goods better and faster</b> <i>In our daily lives, we can see how airlines, airports and their customers are linked by a digital relationship. From online flight booking to check-in and the automated boarding process and improved passenger flows to follow-up support via CRM programs, almost everything seems to be digitized. Airlines are not only boosting their efficiency this way, but they also greatly improve customer experience. Such benefits also expand to cargo movements, from door-to-door. The panel will consider the challenges posed by this situation, such as the treatment of digital data, cross-border harmonization, the integration of data from different sources, the simultaneous management of legacy physical systems, cross border harmonization of systems and requirements and related regulations.</i>
10:30-11:00	Coffee break
11:00-12:30	<b>Start-up roundtable: Building tomorrow's success</b> <i>The objective of this roundtable is to focus specifically on the needs of start-ups with applications in the aviation system, when it comes to engaging with States and other aviation stakeholders, with a specific focus on Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs), Procedures for Air Navigation Services (PANS), international guidance material and regulations.</i>
12:30-13:30	Lunch break
13:30-15:00	<b>Digitalizing certification processes: for more robustness and efficiency</b>

	<i>Building upon the facilitation of electronic document exchange, certification processes could more efficiently and securely address the challenges of innovators.</i>
15:00-15:30	Coffee break
15:30-17:00	<b>ICAO Competition on Innovation:</b> presentations of their projects by the 3 finalist teams and announcement of the winning team (introduction on the competition, messages from the members of the jury, presentations, announcement of winner)
17:00-17:15	Photo op for the competition
17:45 – 20:00	Reception

**Day 3 – Thursday 14 March 2024**

9:00-9:05	Administrative announcement
9:05-10:30	<b>A digital world: how can virtual reality unlock the potential of innovations in aviation?</b> <i>This session will explore the many applications offered by the mainstreaming of virtual and augmented reality, from the enhancing passenger experience to the design of Air Traffic Management concepts in an urban environment and training.</i>
10:30-11:00	Coffee break
11:00-12:15	<b>Artificial Intelligence is driving the future of digital aviation</b> <i>Artificial Intelligence (AI) has grown on data. Aviation is one of the sectors that captures and uses a significant amount of data. During this panel, speakers will share how the opportunities generated by AI help shape the future of air mobility, including the use of data-driven approaches for sustainable aviation.</i>
12:15-12:30	Closing remarks by Mr. Juan Carlos Salazar, ICAO Secretary General
12:30-13:30	Lunch break
13:30-16:30	ICAO Innovation Workshop (upon registration)

