

Media Statement

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TO : All Media

ATTENTION: News Editors / Transport Reporters / All Reporters

For immediate use

MINISTER. CREECY WELCOMES SOUTH AFRICA'S RE-ELECTION TO AVIATION'S GLOBAL BODY, ICAO GOVERNING COUNCIL

PRETORIA: The Minister of Transport, Ms Barbara Creecy has welcomed the re-election of South Africa to the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Governing Council at the 42nd General Assembly currently taking place in Montréal, Canada, which begun on 23rd September and is due to end on the 3rd of October 2025.

The election vote took place on Saturday, 27 September 2025 and SA was re-elected in Part II of the General Council which is a category where member States receive higher representation at global forums that deal with civil aviation.

The South African delegation is led by Minister Creecy. Part of the delegation is the technical and legal experts from the South African Civil Aviation Authority; Airports Company South Africa; Air Traffic and Navigation Services; the Departments of Transport and Home Affairs as well as representatives from the South African National Space Agency and the South African Weather Services.

CREECY's REACTION

Reacting to SA's re-election Creecy stated that "The re-election result reaffirms the mandate that South Africa has held since 2003 and demonstrates the confidence of Member States in the Republic and its ongoing contribution in shaping the global aviation agenda,"

She further said that "the re-election also reaffirms South Africa's instrumental role in advancing ICAO's agenda on safety, security, sustainability, and environmental matters, while ensuring that the African continent's priorities remain firmly on the global stage."

Creedy said that the role and leadership of the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC), the African Union's specialised civil aviation agency, needed to be acknowledged as it was instrumental in placing Africa's aviation priorities at the centre of ICAO's agenda.

AFRICA'S AVIATION GLOBAL AGENDA

The two other African States that were elected in Part II of the General Council include the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Africa had put forward candidates in both Part II and Part III of the ICAO Council elections with Part III signifying an equitable geographic representation for the Continent, with the Part III elections to take place at a later stage.

In the current Session, Africa through AFCAC has tabled Working Papers that highlight broader strategic priorities, including the Single African Air Transport Market (SAATM) initiative that is aimed at opening the African skies, boost connectivity, reduce costs while unlock opportunities of trade and tourism on the continent.

42nd ASSEMBLY THEME.

The ICAO's 42nd Assembly is being held under the theme "Safe Skies, Sustainable Future", focusing on ICAO's strategic goals of ensuring safe and secure flights, advancing environmental sustainability, and enabling seamless, accessible, and efficient air transport.

ISSUED BY: National Department of Transport

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NOTES TO EDITORS

The ICAO Assembly convenes all 193 Member States once every three years as the Organisation's highest decision-making body. Its responsibilities include:

1. Electing Member States to the ICAO Council;

2. Reviewing in detail the work of the Organisation in technical, administrative, economic, legal, and cooperation fields; and
3. Approving amendments to the Convention on International Civil Aviation (Chicago, 1944), subject to ratification by Member States.

The ICAO Council has 36 Member States which oversees the Organisation's governance and finances, defines the duties of its committees, and adopts International Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs).

End.