File Ref.: FL 1/4 – 24/078

29 April 2024

Subject: **Middle East Regional Seminar on Advance Passenger Information (API) and Passenger Name Record (PNR) Data**
(Cairo, Egypt, 23 – 25 June 2024)

Action required: **Reply not later than 26 May 2024**

Sir / Madam,

I have the honour to invite your Administration/Organization to participate in the Middle East Regional Seminar on Advance Passenger Information (API) and Passenger Name Record (PNR) Data to be held in Cairo, Egypt, from 23 to 25 June 2024.

Annex 9 – Facilitation to the Chicago Convention obliges that all Contracting States shall establish Advance Passenger Information (API) systems and develop the capability to collect, use, process and protect Passenger Name Record (PNR) data. Moreover, Annex 9 obliges States requiring API and/or PNR data from aircraft operators to create a Passenger Data Single Window facility for each data category, or both data categories combined.

The transfer of API and PNR data by aircraft operators to States allows public authorities to check watchlists, conduct analysis and take operational decisions. The availability of such pre-travel and pre-arrival passenger data allows the application of appropriate risk management techniques by States to expedite clearance processes at border control points and focus resources on travellers assessed to pose higher risk.

I encourage you to distribute this letter to all appropriate entities in your State, such as immigration, customs, counter-narcotics, counter-terrorism, travel document and visa issuing entities, INTERPOL National Central Bureau (NCB), other interested law enforcement agencies, as well as aviation security authorities. aircraft operators, airport authorities and other interested stakeholders.

The Provisional Agenda for the Seminar is at **Attachment A**. Administrative arrangements for the Seminar and other useful information for participants, including the MID Office Bulletin and the Hotel List are available on the ICAO MID Office website at: (MID Office Bulletin (icao.int)

I would appreciate if you could, as soon as possible, preferably not later than **26 May 2024**, confirm the participation of your Administration/Organization by filing the online form available at this link https://forms.office.com/r/m6Qn4hMSy7. Mrs. Samiha Al Busaidi, Regional Officer,

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Aviation Security and Facilitation (RO/ASF) (sbusaidi@icao.int) will be the focal point from our Office to proceed with further arrangements.

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

Mohamed Abubaker Farea
Regional Director
ICAO Middle East Office

SB/dk

ICAO MIDDLE EAST Regional Seminar on Advance Passenger Information (API) and Passenger Name Record (PNR) Data

Location: ICAO MID Office
Date: 23 – 25 June 2024

Day 1: Understanding API/PNR and Legal Frameworks

Morning Session

- Welcome and Coffee

- Roundtable Introductions and Update on State of Implementation in Each State
- Overview of API/PNR: Definition and Benefits with Practical Case Studies

    Lunch Break:

    Afternoon Session

- International Legal Framework for API/PNR, Including UNSC Resolutions and Annex 9
- Case Studies of Legal Frameworks

    Tea and Networking

- Group Discussion: Reflections and Key Takeaways from Day 1

Day 2: Operational Insights and Stakeholder Engagement

Morning Session

- Introduction to Passenger Single Window (PSW)
- Case Studies of Operational PSW

    Lunch Break

- **Afternoon Session**

- Operational Use of API and PNR: Watch listing, Rules Based Targeting, and Historical Searches
- Human Rights and Data Protection Considerations
- Engaging with the Airline Industry

Day 3: Collaboration and Future Road mapping

Morning Session

- International Collaboration and INTERPOL Databases
- Group Discussion on Implementation Challenges

   Lunch Break

   Afternoon Session

- Developing a Roadmap for Implementation
- UN Countering Terrorist Travel Programme

   Closing Remarks and Workshop Evaluation