



ICAO welcomes recent aviation safety progress in Georgia

For immediate release

Montréal, 30 May 2017 – The President of the ICAO Council, Dr. Olumuyiwa Benard Aliu, expressed the UN agency’s deep appreciation for the proactive actions being taken by the Government of Georgia to mitigate recent safety concerns identified under the ICAO Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme (USOAP).

“Today the overall situation in Georgia is more stable, with positive trends prevailing,” Dr. Aliu commented. “In order to sustain this momentum, ICAO encourages Georgia to continue working closely with our European and North Atlantic Regional Office and to strengthen its Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), which is a priority for ICAO throughout this Region.”

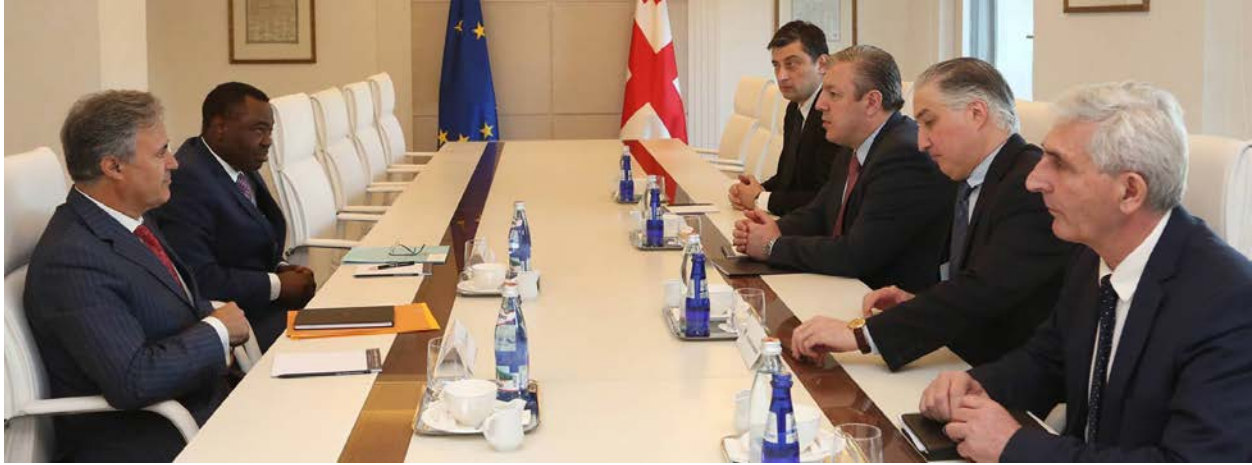
During his mission to Georgia, which took place from 25 to 27 May 2017, Dr. Aliu held discussions with Georgia’s Prime Minister, Mr. Giorgi Kvirikashvili, where he underlined how the State’s commitments to ICAO compliance would be instrumental to the socio-economic benefits which Georgia could look forward to due to enhanced global connectivity.

Dr. Aliu also met with the country’s Minister and Deputy Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, Mr. Giorgi Gakharia and Mr. Giorgi Cherkezishvili, respectively, and the Director of the Georgian Civil Aviation Agency, Mr. Guram Jalaghonias. He was further introduced to the most recently appointed Permanent Representative of Georgia to ICAO, Mr. Konstantin Kavtaradze.

Dr. Aliu highlighted in the course of these discussions the progress which Georgia has made toward enhancing its compliance with ICAO’s standards and recommended practices, notably with the support of ICAO’s Europe and North Atlantic (EURNAT) Regional Office. While accompanied by the ICAO EURNAT Regional Director, Mr. Luis Fonseca de Almeida, Dr. Aliu furthermore assured the country’s leadership that ICAO is deeply committed to its “No Country Left Behind” initiative, and to providing further assistance to Georgia as its progress continues.

The Georgian PM and Ministers acknowledged the aviation sector’s role as a catalyst for broader socio-economic development, and noted the need for greater investment in infrastructure and better aligned national and aviation development planning. These are particularly important concerns for Georgia given the State’s ambitions in terms of air navigation services provision and its desire to become a transit hub, as well as the significant opportunities expected due to the forecast increase in global air traffic volumes and Georgia’s liberalization of its air transport policies.

“Georgia is poised to achieve even greater progress towards the development of its capacity within the global civil aviation network, and ICAO is ready to provide all support necessary to help it along that path,” Dr. Aliu summarized.



Last week, the President of the ICAO Council, Dr. Olumuyiwa Benard Aliu (second from left) undertook a high-level bilateral meeting with the Prime Minister Georgia, Mr. Giorgi Kvirikashvili (third from right), at the Prime Minister's Office. Also attending were (from left to right) ICAO's Regional Director for the European and North Atlantic Region, Mr. Luis Fonseca de Almeida; the President of the ICAO Council; the Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, Mr. Giorgi Gakharia; the Prime Minister of Georgia; the Ambassador of Georgia to Canada and Permanent Representative of Georgia to the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), Mr. Konstantin Kavtaradze; and the Director of the Georgian Civil Aviation Agency, Mr. Guram Jalaghonia.

Resources for Editors

About ICAO

A specialized agency of the United Nations, ICAO was created in 1944 to promote the safe and orderly development of international civil aviation throughout the world. It sets standards and regulations necessary for aviation safety, security, efficiency, capacity and environmental protection, amongst many other priorities. The Organization serves as the forum for cooperation in all fields of civil aviation among its 191 Member States.

[ICAO's Europe and North Atlantic Regional Office](#)
[ICAO's No Country Left Behind initiative](#)

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