



On the 07th of December each year, we celebrate the 1944 Convention on international civil aviation. The Convention, also known as the Chicago Convention, mandates the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO), as a United Nations (UN) specialized agency, to foster the development of aviation.

This day is recognized around the world as **International Civil Aviation Day**.

It is a day to acknowledge the importance of aviation in respect of safe and efficient transport around the world and to generate and reinforce worldwide awareness of the importance of international civil aviation to the social and economic development of all countries as well as the unique role of ICAO in helping States to cooperate and realise a truly global rapid transit network at the service of all mankind.

The ICAO Council establishes a special anniversary theme every five (5) years for International Civil Aviation Day.

For the period 2019-2023, the theme for **International Civil Aviation Day** is:

“ADVANCING INNOVATION FOR GLOBAL AVIATION DEVELOPMENT”

The UN and world nations have adopted 'Agenda 2030' and embarked a new era in global sustainable development. The importance of aviation as an engine of global connectivity has never been more relevant to the Chicago Convention's objectives to look to international flight as a fundamental enabler of global peace and prosperity.

This International Civil Aviation Day, we recognize how ICAO's Strategic Objectives are strongly linked to 15 of the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals.

- SDG 1 Reconnecting the world; aviation's unique and critical role as a catalyst for sustainable development, helping alleviate poverty as aircraft return to the sky.
- SDG 2 Flight is crucial to food supply chains, at the community and global levels alike. Whether done by drone or jumbo jet, we salute aviation's continuing and vital role in ensuring food security.
- SDG 3 Recognizing the crucial cooperation between ICAO and the World Health Organisation that is enabling aviation to restart safely and restore its contributions to global health and sustainable development.
- SDG 4 Promoting STEM education for children everywhere, giving everyone a chance to be prepared for the next generation of air transport professionals and highly rewarding careers they will offer.
- SDG 5 The recovery of global aviation means an opportunity to achieve rapid growth towards gender equality in this sector and beyond, provided barriers to women's participation are removed.
- SDG 7 ICAO's work on sustainable aviation fuels is supporting the broader UN effort to transition toward sustainable energy. We celebrate the tremendous progress that's already been achieved and work towards green solutions.
- SDG 8 Careers in aviation are almost unlimited in diversity, and the pandemic recovery holds the promise of highly rewarding employment opportunities everywhere. We celebrate flight's contributions to sustainable development and full and productive employment for all.
- SDG 9 Investment in innovation is crucial to the safety, security, sustainability of flight and its unique role to act as a catalyst for sustainable development. We highlight ICAO's work to encourage this, helping to ensure that reconnecting the world means building back better.
- SDG 10 Air connectivity is a catalyst for sustainable development. This means that international flights can help reduce inequality each time an aircraft departs.
- SDG 11 Accelerating air travel will restore prosperity and provide important sustainable development opportunities to communities everywhere, especially in least developed States and small island countries.
- SDG 12 We recognize the role aviation has played in keeping critical global supply chains functioning throughout the pandemic, shielding all societies from more systemic pandemic impacts.
- SDG 13 As an integral part of the UN system, ICAO is taking urgent action to combat climate change and help ensure that reconnecting the world means improving sustainability.
- SDG 15 Whilst land use may change as we rapidly transition to sustainable aviation fuels, ICAO is helping States to guard eco systems and biodiversity. We celebrate the sustainability of flight.
- SDG 16 ICAO fosters the development of aviation as flight promotes friendship and peace among peoples and nations.
- SDG 17 Strengthening implementation and revitalizing the global partnerships through aviation to ensure sustainable development.

This International Civil Aviation Day, the Civil Aviation Authority of Fiji's Board and Staff, takes this opportunity to thank all our industry partners and stakeholders for your contribution and continued commitment to ensuring a safe and secure civil aviation system.

HAPPY #FLYDAY.