

News Release

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QUELLET ANNOUNCES PLANS TO PARTICIPATE IN ICAO 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet today announced his plans to participate in the 50th anniversary of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). ICAO was created in 1944 and established its headquarters in Montréal in 1947.

"Canada is honoured to host this important international body. The active support and co-operation of all levels of government for ICAO's continued presence has made Montréal the civil aviation capital of the world," said Mr. Ouellet.

Mr. Ouellet will be host to UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali at a celebration at the Place des Arts on the evening of December 6.

On December 7, Mr. Ouellet will attend a flag-raising ceremony at ICAO headquarters to mark the first International Day of Civil Aviation.

ICAO is one of the oldest UN-associated bodies and is the only UN organization with headquarters in Canada. It has 183 member states and employs a staff of more than 700. Its mandate is to set standards and regulations and to make plans for the safety of international civil air transportation.

The ICAO anniversary is one of several international events leading up to the 50th anniversary of the United Nations in 1995.

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A background document is attached.

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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