

**SPEECH BY MINISTER OF TRANSPORT MALAYSIA
THE HONORABLE DATO' SRI LIOW TIONG LAI**

**ICAO-WCO JOINT CONFERENCE
ENHANCING AIR CARGO SECURITY AND FACILITATION:
THE PATH TO EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION**

**TUESDAY, JULY 26, 2016
SAMA-SAMA HOTEL, KLIA**

Honorable Dato' Othman Bin Aziz
Deputy Minister of Finance

His Excellency Dr Olumuyiwa Benard Aliu
President of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO),

Her Excellency Dr Liu Fang
Secretary General of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO),

His Excellency Dr Kunio Mikuriya
Secretary General of the World Customs Organization (WCO),

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and gentlemen,

INTRODUCTION

1. Good morning.
2. On behalf of the Government of Malaysia, a very warm welcome to all delegates and guests.
3. We are delighted to have you with us here, especially those of you who are visiting Malaysia for the first time.

ICAO-WCO JOINT CONFERENCE

4. I would also like to thank the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the World Customs Organization (WCO) for giving Malaysia this opportunity to host the third ICAO-WCO Joint Conference on Enhancing Air Cargo Security and Facilitation.

5. It is our pleasure and privilege to host such an important conference which brings together participants from all over the world.
6. I believe that it is truly an effective platform for delegates to discuss the current state of air cargo security and facilitation, as well as existing challenges and advancements within the sector.
7. Indeed, the ICAO-WCO Joint Conference has played a role in enhancing international cooperation in air cargo security and facilitation.
8. Since the first conference held in 2012, experts and industry leaders from the aviation and customs industries, as well as those from related fields, have been able to meet and share their knowledge and expertise.
9. This year, I understand we have approximately 300 participants from government agencies, airlines, and air cargo security companies worldwide.
10. The theme of the conference, 'The Path to Effective Implementation', is timely and necessary.
11. I have always championed that rules and regulations must enable growth and progress in the aviation sector, particularly for air cargo.
12. I am pleased to note that many topics of interest are on the agenda for the next two days.
13. These include various discussions and presentations on strengthening air cargo security as well as facilitating the international flow of goods.
14. This is a prime opportunity for knowledge sharing in terms of technical and regulatory matters.

15. Importantly, this year's conference breaks from the norm, as there will be technical visits to selected major courier companies here in Malaysia.
16. I trust these working visits will prove to be fruitful for the participants.

MALAYSIA UPHOLDS GLOBAL AVIATION STANDARDS

Ladies and gentlemen,

17. Malaysia continues to be a leader within ASEAN's aviation market, with a liberal aviation policy centred on ensuring accessibility, availability and efficiency.
18. We are focused on transforming our nation into an aviation and logistics hub within the region.
19. Towards this end, our Department of Civil Aviation (DCA) is making steady progress in shifting towards a fully autonomous and self-sustaining Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).
20. The CAA will be responsible for overseeing Malaysia's aviation safety and security standards, and ensuring they are in line with ICAO's Strategic Objectives.
21. This is also well-aligned with our commitment to uphold ICAO's international Standards and Recommended Practices.
22. In equal measure, Malaysia is also strongly committed to supporting ICAO's 'No Country Left Behind' (NCLB) initiative.
23. The Government of Malaysia and my Ministry of Transport are focused on the effective implementation of enhanced global aviation standards.
24. In addition, the aviation industry is prioritised in Malaysia's developmental plans.

25. This is a clear testament of our dedication towards the continuous development of our aviation sector.

MALAYSIA ENHANCES AIR CARGO SECURITY

Ladies and gentlemen,

26. The air cargo security sector is also an important part of Malaysia's plans to boost our aviation and logistics industry.

27. Within the framework of the National Civil Aviation Security Program of Malaysia as well as the National Quality Control Program, our Aviation Security Division, which falls under the purview of DCA, is responsible for the application of all regulatory oversight activities on air cargo security.

28. These programs require activities that include, but are not limited to, the performance of quality control on air cargo security stakeholders which are either within Malaysia or are relevant to Malaysian interests abroad.

29. The intention is to ensure compliance with approved security programs and the current aviation security legislation of Malaysia.

30. This is in line with ICAO regulations, which require all air cargo shipments to be screened prior to being loaded onto the aircraft, to ensure proper security measures have been applied.

31. As such, Malaysian regulations require 100% screening of cargo on both passenger and cargo aircrafts flying within, out of and into Malaysia.

32. With this in mind, Malaysia launched the Secure Freight Program in 2010.

33. This program is an ongoing one, and will be mandatory by 2020.

34. It supports the entire air cargo supply chain, by ensuring that cargo has passed through a regulated agent.
35. This is all the more necessary as a nation's security infrastructure should be put in place for freight and cargo.
36. This is why the program works well with civil aviation authorities, ensuring the integrity of the cargo.
37. Moreover, measures of this nature contribute to preventing bottlenecks at airports.
38. This program drives greater security and efficiency within the air cargo ecosystem, which will certainly have a positive impact on both Malaysia's economy and our partners around the globe.

MALAYSIA AS AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF ICAO

Ladies and gentlemen,

39. Malaysia has consistently supported ICAO, and we have played an active role in this important body since we were first elected to the Council in 2007.
40. We are dedicated to supporting ICAO in many areas particularly civil aviation safety, security, efficiency and environmental sustainability.
41. Testament to this, we have taken on an active and prominent role in ICAO's many Panels, Committees and Working Groups.
42. We have also supported ICAO's various policies, as we strongly believe in the need for continuous safety and security enhancements for the international aviation sector.
43. Equally important, Malaysia has voluntarily made financial contributions to support ICAO's environment and safety-related activities.

44. Our financial contribution extends to regional initiatives, such as the Cooperative Development of Operational Safety & Continuing Airworthiness Programme, South East Asia and the Cooperative Aviation Security Programme, Asia Pacific.
45. Moving forward, I am pleased to announce that in support of ICAO's various priority areas, particularly its safety and security programs, Malaysia has pledged to contribute USD100,000 to ICAO's AFI Safety fund as well as another USD100,000 to the ICAO's Aviation Safety and Security fund.
46. Malaysia is keen and determined to continue playing an active part in achieving ICAO's aspirations for safer skies and excellent standards of civil aviation.
47. On this note, the Government of Malaysia will submit its candidacy to the Council of ICAO for the next elections at the 39th Session of the ICAO Assembly.
48. We hope our esteemed peers will endorse and support our continued membership on the Council of ICAO.

CONCLUSION

Ladies and gentlemen,

49. It is my firm belief that to ensure safe, secure and sustainable air transport, international cooperation and partnership is necessary.
50. I urge all participants here to work together and share your expertise with your fellow colleagues during this conference, so that the entire industry will benefit on a global scale.
51. It is my sincere hope that this conference will also promote new advancements in the air cargo industry.
52. On this note, I wish you all a successful and fruitful conference.

53. We hope you enjoy your stay here in Malaysia, and do take time off to enjoy some sightseeing and shopping.

54. Thank you.