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# Circular 357

## Guidelines for Reporting Trafficking in Persons by Flight and Cabin Crew



Approved by and published under the authority of the Secretary General

INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION



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## FOREWORD

Trafficking in people is a terrible crime and a human rights violation that takes place all over the world. In the aftermath of COVID-19, increased poverty and unemployment may result in more people taking risks in search of jobs — making them vulnerable to trafficking and exploitation.

The aviation industry can play an important role in identifying victims of trafficking. These reporting guidelines have been drawn up to enable members of cabin crews and other aviation personnel to identify potential victims whom they may encounter on flights and at airports.

It is essential that we protect and help all victims of human trafficking, as well as the related crimes of forced labour and modern slavery. We also need to ensure that the perpetrators face justice. On behalf of my Office, I thank you in advance for your help with these important, and urgent, tasks.

I extend my appreciation to ICAO for our fruitful partnership, which has led to the development of these guidelines and other tools. I also thank the Cabin Safety Group of ICAO for their contribution.



**Michelle Bachelet**  
**High Commissioner for Human Rights**  
**Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights**

Following the successful collaboration on the *Guidelines for Training Cabin Crew on Identifying and Responding to Trafficking in Persons* (Cir 352), ICAO is honoured to once again partner with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on these comprehensive new guidelines to help crew members report suspected cases of trafficking in persons.

States implementing Circular 352 requested assistance with procedures to combat trafficking in persons in aviation, including clear reporting systems from the aviation sector to law enforcement. Our goal with this new tool is accordingly to provide clear reporting guidelines to manage crew reports of suspected cases of trafficking in persons in aviation.

States can contribute to these goals by implementing the guidelines and disseminating them to civil aviation authorities, law enforcement, immigration authorities, airport security and airport and airline operators, in order to ensure that aviation personnel efforts to report suspected cases of trafficking in persons will be effectively responded to and acted upon.

This initiative and efforts reflect the continued commitment of ICAO and the civil aviation sector to assist States in the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted under the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, including those aimed at ending trafficking in persons. On behalf of our Organization, I therefore thank you for your on-going engagement in combating these heinous crimes and striving to safeguard and protect the safety and security of international civil aviation passengers and crew.

**Dr. Fang Liu**  
**Secretary General**  
**International Civil Aviation Organization**

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