It was announced from Singapore on 10 July that the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) has launched the first ICAO Training Package (ITP) developed by one of its newly-established Regional Training Centres of Excellence (RTCEs).

The new Personnel Licensing Management Course ITP was developed by the Singapore Aviation Academy (SAA). It is a blended course offered online and in the classroom and targets technical, managerial, and administrative staff involved in personnel licensing activities of civil aviation authorities and service providers. It enables participants to identify essential components and processes of a States’ personnel licensing system for flight crew, air traffic controllers, and aircraft maintenance engineers.

During a special ceremony held in Singapore to commemorate SAA’s achievement, ICAO Secretary General Raymond Benjamin reiterated the cost-effectiveness and importance of ITPs tailored to respond to aviation challenges faced by States.

The Director General of the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore, Yap Ong Heng, further reaffirmed Singapore’s commitment to work closely with ICAO to develop high quality and effective training programmes for aviation organizations and professionals, towards the advancement of civil aviation globally.

Activities of RTCEs are managed under the ICAO Global Aviation Training Office’s TRAINAIR PLUS Programme. TRAINAIR PLUS serves as a cooperative network of training centres and is established in close to 70 Member States comprising more than 80 training organizations.

Training and capacity-building are also important pillars in ICAO’s current No Country Left Behind initiative, which is seeking to ensure that all States can realize the full prosperity benefits of safe, reliable air services through the more effective implementation of ICAO’s international Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) and policies.

**Picture caption**

*Director General of the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore, Yap Ong Heng (left) and ICAO Secretary General Raymond Benjamin (right) review the first ICAO Training Package developed by one of its newly-established Regional Training Centres of Excellence, in this case the Singapore Aviation Academy.*