



**INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ENGLISH ASSOCIATION**

**Warsaw, 7 May 2008**

**Welcome by ICAEA President**

Dear Members,

We are delighted to welcome you to Warsaw for the third time in our history. You have joined us from over thirty countries in all five continents to attend ICAEA's 9<sup>th</sup> forum on the theme: **'Testing for ICAO compliance: Best practice in aviation English proficiency testing'**.

Warsaw occupies a very special place in the history of the association and without the Polish Air Navigation Services Agency's generous hosting and support this event would not have been possible.

It is only eight months since we last met in Cambridge and yet much has happened in that time in the environment in which we exercise our professions as well as inside ICAEA under an enlarged and strengthened Board.

ICAEA has always offered a forum for the meeting and exchange of ideas. This is a role which the association fully intends to pursue and develop. However, in the rapidly changing world we all know, the time has perhaps come for ICAEA to think about formalising and harnessing the expertise and experience built up over the years among its members for the benefit of the aviation community as a whole, i.e. to look outwards in a more proactive way. This is a question I invite you all to reflect on.

To return to matters at hand, we are extremely fortunate that such a group of experts in the field of language assessment has been willing to address us at this 9<sup>th</sup> forum. I think you will agree that the programme will keep us busy over the next three days!

Thank you for being here, sharing this event with us and contributing to its success.

Wishing you all a very enriching and enjoyable forum,

*Philip*

**Philip Shawcross**  
ICAEA President