

# MESSAGE FROM BAN-KI MOON

## SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

International aviation creates a worldwide network of connectivity, driving economic growth, social development and cultural understanding. Our challenge is to continue reaping its many benefits in a low-carbon manner while enabling it to respond to the disruptions caused by climate change.

This new edition of the International Civil Aviation Organization Environmental Report offers vital information for rising to this challenge at a pivotal moment for global efforts to achieve sustainable development.

The world now has two mutually reinforcing plans for progress: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, our blueprint for transforming our world, and the Paris Agreement on climate change, which sets forth the way to limit global temperature rise well below 2 degrees Celsius.

International aviation can make major contributions to the success of these twin endeavours. This edition of the ICAO Environmental Report shows how air transport is well on its way to carrying out forward-looking solutions – and sets out the strategic path for even greater progress.

Aviation is driven by innovation, putting it at the forefront of new approaches to advanced materials, alternative fuels and new forms of collaboration that deliver more effective and environmentally friendly operations.

The leadership of ICAO is critical. Just a few weeks after the conclusion of the Paris Agreement, ICAO announced that its Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection had unanimously recommended a new standard limiting aircraft CO<sub>2</sub> emissions – a move that was widely welcomed.

I commend this report to all those interested in ushering in a more sustainable future.

