



Capacity building for CO₂ mitigation from international aviation

ICAO Assistance Project with the European Union Funding Phase II

Closing remarks

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Second Phase of the ICAO Assistance Project with the European Union (EU) Funding: “Capacity Building for CO₂ Mitigation from International Aviation-Development of ICAO States’ Action Plans for 10 States”

Your excellencies, distinguished guests, and dear Focal Points! As we come to the end of our Seminar, we have had a very fruitful event. We had the opportunity to discover a wonderful country, and meet amazing people. My sincerest gratitude goes out to the Government of Zimbabwe, the Ministries, the Civil Aviation Authorities, the high-level officials, the ICAO Regions, and all the stakeholders involved in this Seminar.

Most importantly, YOU, the States who have come here to share and learn.

I am extremely grateful to Zimbabwe’s team for its efforts in coordinating this successful event over several weeks. Thank you to all who contributed to the success of this event behind the scenes.



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It was a real pleasure for me to see all the presentations of the participating States, and to reflect on the challenges and opportunities of State Action Plans, and the implementation of mitigation measures. I want to ensure that this Seminar will be part of a series of dialogues that we want to have with you, on how we can really move this inspirational discussion into action. We have seen so many innovations in your Action Plans, with specific roadmaps for Sustainable Aviation Fuels, Technologies, Operations, and Infrastructure. As we have learned today, the development, production, and use of Sustainable Aviation Fuels and cleaner aviation fuels, will be a key to greening the aviation industry. It is important that we seek this continued commitment from States to implement such innovative measures.

As I noted in my Opening Remarks, we have all made great strides in the development and implementation of 136 Sustainable Aviation Plans, the equivalent of 98.17% of global RTK. We now have approximately 100 members of CORSIA. We have made great strides in aircraft technology, operations, market-based measures, and now we are furthering the development and implementation of Sustainable Aviation Fuels and cleaner aviation fuels.

This will require not only leadership from ICAO Headquarter and Regional Environment Groups, but also other sections of the Air Transport Bureau, Safety and Security groups,



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including States and industry stakeholders. As we have learned during this seminar, “one size does not fit all”, thus flexibility and innovation are paramount.

The presentations over the past 2 days have illustrated not only the challenges, but the many opportunities before us in meeting this task. We have discussed the requirements for SAF technology and certification, reporting under CORSIA, market outlook, policies, and financing, and the valuable role that governments can provide in support towards the transition to SAF at airports. We were also presented with the SAF experience in Africa, and tomorrow will visit an actual production plant here in Zimbabwe.

However, the dialogue does not end here. ICAO Regional Seminars will be held over the next 2 months furthering the discussion of ICAO Assistance / Capacity Building and Training for Sustainable Aviation Fuels (ACT-SAF) Programme. For ESAF and WACAF, the seminar will be held in Nairobi Kenya, 18-19, April, 2023.

It cannot be understated that all States are encouraged to join CORSIA and ACT – SAF. Over the next several months we will be conducting 3 Feasibility Studies: Cote D’Ivoire; Rwanda; and right here in Zimbabwe. Collaboration, coordination, and communication by all parties will be essential to furthering the sustainability of the industry. As States participating in this assistance project, you will be an inspiration to other States. With this in mind, I thank you very much for your participation. I wish you all a safe journey home and until next time.



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