

UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE (UNFCCC)

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Agenda item 12 (b): Emissions from fuel used for international aviation and maritime transport

Submission by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)

1. **INTRODUCTION**

1.1 Following the adoption at the 41st Session of the ICAO Assembly in 2022 of <u>Assembly</u>

Resolution A41-21 and the historic agreement on the long-term aspirational goal (LTAG) of net-zero carbon emissions by 2050, and recognizing that cleaner energies are expected to have the largest contribution to aviation CO₂ emissions reductions, 193 Member States made further progress in 2023 for addressing emissions from international aviation toward the achievement of the LTAG.



- 1.2 In particular, ICAO and its Member States made a landmark decision last week at the Third ICAO Conference on Aviation and Alternative Fuels (CAAF/3) which took place from 20 to 24 November 2023 in Dubai, UAE, with the adoption of an ICAO Global Framework for Sustainable Aviation Fuels (SAF), Lower Carbon Aviation Fuels (LCAF) and other Aviation Cleaner Energies, to facilitate the global scale up in the development, production and deployment of SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies toward the sector's cleaner energy transition.
- 1.3 Through the Framework, ICAO and its Member States strive to achieve a collective global aspirational Vision to reduce international aviation CO_2 emissions by 5 per cent by 2030, through the use of SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies, compared to zero cleaner energy use.
- 1.4 The adoption of this robust Framework sends a clear signal to the international community regarding the continued leadership role and determination of ICAO and its Member States in addressing emissions from international aviation. It also provides clarity, consistency and predictability to governments, public and private investors, industry and fuel producers, on policies, regulations, implementation needs, and investments required to support and unlock the full potential of the aviation sector's energy transition globally
- 1.5 The Vision and the Framework implementation will be monitored and periodically reviewed, aspiring to have cleaner energy production sites in all regions, before the convening of next CAAF/4 no later than 2028, with a view to updating the ambition on the basis of market developments.
- 1.6 In addition to the CAAF/3 outcomes in 2023, the implementation of Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA) has been on-track in 2023, with an increasing 126 States that voluntarily participate in the scheme from its first phase, starting 2024, with the almost 100% coverage of annual CO_2 emissions reporting from States to the ICAO Central Registry, through the robust implementation of CORSIA MRV system.

2. ROLE OF CLEANER ENERGIES IN ACHIEVING NET ZERO

- 2.1 The global scale-up in the development and deployment of Sustainable Aviation Fuels (SAF), Lower Carbon Aviation Fuels (LCAF) and other aviation cleaner energies are crucial in enabling the international aviation sector to achieve its long-term global aspirational goal (LTAG) of net-zero carbon emissions by 2050, as they are expected to have the largest contribution to aviation CO₂ emissions reductions, up to 55% by 2050, according the <u>ICAO LTAG Report</u>. This significant potential is counter-balanced by the challenges to scale-up the development, production and deployment of these fuels. Indeed, achieving net-zero 2050 will require substantial financing, and unprecedented assistance, capacity building and global cooperation in all regions.
- 2.2 Since the <u>First ICAO Conference on Aviation and Alternative Fuels (CAAF/1)</u> in 2009, the SAF industry has made significant progress across the value chain, from the feedstock to fuel production and use. Such progress, through a number of initiatives and achievements, has been closely monitored and registered by the <u>ICAO SAF Tracking Tools</u>, including more than 100 airports distributing SAF, more than 30 national/regional policies adopted or under development, over 50 billion litres of SAF offtake agreements, and more than 40 SAF feedstocks recognized under CORSIA.
- 2.3 The Second ICAO Conference on Aviation Alternative Fuels (CAAF/2) in 2017 approved a declaration, including the 2050 ICAO Vision for Sustainable Aviation Fuels, as a living inspirational path for a significant proportion of aviation fuels to be substituted with sustainable aviation fuels by 2050, and the need to update the Vision at the third ICAO Conference. While there are increasing initiatives to develop and deploy SAF, current production levels are still low, with their prices being higher than those of conventional fuels. Therefore, a rapid scale-up is vital to narrow the price gap, while being developed in a socially, economically and environmentally sustainable manner.
- In this regard, the 41st Session of the Assembly requested the Council to convene the Third ICAO Conference on Aviation and Alternative Fuels (CAAF/3) in 2023, for reviewing the ICAO Vision for SAF, including LCAF and other cleaner energy sources for aviation, in order to define a global framework in line with the *No Country Left Behind* (NCLB) initiative and taking into account national circumstances and capabilities (refer to Resolution A41-21, paragraph 28. f)). Thus, CAAF/3 provided an important opportunity for ICAO Member States and all relevant stakeholders to consider a clear and robust global framework that would facilitate the scale-up in developing and deploying aviation cleaner energies, and establish the necessary market confidence to boost investments.

3. **2023 PROCESS TOWARD CAAF/3**

- 3.1 As part of the preparatory activities for CAAF/3, ICAO organized a series of <u>ICAO Environmental Regional Seminars</u> in April and May 2023, to raise awareness on the results of the 41st Session of the Assembly and the progress of work related to SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies, as well as to exchange initial views of States on the expectations for CAAF/3.
- 3.2 In July, the <u>2023 ICAO LTAG Stocktaking on Aviation In-sector CO₂ Emissions Reductions and Pre-CAAF/3 Consultation</u> event was held in Montréal, where States, aviation and energy stakeholders, and civil society shared their visions, ambitious plans and roadmaps for decarbonizing aviation toward energy transition. The first pre-CAAF/3 consultation among States focused on policy and finance matters, with the involvement of public and private financial institutions, to consider relevant elements of possible CAAF/3 outcomes.
- 3.3 In September, the second <u>ICAO Pre-CAAF/3 Outcomes Consultation</u> event was held in Montréal, to undertake consultation among States with a focus on possible CAAF/3 outcomes, seeking convergence of views on as many issues as possible, and identifying remaining differences of

views with a possible way forward to bridge them, in order to pave the way for result-oriented discussions at CAAF/3.

- 3.4 The <u>Third ICAO Conference on Aviation and Alternative Fuels (CAAF/3)</u> was held from 20 to 24 November 2023 in Dubai, UAE. Approximately 900 participants from 97 States and 23 Organizations participated in the Conference.
- 3.5 The Conference began with a welcome address by His Excellency Abdulla Bin Touq Al Marri, Minister of Economy and Chairman of the General Civil Aviation Authority of the UAE. In an opening address from Mr. Salvatore Sciacchitano, the President of the ICAO Council, he encouraged the delegates to demonstrate a collective determination in defining an ambitious and robust ICAO global framework, and underscored the opportunity for ICAO, through CAAF/3 taking place just before the UNFCCC COP28, to exhibit strong leadership in addressing emissions from international aviation. After the opening address, Mr. António Guterres, Secretary General of the United Nations provided an inspiring message to the Conference, which was followed by keynote addresses from Mr. Ban Ki-moon, former Secretary-General of the United Nations, and Ambassador Majid Al Suwaidi, Director General and Special Representative to the COP28 Presidency.
- 3.6 The opening day of the CAAF/3 also included a panel discussion among high-level representatives from States and Organizations to exchange views on the importance of cleaner energy for the future of aviation, the sector's efforts in aviation cleaner energy development and deployment, and the need for cooperation among States and industry. In addition, <u>Oral Statements</u> were delivered by high-level representatives of 30 States.
- 3.7 The Honourable Mr. Viliame Gavoka, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation for Fiji, was elected Chairperson of the Conference. Ms. Paule Assoumou Koki, Director General of the Cameroon Civil Aviation Authority, and Mr. Mauricio Ramirez, Representative of Colombia to ICAO, were elected first and second Vice-Chairpersons of the Conference, respectively.
- 3.8 The Conference considered Working Papers and Information Papers submitted by States and International Organizations to Agenda Items of the Conference, and discussion was supported by the consideration of four Building Blocks: 1) policy and planning, 2) regulatory framework, 3) implementation support, and 4) financing, to structure the elements of the CAAF/3 outcomes on the ICAO global framework for SAF, LCAF and other cleaner energies.

4. ICAO GLOBAL FRAMEWORK – CAAF/3 OUTCOMES



4.1 On 24 November 2023, the CAAF/3 adopted by acclamation the <u>ICAO Global Framework on SAF, LCAF and other Aviation Cleaner Energies</u> (refers to **Appendix** to this ICAO submission)¹. Some key features of the ICAO global framework include the following:

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¹ China, Iraq, Russian Federation and Saudi Arabia expressed their reservations to certain aspects of the global framework. The United States expressed its view that the global framework was not legally binding in nature.

Building Block 1 – Policy and Planning (paragraphs 1 to 11 of the global framework):

- To support the achievement of the LTAG, ICAO and its Member States strive to achieve a collective global aspirational Vision to reduce CO₂ emissions in international aviation by 5 per cent by 2030 through the use of SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies (compared to zero cleaner energy use);
- In pursuing the Vision, each State's special circumstances and respective capabilities will inform the ability of each State to contribute to the Vision within its own national timeframe, without attributing specific obligations or commitments in the form of emissions reduction goals to individual States;
- The Vision and global framework will be **continually monitored and periodically reviewed** on the progress of emissions reductions and means of implementation support, aspiring to have production sites in all regions before the convening of **CAAF/4 no later than 2028**, with a view to updating the ambition on the basis of market developments;
- Achieving the Vision will rely on means of implementation including financing, technology transfer and capacity building, and the Vision should follow other points, e.g., contributing to a level playing field among all States and avoiding market distortion;
- Development and implementation of aviation leaner energy policies and <u>State Action Plans</u> in accordance with their special circumstances and respective capabilities, as well as related actions by aviation and fuel stakeholders, in support of the Vision;

Building Block 2 – Regulatory Framework (paragraphs 12 to 16 of the global framework):

- CORSIA sustainability criteria, sustainability certification, and the methodology for the assessment of life cycle emissions should be the accepted basis for the eligibility of SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies used in international aviation;
- Acceleration for the development and approval of new Sustainability Certification Schemes
 for aviation cleaner energies, analysis and approval of life cycle values for new fuel sources
 and pathways, and certification of additional fuel production pathways, without excluding
 any particular fuel source, pathway, feedstock or technology;
- Accounting methodologies and reporting frameworks on the use of aviation cleaner energies
 and their environmental benefits for international aviation should take into account various
 parameters, including the avoidance of double-counting, and leveraging on the CORSIA
 Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system;
- ICAO will undertake a study of fuel accounting systems to determine any possible role of
 ICAO to facilitate access to environmental benefits of cleaner energies for international
 aviation, with a view to fostering the global production, in particular in developing countries;

Building Block 3 – Implementation Support (paragraphs 17 to 23 of the global framework):

Delivery of a robust, targeted and tailored capacity-building and implementation support
for the global scale-up in production of SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies, taking
into account various stages of readiness in different States and regions, and building upon the
success of ICAO <u>ACT-CORSIA</u> and <u>ACT-SAF</u> programmes, with the contributions of
resources by Staes and the industry;

- Implementation support should facilitate **partnerships**, **alliances and cooperation** between States and all relevant stakeholders, including regional collaborations, as well as the **exchange of information**, **sharing of best practices** under the ICAO's platform;
- Support for States' policy development and implementation, and the regular update of the <u>ICAO guidance for States' consideration of policies</u> that are appropriate to their circumstances, noting that the guidance does not endorse specific policies;
- Support for feasibility studies, pilot projects, and proof of concept plans, which may
 facilitate access to investment, including training on financial aspects of project development,
 financial planning and investment promotion, as well as support for State Action Plans and
 roadmaps which may also facilitate access to investment;
- **Support access to technology** related to aviation cleaner energy development and deployment, in particular to developing countries and States with particular needs, such as comprehensive technical skills, manufacturing, processing and equipment;

Building Block 4 – Financing (paragraphs 24 to 42 of the global framework):

- Recognition of the Assembly Resolutions in particular A41-21, paragraphs 18. a) and b), and
 the primary objective for ICAO and its Member States on financing is to support
 developing countries and States with particular needs, to improve access to low-cost financing
 and funding, and further de-risking of projects to develop and deploy SAF, LCAF and other
 aviation cleaner energies;
- ICAO, States and the industry should advocate and outreach for greater investment in SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energy projects, by increasing understanding amongst the international finance community, regarding the collective commitment of States and the industry, environmental and other benefits of aviation cleaner energies, and opportunities for potential investments;
- Welcoming the establishment of the <u>ICAO Finvest Hub initiative</u>, which delivers on A41-21, paragraph 18. a) to facilitate enhanced access to public and private investment capacities and funding from financial institutions, as well as encourage new and additional funding for this purpose, ICAO should urgently put in place the necessary structure and capability, toward its operationalization, while identifying how it complements broader aviation decarbonization capacity building and implementation efforts, including the <u>ACT-SAF</u> programme;
- Private capital alone will not be enough to fully scale-up the development and deployment of SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies, and public investment will be also required to support aviation cleaner energy projects. Underscoring the importance of A41-21, paragraph 18. b), ICAO should expedite its work to further consider the establishment of a climate finance initiative or funding mechanism under ICAO, while addressing the possible financial, institutional and legal challenges, recognizing the recent decision of the ICAO Council to undertake a study in this regard; and
- ICAO and its Member States should actively identify, analyse gaps and monitor developments in the UN and across the international financing community, to pursue opportunities to increase the allocation or earmarking of public and private capital devoted to aviation decarbonization projects, particularly on aviation cleaner energies.

5. ICAO ACT-SAF AND FINANCING AVIATION CLEANER ENERGY

- In parallel to the lead up process to CAAF/3, ICAO has been taking action in 2023 to further implement the ICAO Assistance, Capacity-building and Training for Sustainable Aviation Fuels (ACT-SAF) programme. Launched in June 2022, just prior to the 41st Session of the Assembly, the ACT-SAF programme provides tailored support for States in various stages of SAF development and deployment, facilitates partnerships and cooperation under ICAO coordination, and serves as a platform to facilitate knowledge sharing and recognition of all SAF initiatives around the world.
- As of November 2023, 89 States and 51 Organizations have expressed interest to join the ACT-SAF programme, and are recognized on the ICAO ACT-SAF website. The activities envisaged under the ACT-SAF include training programmes, feasibility studies, support for SAF certification and policy development, as well as the implementation of specific SAF projects, and the establishment of partnerships amongst States and other stakeholders.



Here you will find more information on ACT-SAF Participants* and Initiatives.



[·] States and Organizations that expressed intention to actively participate in the ACT-SAF Programme

- As the ACT-SAF partners expressed a strong need to receive training related to SAF, ICAO has been undertaking a set of ACT-SAF training sessions, where the ICAO Secretariat and ACT-SAF supporting partners deliver presentations and answer questions from participants on various subject matters, such as the fuel sustainability, certification, production technology, policies, logistics, market, and feasibility assessment.
- In addition, ICAO developed a template for SAF feasibility studies, in consultation with ACT-SAF partners, to facilitate the preparation of standardized feasibility studies on SAF. The template, along with its accompanying guide, aims for the coherence and comparability between studies, and facilitates its outreach and access to investment and financing. The template and guide are available on the ACT-SAF website, aiming to stimulate in-depth discussions between States and consultancies performing feasibility studies, and facilitating next steps in SAF development and deployment, which may also facilitate access to financing.
- Access to financial resources is particularly crucial for the deployment of SAF and other cleaner energies for aviation, as the scaling-up of fuels in support of the LTAG would require cumulative investments of around USD 3,200 billion by 2050 (according to the ICAO LTAG Report). Recognizing the importance of financing in aviation decarbonization, ICAO continues to actively engage financial institutions such as development banks and private equity entities through regional meetings and bilateral exchanges, as well as the high-level exchange of views under the ICAO Council, by communicating on the LTAG and the crucial role of SAF and other cleaner energy and the associated investment needs for aviation.

6. ICAO STATE ACTION PLANS INITIATIVE

- The <u>State Action Plans (SAPs)</u> also play an important role in the deployment of cleaner energies for aviation. Aspects related to policies, actions and roadmaps for the development and deployment of SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies should be considered therein, as well as the identification of resources, capacity building and other implementation support measures, including the facilitation of access to financing and funding, in line with the State's needs.
- According to Assembly Resolution A41-21, States are invited to develop, update and submit their voluntary SAPs as soon as possible preferably by the end of June 2024, encompassing innovations in technologies and cleaner energies, and outlining respective policies, actions and roadmaps, including long-term projections and ensuring the use of the best available data, all supported by ICAO guidance and tools. All the latest information related to State Action Plans and capacity-building activities are updated on the ICAO website.
- As of November 2023, 142 States representing over 98% of global international aviation traffic (in Revenue Tonne Kilometres (RTK)) have voluntarily submitted their SAPs to ICAO. The previous 2020/2022 triennium received the highest number of updated SAPs from 56 States, signalling that States are actively updating their plans and sharing information of their planned actions to reduce aviation CO_2 emissions.
- The Secretariat is also progressing on the update of the ICAO document, *Guidance on the Development of States' Action Plan on CO₂ Emissions Reduction Activities* (Doc 9988) in order to provide up-to-date guidance and support for States to incorporate their initiatives in the development of their action plans, and contribute to the achievement of collective ICAO global aspirational goals. With this updated guidance, States will have better support to demonstrate decarbonisation pathways through innovations in a robust, quantitative and forward-looking manner. The updated guidance is expected to be available by early 2024, to encourage the submission of new and updated SAPs.

Progress was also made under Phase II of the ICAO Capacity Building for CO₂ Mitigation from International Aviation assistance project, with funding from the European Union (EU). Building on the successful partnership with the EU in the project Phase I including the development of 14 SAPs and four SAF feasibility studies in Burkina Faso, Dominican Republic, Kenya and Trinidad and Tobago, ICAO recently completed the project Phase II on the development of 10 additional SAPs in African States and three additional SAF feasibility studies in Côte d'Ivoire, Rwanda and Zimbabwe.



142 Member States submitted their Action Plans.

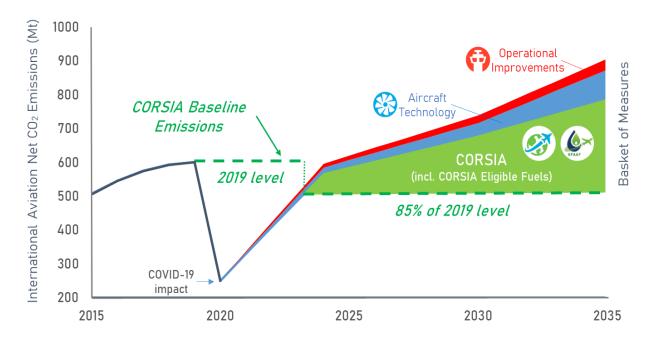
7. CARBON OFFSETTING AND REDUCTION SCHEME FOR INTERNATIONAL AVIATION (CORSIA)

- 7.1 While ICAO and its Member States have agreed on the LTAG at the 41st Session of the ICAO Assembly in 2022, with the recent adoption of the ICAO Global Framework for SAF, LCAF and other Aviation Cleaner Energies at the CAAF/3 in November 2023, a concrete mechanism had already been in place to complement aviation in-sector CO₂ reduction measures and achieve ICAO's medium-term goal of 2020 carbon neutral growth for international aviation, through the <u>Carbon</u> Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA).
- 7.2 CORSIA was agreed at the 39th Session of the ICAO Assembly in 2016, through the adoption of Assembly Resolution A41-22, as the first-ever global market-based measure for any industry sector, reflecting many years of intensive efforts and negotiations by Member States in cooperation with the aviation industry and other stakeholders. Since its agreement, timely implementation of CORSIA has been a top priority for ICAO. Despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic on international aviation, joint efforts of Member States have made it possible for the implementation of CORSIA according to its established schedule.

Milestones for CORSIA Implementation

a) In June 2018 – less than 2 years since the CORSIA agreement – the ICAO Council adopted the Standards and Recommended Practices that put in place the concrete and robust requirements for CORSIA implementation;

- b) In July 2018, ICAO launched the Assistance, Capacity-building and Training for CORSIA (ACT-CORSIA) programme to assist the implementation of the Scheme, including the establishment of partnerships among Member States (see more information below);
- c) From 1 January 2019, States and aeroplane operators started to implement the CORSIA MRV system, including monitoring, reporting and verification of CO₂ emissions from international flights, and the reporting of CORSIA-specific data to ICAO through the CORSIA Central Registry (CCR) on an annual basis (see more information below);
- d) Prior to the start of CORSIA's pilot phase (2021-2023), all necessary CORSIA Implementation Elements had been put in place to facilitate the implementation of the scheme. The ICAO Council approved eight emissions unit programmes that could supply CORSIA eligible emissions units for the pilot phase (later ICAO Council decisions have expanded the number of programmes to 11 programmes). Regarding CORSIA eligible fuels, sustainability criteria, life-cycle emissions values and methodologies, and certification schemes applicable to the pilot phase were defined;
- e) As requested by the Assembly, the ICAO Council conducted the first (2022) CORSIA periodic review, which was significantly influenced by the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. The resulting recommendations on amendments to the CORSIA design elements were adopted by the 2022 ICAO Assembly, namely:
 - Use of 2019 CO₂ emissions as the CORSIA baseline for the pilot phase (2021 2023), and use of 85% of 2019 CO₂ emissions as the CORSIA baseline after the pilot phase (2024 2035) (see Figure 3); and
 - Revised percentages of the sectoral and individual operator's growth factors for the calculation of CORSIA offsetting requirements to aeroplane operators: 100% sectoral for 2021 2032; and 85 % sectoral and 15% individual for 2033 2035;



Contribution of CORSIA for reducing international aviation net CO₂ emissions (with adjusted CORSIA baseline emissions, as a result of 2022 ICAO Assembly).

- f) Work continued in 2022 and 2023 to update the various CORSIA Implementation Elements, including their application in CORSIA's first phase (2024-2026). In this regard, two milestones are particularly significant:
 - Regarding CORSIA eligible emissions units, the ICAO Council approved to apply a 2021 vintage start date in addition to the existing 2016 crediting start date parameter for the first phase. Work has also been initiated for the assessment of the eligibility of emissions unit programmes for the first phase, with the approval of two programmes to become immediately eligible for the first phase. In this regard, ICAO welcomes the progress made at the COP 26 and COP 27, and will continue to monitor further developments on Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, in particular any implications for the eligibility of emissions units under CORSIA; and
 - Regarding CORSIA eligible fuels, the ICAO Council approved the CORSIA sustainability criteria applicable to these fuels during the first phase. The ICAO Council also expanded the approval of two Sustainable Certification Schemes (SCSs) beyond CORSIA's pilot phase.
- g) In March 2023, the ICAO Council adopted amendments to the Standards and Recommended Practices for CORSIA implementation, reflecting technical recommendations from the ICAO Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection (CAEP), as well as the amendments to the CORSIA design elements adopted by the 2022 ICAO Assembly. The amended Standards will be applicable from the start of CORSIA's first phase (2024-2026).

Voluntary participation in CORSIA

7.3 The number of ICAO Member States that voluntarily participate in the offsetting requirements of CORSIA since the start of the scheme's pilot phase has increased from 88 States for 2021, 107 States for 2022, to 115 States for 2023. 11 more States have notified ICAO of their voluntary participation from 1 January 2024, bringing the total number of volunteer States at the start of CORSIA's first phase to 126.

CORSIA Central Registry

The data reported by States through the CORSIA Central Registry (CCR) serves as the basis for the preparation of CCR-related ICAO documents, featuring information such as: list of aeroplane operators attributed to States, list of accredited verification bodies, annual CO₂ emissions and CORSIA eligible fuels. Data collected through the CCR allows for the calculation of the CORSIA annual Sector's Growth Factor (which in turn is used to determine annual CORSIA offsetting requirements for aeroplane operators) and its publication on the ICAO website. Data reported through the CCR so far shows that close to 100% of the total CO₂ emissions have been reported by States for the period 2019 to 2022; this is an indication of the determination of both States and aeroplane operators to ensure the successful implementation of CORSIA.

ICAO ACT-CORSIA Programme

7.5 In July 2018, ICAO launched the ACT-CORSIA (Assistance, Capacity-building and Training for CORSIA) programme as part of the ICAO's *No Country Left Behind* initiative, with the aim to assist all Member States with the implementation of CORSIA. The Assembly Sessions held in 2019 and 2022 emphasized the importance of a coordinated approach under the ACT-CORSIA to harmonize and bring together all relevant actions and promote coherence to capacity building efforts.

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ICAO ACT-CORSIA Buddy Partnerships among 136 States.

7.6 The Buddy Partnerships among States are the cornerstone of the ACT-CORSIA programme, currently involving 17 supporting States and 119 requesting States. Through such partnerships, supporting States offer experts on CORSIA to provide individual training and undertake the necessary follow-up with the CORSIA focal points of the requesting States, in close coordination with the ICAO Secretariat. In this regard, those experts from supporting States have been trained by ICAO to provide harmonized training to the requesting States. Recognizing the importance of providing continued support to States for CORSIA implementation, ICAO Secretariat has also organized a series of seminars/webinars sessions, as well hands-on training for the use of the CORSIA Central Registry.

8. UNFCCC – CLIMATE FINANCE

- 8.1 The Paris Agreement and associated COP21 decision did not include a reference to international aviation. One of the key elements in the Paris Agreement is that developed country Parties should continue to take the lead in mobilizing climate finance from a wide variety of sources, instruments and channels, with a concrete roadmap to achieve the goal of jointly providing USD 100 billion annually by 2020 for mitigation and adaptation through 2025. In addition, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement shall set a new financial goal prior to 2025 from a floor of USD 100 billion per year (Paris Agreement, Article 9, paragraph 3, and associated COP21 Decision 1/CP.21, paragraphs 53 and 114).
- 8.2 It should be noted that in 2010, ICAO Member States adopted global aspirational goals for the international aviation sector for improving the sector's fuel efficiency by two percent per year and keeping its global CO₂ emissions from 2020 at the same level. These aspirational goals were affirmed by the 38th (2013), 39th (2016), 40th (2019) and 41st (2022) Sessions of the ICAO Assembly (refer to Resolution A41-21, paragraphs 4 and 6).
- 8.3 In addition, the 41st (2022) Session of the ICAO Assembly also adopted a long-term global aspirational goal for the international aviation sector of net-zero carbon emissions by 2050 (refer to Resolution A41-21, paragraph 7). Finally, ICAO and its Member States have agreed during CAAF/3 in November 2023 to strive to achieve a collective global aspirational Vision to reduce CO₂ emissions in international aviation by 5 per cent by 2030, compared to zero cleaner energy use (refers to the ICAO Global Framework for SAF, LCAF and other Aviation Cleaner Energies, paragraph 1).
- 8.4 The achievement of the ICAO's global aspirational goals and aviation's clean energy transition requires adequate financial resources within the international aviation sector itself, enabling it to effectively respond to the global climate change challenge. The growing commitment of Member States and other partners to support ICAO's capacity-building and assistance efforts (e.g. refer to ICAO ACT-SAF and ACT-CORSIA programmes above) also demonstrates how critical these activities and resources are to the achievement of the ICAO global aspirational goals.
- 8.5 In this regard, the 41st (2022) Session of the ICAO Assembly urged that "ICAO and its Member States express a clear concern, through the UNFCCC process, on the use of international aviation as a potential source for the mobilization of revenue for climate finance to the other sectors, in order to ensure that international aviation would not be targeted as a source of such revenue in a disproportionate manner" (refer to Resolution A41-21, paragraph 16).

APPENDIX

ICAO Global Framework for SAF, LCAF and other Aviation Cleaner Energies (Adopted by CAAF/3 on 24 November 2023)

Whereas the 41st Session of the Assembly resolved under Resolution A41-21, paragraph 7 that "ICAO and its Member States are encouraged to work together to strive to achieve a collective long-term global aspirational goal for international aviation (LTAG) of net-zero carbon emissions by 2050, in support of the Paris Agreement's temperature goal, recognizing that each State's special circumstances and respective capabilities (e.g. the level of development, maturity of aviation markets, sustainable growth of its international aviation, just transition, and national priorities of air transport development) will inform the ability of each State to contribute to the LTAG within its own national timeframe";

Whereas the Assembly Resolution A41-21, paragraph 8 further recognizes that "the LTAG is a collective global aspirational goal, and it does not attribute specific obligations or commitments in the form of emissions reduction goals to individual States, and urges each State to contribute to achieving the goal in a socially, economically and environmentally sustainable manner and in accordance with national circumstances";

Whereas the Assembly Resolution A41-21, 17th preamble "recalls the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement and acknowledges its principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in light of different national circumstances";

Whereas the Assembly Resolution A41-21, 18th preamble "also acknowledges the principles of non-discrimination and equal and fair opportunities to develop international aviation set forth in the Chicago Convention":

Recognizing that achieving the LTAG requires a comprehensive approach consisting of a basket of measures, including technology, sustainable fuels, operational improvements, and market-based measures. Sustainable Aviation Fuels (SAF), Lower Carbon Aviation Fuels (LCAF) and other aviation cleaner energies are expected to have the largest contribution to aviation CO₂ emissions reduction by 2050 and, whilst there are increasing initiatives to develop and deploy these fuels, current production levels of these fuels are still extremely low at only 0.2 per cent of all aviation fuel use;

Accordingly, there is a need for urgent global action to accelerate the global scale up in development and deployment of SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies in order to achieve the LTAG and thus provide ICAO's continuous leadership in addressing emissions from international aviation;

Recalling that the Assembly Resolution A41-21, paragraph 28. f) requested to "convene the CAAF/3 in 2023 for reviewing the 2050 ICAO Vision for SAF, including LCAF and other cleaner energy sources for aviation, in order to define a global framework in line with the *No Country Left Behind* (NCLB) initiative and taking into account national circumstances and capabilities";

Recognizing that there is significant potential for States to economically, socially and environmentally contribute to, and benefit from, the value chain for the development, production and deployment of SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies, including as new economic streams and alternative sources for the energy security;

Recognizing that SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies need to be developed and deployed in an economically feasible, cost-effective and socially and environmentally acceptable manner and in accordance with national circumstances;

Recognizing that means of implementation commensurate to the level of ambition, including financing, will promote the achievement of the LTAG and, by extension, the development and deployment of SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies;

Recalling that ICAO, through the ICAO Council Industry Consultative Forum; the ICAO Council's dialogues with energy and financial institutions; and the 2023 ICAO Stocktaking on Aviation in Sector CO₂ Emissions Reductions, have heard the industry calls to help reduce risk and attract investment by providing greater regulatory certainty governing SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies and better access to financing, and by establishing better collaboration and coordination between all stakeholders;

Recognizing that the production of SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies is currently concentrated in a small number of States. The global framework intends to emphasize the benefits for States and ICAO in working toward the decentralization of such fuel production across all States and regions, providing a fair and equal opportunity to participate across the value chain, from feedstock to fuel production and use;

Recognizing that no single fuel source will be produced at a level necessary to achieve the LTAG. Accordingly, the global framework needs to be flexible and not exclude any particular fuel source, pathway, feedstock or technology that meets the CORSIA agreed criteria;

Recognizing that aviation is part of a global effort to address climate change, and the intent to accelerate the global scale up in development and deployment of SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies is consistent with recent international commitments in accelerating clean, sustainable, just, affordable and inclusive energy transitions and, in doing so:

- a) recognizes the needs, vulnerabilities, priorities and different national circumstances, particularly of developing countries; and
- b) supports strong enabling environments to foster innovation, technology transfer, building on and consistent with Assembly Resolution A41-21, paragraph 18. d), and access to low-cost financing;

Recognizing that no country should have to choose between fighting poverty and fighting for our planet. In this regard, efforts to decarbonize aviation need to work alongside efforts to sustainably develop the sector, particularly in developing countries.

Acknowledging that the role of this global framework is to facilitate the global scale-up in development and deployment of SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies by providing greater clarity, consistency and predictability to all stakeholders, including those beyond the aviation sector, on the policies, regulations, implementation support, and financing and investments required, to ensure all States have equal opportunities to contribute to, and benefit from, the expected emissions reductions from such aviation cleaner energies;

Also acknowledging that the global framework is built across four building blocks: policy and planning; regulatory frameworks; implementation support; and financing. These building blocks are interconnected and need to advance and work together to achieve their intended purpose;

Further acknowledging that throughout this global framework, the support for developing countries and States with particular needs, exists along a continuum, from the first step of the process to the last. Comprehensive capacity-building and implementation support and financing activities, are intended to work hand-in-hand to achieve this outcome and broader aviation decarbonization efforts in a sustainable manner;

Building Block 1 – Policy and Planning:

- 1. ICAO and its Member States will work together to strive to achieve a Vision of implementing the elements of this global framework in order to globally scale-up the development and deployment for SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies, as such fuels are expected to have the largest contribution to aviation CO₂ emissions reductions in the 'basket of measures' to achieve the LTAG. To support the achievement of the LTAG, ICAO and its Member States strive to achieve a collective global aspirational Vision to reduce CO₂ emissions in international aviation by 5 per cent by 2030 through the use of SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies (compared to zero cleaner energy use). In pursuing this Vision, each State's special circumstances and respective capabilities will inform the ability of each State to contribute to the Vision within its own national timeframe, without attributing specific obligations or commitments in the form of emissions reduction goals to individual States.
- 2. This Vision will be continually monitored and periodically reviewed, as described in paragraph 11 below, including through the convening of CAAF/4 no later than 2028, with a view to updating the ambition on the basis of market developments in all regions.
- 3. Increasing the production of SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies across all regions will be integral to achieving the Vision and will rely on means of implementation including financing, technology transfer and capacity building.
- 4. In addition, the Vision should:
 - a) enable the increased production and supply of SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies across all regions;
 - b) be flexible, attainable and feasible;
 - c) be continually monitored and periodically reviewed (refer to paragraph 11 below);
 - d) be ambitious, in order to send a positive market signal to induce demand, trigger supply and attract significant additional investment, taking into account special circumstances and respective capabilities of States;
 - e) not negatively impact the growth of air transport, especially in developing countries;
 - f) contribute to a level playing field among all States and avoid market distortion;
 - g) be supported by the appropriate means of implementation including financing, technology transfer and capacity building;
 - h) not exclude any particular fuel source, pathway, feedstock or technology, as long as it meets the CORSIA sustainability criteria;
 - i) take account of the projections included in the LTAG report and subsequent analysis by CAEP;
 - j) note national fuel-related emissions reduction goals and roadmaps by States and any other industry commitments;
 - k) not give rise to any mandatory measures to achieve this Vision and the objective of this framework; and
 - 1) contribute to mitigating air pollution, maximising both public health and climate benefits.
- 5. States are encouraged to implement policies in support of the Vision, in a socially, economically and environmentally sustainable manner and in accordance with their special circumstances and respective capabilities.

- 6. In developing these policies, States are invited to consider the usefulness and benefits of the non-exhaustive and non-prescriptive list of potential policy components contained within the 'toolkit' in paragraph 18 below, noting that ICAO guidance provides further detail on these potential policy components and the guidance does not provide any endorsement of specific policies.
- 7. In developing and implementing their policies, States are encourage to recognize:
 - a) the need for, and benefits of, a combination of policies under a coherent and coordinated national plan for the scale-up in production and deployment of SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies, noting that no one single policy is likely to deliver the best and most efficient outcomes and that the appropriate policy-mix will differ between States due to different national circumstances;
 - b) the need for policies to take into account cost impacts and affordability, and to avoid extraterritorial measures;
 - c) the need for policies to take into account the latest scientific and technological developments;
 - d) the importance of the policy's transparency, certainty and stability, for aircraft operators, feedstock producers, fuel producers, financial institutions and other relevant stakeholders; and
 - e) the need for policies to be applied in accordance with the Chicago Convention and its relevant instruments and any appropriate bilateral and multilateral agreements in place between States, with particular regard for the fundamental principles of non-discrimination, fair and equal opportunity; and the avoidance of market distortion.
- 8. States are encouraged to work together towards the harmonization of policies, to the extent possible and appropriate to circumstances, across States and regions as a longer-term objective.
- 9. The Vision is a collaborative effort with action required from different stakeholders, and States are to encourage relevant stakeholders (i.e. aircraft operators, airports, aircraft and engine manufactures, fuel producers, ICAO's approved Sustainability Certification Schemes, and fuel standards bodies) to plan, develop and implement their own actions to help achieve the Vision, as appropriate, including:
 - a) Aircraft operators to prioritize the negotiation, cooperation and commercial procurement of SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies; facilitate access for travellers, air cargo shippers and businesses who wish to voluntarily reduce their air travel footprint through access to the purchase of SAF, LCAF and other cleaner fuels; and implement measures to increase SAF compatibility within their fleets;
 - b) Airports to plan and deliver changes in airport infrastructure necessary to ensure efficient supply and access to drop-in fuels and, in collaboration with aircraft operators, fuel producers and other stakeholders, explore innovative ways to share the cost of such infrastructure changes across the value chain;
 - c) Aircraft and engine manufactures and fuel producers to accelerate work to ensure 100 per cent SAF compatibility is feasible in new, in-production and existing aircraft, as soon as it is considered safe to do so and in line with their announced commitments, and innovate to

- understand and maximize the opportunities offered by other cleaner energy sources in the longer term;
- d) *Fuel producers* to foster innovation and investment into SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies and demonstrate technological readiness, scalability and sustainability of these fuels in line with the CORSIA requirements;
- e) ICAO's approved Sustainability Certification Schemes to accelerate the sustainability certification of qualifying SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies in line with the CORSIA requirements; and
- f) Fuel standards bodies, particularly ASTM, to work with all stakeholders to accelerate the qualification and approval of additional fuel production pathways.
- 10. States are encouraged to include their respective policies, actions and roadmaps for the development and deployment of SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies, in their State Action Plans, and where possible, to:
 - a) identify resources, capacity and other factors (e.g. capacity assistance and access to technology) required;
 - b) help ICAO to tailor capacity building and implementation support measures, including facilitating access to financing and funding, in line with the State's needs; and
 - c) to quantify their Plans, to support ICAO's work in monitoring progress towards achieving the LTAG.
- 11. The implementation of the global framework should be continually monitored and periodically reviewed, including through annual ICAO stocktaking, and the convening of CAAF/4. In this regard, ICAO, with the technical contribution of CAEP, should identify and develop methodologies for monitoring the:
 - a) progress on emissions reductions from SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies toward the achievement of the LTAG, including through the gathering, compiling and analyzing, by ICAO, of actions undertaken by States according to their State Action Plans and other relevant State reporting mechanisms;
 - b) progress, at a global and regional level, on means of implementation support, including financing, provided to achieve the emissions reductions from SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies toward the achievement of the LTAG, including through the gathering, compiling and analyzing, by ICAO, of actions undertaken by States, industry, and other stakeholders; and
 - c) impacts on the sustainable growth of the aviation industry, the geographical distribution of SAF production, cost impacts (including airfares and the price of SAF, LCAF and other cleaner energies), and the maintenance of fair and equal opportunities for the development and deployment of SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies, aspiring to have production sites in all ICAO regions before CAAF/4.

- 12. In the interests of providing regulatory transparency, certainty, stability and assurances of environmental integrity to feedstock producers, fuels producers and financial institutions, the CORSIA sustainability criteria, sustainability certification, and the methodology for the assessment of life cycle emissions used for 'CORSIA eligible fuels', should be used as the accepted basis for the eligibility of SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies used in international aviation.
- 13. ICAO, States and industry are encouraged to enhance efforts to increase the number of ICAO approved Sustainability Certification Schemes, in all regions, to accelerate the sustainability certification of qualifying SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies in line with the CORSIA requirements, without excluding any particular fuel source, pathway, feedstock or technology. In this regard, ICAO, with technical and neutral contributions of CAEP, is encouraged to accelerate the development and approval of new Sustainability Certification Schemes for SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies and to accelerate the analysis and approval of life cycle values for new fuel sources and pathways.
- 14. ICAO, States, industry and other relevant stakeholders are encouraged to work with fuel standards bodies, such as ASTM, to accelerate the certification of additional fuel production pathways, with a view to maximizing the number of certified sources of SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies.
- 15. Accounting methodologies on the use of SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies for international aviation, such as the CORSIA MRV, provides confidence in the use of such fuels and the claim of their environmental benefits by aeroplane operators, noting that such accounting methodologies could help support the monitoring of progress towards the achievement of the LTAG. Accounting methodologies and the associated reporting frameworks should take into account the following parameters, which seek to promote transparency, accuracy, consistency, comparability and completeness:
 - a) ensure the global coverage of emissions from international civil aviation, as part of the monitoring of the LTAG;
 - b) support consistent application of methodologies amongst States, in a transparent manner;
 - c) enable accurate emissions reporting, including the use of cleaner energy for international civil aviation:
 - d) ensure environmental integrity through the avoidance of double-counting, including between
 - domestic and international civil aviation;
 - e) use verified emissions information, supported with other information for the verification or validation of reported emissions;
 - f) promote cost-effectiveness by using simple accounting and reporting methodologies and procedures;
 - g) avoid excessive administrative burden on States and aeroplane operators; and
 - h) leverage, to the extent possible, existing methodologies and procedures under the CORSIA MRV.
- 16. ICAO should, with technical contributions of CAEP, undertake a study of fuel accounting systems for international aviation currently used in the open market. This study would include preliminary exploration of the so-called 'book and claim' concept to assess its relevancy and applicability, and taking into account relevant developments in other UN bodies, including the Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. The intent of the study would be to better understand these accounting systems and concepts and identify potential areas for further investigation. This work can help determine what, if any, role ICAO could have in supporting these systems to facilitate access to environmental

benefits of SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies for international aviation and ensure environmental integrity, with a view to fostering without disincentivising the global production of such fuels, in particular in developing countries.

Building Block 3 – Implementation Support

- 17. All States should have access to the means to participate across all stages of the development and deployment of SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies, and all States and regions are encouraged to work together in a spirit of solidarity to ensure there is a truly global effort to contribute to, and benefit from, the work to reduce emissions from such aviation cleaner energies.
- 18. The global scale-up in production of SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies requires a robust and substantial capacity-building and implementation support programme. States, ICAO, industry, academia and other relevant stakeholders are encouraged to work together to deliver such a programme that:
 - a) recognizes the need for an expanded, robust, targeted and tailored support to account for the various stages of readiness across the entire SAF/LCAF value chain, taking into account different circumstances across States and regions;
 - b) facilitates partnerships, alliances and cooperation between States and all relevant stakeholders, including regional collaborations that may result in regional solutions that produce fuels efficiently;
 - c) includes exchange of information, sharing of best practices and technological developments among States, for which ICAO should provide a platform to facilitate this exchange and track progress;
 - d) supports States in their planning, development and implementation of national and regional policies that can be applied across all stages of fuel supply-chain, including the following potential policy components that form part of a non-exhaustive 'toolkit' (referred to paragraph 6 above):
 - i. foster multi-stakeholder partnerships, alliances and cooperation, including with (as appropriate) aeroplane operators, airports, aircraft and engine manufacturers, energy producers and financial institutions;
 - ii. government incentives, including loans, grants, tax credits, regulatory support and other mechanisms for:
 - research and development, including determination of the technology readiness level;
 - sourcing of potential feedstock;
 - development and acceleration of feedstock production; and
 - development and acceleration of fuel production;
 - iii. targets and/or mandates for:
 - emissions reduction levels;
 - uptake of SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies; and
 - fuel blending levels;
 - iv. where beneficial, identify SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies as priorities for financing for economy-wide decarbonization efforts;
 - v. promote increasing the number of ICAO approved Sustainability Certification Schemes for SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies;

- vi. promote feasibility studies for potential SAF, LCAF and other cleaner energy pathways;
- vii. promote necessary changes in airport and energy supply infrastructure; and
- viii. promote the use of Public Private Partnerships to deliver SAF and LCAF projects.
- e) regularly updates the ICAO detailed guidance on the 'policy toolkit' and the 'Rules of Thumb', where applicable, to estimate the costs, investment needs and production potentials, to help inform States' consideration of the selection of national and regional policies that are appropriate to their circumstances, noting that the guidance does not provide any endorsement of specific policies;
- f) supports the delivery, in a continuum, of feasibility studies, pilot projects, and 'proof of concept' plans, which may facilitate access to investment for their implementation;
- g) develops and provides training to enhance State's awareness and readiness, as well as to support the SAF and LCAF project's readiness to attract investment, including training on financial aspects of project development, financial planning and investment promotion; and
- h) assists in the development of relevant aspects of State Action Plans and roadmaps, including ICAO guidance and tools, and State-to-State support partnerships, noting that State Actions Plans may also include information on specific assistance needs for the implementation of measures to reduce aviation CO₂ emissions, which may facilitate access to investment and technology.
- 19. Access to technology is imperative for States to contribute to, and benefit from, cleaner energy development and deployment. Accordingly, States and industry shall promote and facilitate, in accordance with 14th preamble above, the effective transfer of technology, in particular to developing countries and States with particular needs, in line with the *No Country Left Behind* (NCLB) initiative, through comprehensive technical skills, manufacturing, processing and equipment, and noting the global benefits that come from increasing the supply of cleaner energy.
- 20. The ICAO capacity-building and implementation support should be delivered in an efficient, effective and coordinated manner under the 'one-ICAO' approach, incorporating support for all stages of SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies development and deployment, and building upon the success of the ACT-CORSIA and ACT-SAF programmes. States are also encouraged to develop specific projects under the ICAO Technical Cooperation Programme.
- 21. In line with the *No Country Left Behind* initiative, States are urged to make regular and substantial contributions to the ICAO Voluntary Environment Fund and other in-kind contributions (e.g. secondments) to support delivery of the substantial ICAO capacity building and implementation support programme, aimed at assisting developing countries and States with particular needs, including, as a priority, for feasibility studies and technology adaption.
- 22. Industry is also urged to provide expertise and financial support to support delivery of the substantial capacity building and implementation support programme including, as a priority, for feasibility studies and technology adaption.
- 23. ICAO should regularly monitor the progress and effectiveness of the capacity-building and implementation support efforts, including ensuring there are sufficient resources to deliver its support programme, as part of the broader means of implementation. In this regard, ICAO should

consider developing necessary methodologies for monitoring and reporting back to States, including information on where its support efforts are located and the cost of those efforts.

Building Block 4 – Financing

- 24. As recognized in Assembly Resolution A41-21, paragraph 17, "means of implementation commensurate to the level of ambition, including financing, will promote the achievement of the LTAG. It requires substantial investments for States, according to their national circumstances, and that various possible modalities and/or funding mechanisms could be used by ICAO to facilitate financing and investment support for implementation of specific aviation CO₂ emissions reduction measures".
- 25. According to the LTAG report, fuel suppliers will need to invest up to 3.2 trillion USD in producing aviation cleaner energies through to 2050, and additional investments will be needed for other aviation CO₂ reduction measures such as aircraft technologies and operational improvements. The scale of this task presents both challenges and opportunities for ICAO, States and other stakeholders, including the financing community.
- 26. Specific to financing and funding, Assembly Resolution A41-21, paragraphs 18. a) and b), request the Council to:
 - a) "initiate specific measures or mechanisms so as to facilitate, in particular for developing countries and States having particular needs, better access to private investment capacities, as well as funding from financial institutions, such as development banks, for projects contributing to the decarbonization of international aviation, as well as encourage new and additional funding to this purpose"; and
 - b) "further consider the establishment of a climate finance initiative or funding mechanism under ICAO, while addressing the possible financial, institutional and legal challenges, and report to the 42nd Session of the ICAO Assembly".
- 27. These two paragraphs of the Assembly Resolution must be urgently progressed, in parallel, if the challenge of scaling-up SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies is to be addressed at the global level in a sustainable manner, including economic, social and environmental concerns.
- 28. With a view to achieving the LTAG, the primary objective for ICAO and its Member States with respect to financing should be to support countries in particular developing countries and States with particular needs, to improve access to low-cost financing and funding, and further de-risking of projects to develop and deploy SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies in order to promote sustainability and stimulate investment, in line with the *No Country Left Behind* initiative.
- 29. Measures to attract greater investment in SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies from development banks and other capital markets are integral to ICAO efforts under Assembly Resolution A40-22, particularly paragraph 8, to "continue fostering ICAO's partnership with financial institutions seeking the prioritization or inclusion of aviation in their agendas and work programmes in order to facilitate States' access to fund or finance their aviation development projects".
- 30. Some financing instruments (e.g. blended finance and Public-Private Partnerships) require significant cooperation and collaboration between stakeholders, including States, industry and public and private financial institutions, to mitigate the investment risk. There is a role for ICAO

- and its Member States to engage in this cross-stakeholder collaboration as appropriate, on possible measures to de-risk investments.
- 31. ICAO, States and industry have a key role to play in advocating for greater investment in SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energy projects by increasing awareness and understanding amongst the international finance community on:
 - a) the collective commitment of States and the industry to achieve the LTAG;
 - b) the importance of the sustainable growth of the international aviation sector including the economic and social connectivity and trade flows;
 - c) the benefits of the use of SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies to address aviation's contribution to climate change;
 - d) the strong action from ICAO, States and industry to the global scale-up of SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies;
 - e) the direct and indirect economic and social benefits to States across the value chain of SAF and LCAF production;
 - f) the scale of the demand for SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies;
 - g) the challenges to accessing affordable and needed financing for projects for SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies; and
 - h) potential investment opportunities and returns.
- 32. As part of this advocacy and outreach, States and ICAO should enhance and deepen their engagement and dialogue with the international finance community and other relevant stakeholders, including:
 - a) public and private financial institutions, including sub-national, national, regional and multilateral banks;
 - b) private capital markets, including investors and insurers;
 - c) capital and banking alliances;
 - d) State donors;
 - e) UN, and other internationally-recognized funds and investment vehicles; and
 - f) energy producers.
- 33. ICAO, in cooperation with States, should develop a series of case studies of successful SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies projects, drawing from examples in regions with different characteristic and investment risk. Such case studies could assist both project developers and prospective investors by providing examples of 'tried and tested' pathways for investment and instill confidence that investment opportunities can be realized.
- 34. States acknowledge and welcome the establishment of the 'ICAO Finvest Hub', which delivers on Assembly Resolution A41-21, paragraph 18. a), and look forward to its work to facilitate enhanced access to public and private investment capacities and funding from financial institutions, with prioritization of allocation to developing countries and States with particular needs, for projects contributing to the decarbonization of international aviation, including for the scale-up in development and deployment of SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies, as well as encourage new and additional funding for this purpose.
- 35. As a first step, ICAO should urgently put in place the necessary structure and capability, toward the operationalization of the proposed 'ICAO Finvest Hub' initiative. Such work should clearly identify how the Finvest Hub initiative complements broader aviation decarbonization capacity building and implementation efforts, including the ACT-SAF programme.

- 36. Key activities that the ICAO Finvest Hub could undertake include:
 - a) developing a platform to connect aviation decarbonization projects with potential public and private investors, including a 'matchmaking' function, thus helping investors to identify and assess projects;
 - b) working with various stakeholders to explore innovative funding and risk mitigation mechanism adapted to the decarbonisation of aviation, incentivizing investments, and promoting collaboration among stakeholders to mobilize financial resources effectively (e.g. fostering Public Private Partnerships);
 - c) collaborating with financial institutions, such as development banks, to create pathways for the funding of projects;
 - d) developing a database of funding and financing sources, together with their terms and conditions, for project developers to be able to draw on; and
 - e) developing a toolkit of term sheets templates (basic conditions to satisfy investors) for SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies.
- 37. Private capital alone will not be enough to fully address the challenge of scaling-up the development and deployment of SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies. Sizable public investment, including concessionary funding, as appropriate, will be required to support some SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energy projects, particularly in developing countries and in States with particular needs.
- 38. States recognize the important role that ICAO can play in encouraging scaled up funding flows, including new and additional funding flows, as appropriate, and their transparent and effective disbursement. ICAO and its Member States need to ensure 'no stone is left unturned' in exploring avenues to support these objectives.
- 39. To this end, States underscore the importance of Assembly Resolution A41-21, paragraph 18. b) and agree that ICAO should expedite its work to further consider the establishment of a climate finance initiative or funding mechanism under ICAO, while addressing the possible financial, institutional and legal challenges. Recognizing the recent decision of the Council to undertake a study regarding the consideration of the establishment of a climate finance initiative or funding mechanism under ICAO, this work must be completed for consideration by the 42nd Session of the ICAO Assembly, in accordance with A41-21, paragraph 18. b).
- 40. States recognize that, in its work preparing the report under A41-21 paragraph 18. b), the ICAO Council should consider, among others, the following aspects:
 - a) achieving the LTAG in a fair and sustainable manner;
 - b) the role that a climate finance initiative or a funding mechanism could play in reinforcing and complementing the work of the Finvest Hub, and other mechanisms of the Organization, such as the ACT-SAF programme, the ICAO Technical Cooperation Program and the ICAO Voluntary Environment Fund;
 - c) the need for a gap analysis to identify where there are specific needs with attention to developing States and States having particular needs; and
 - d) the objective of promoting the increase of SAF production worldwide and concomitant economic, social and environmental benefits across all regions.

- 41. Globally, there are ongoing efforts to mobilize climate finance and maximize resources, including concessional financing, as appropriate, in order to support clean energy transitions. Aviation must have a role in these efforts to support its own transition and the achievement of the LTAG.
- 42. ICAO and its Member States should initiate a work stream to actively identify, analyse gaps and monitor developments in the UN and across the international financing community, including *inter alia* the Green Climate Fund and its upcoming replenishment, the Net Zero Asset Owner Alliance, and the Multilateral Development Banks Vision Statement, to identify and aggressively pursue opportunities to increase the allocation or earmarking of public and private capital devoted to aviation decarbonization projects, particularly on SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies.

