

Closing Remarks by the Secretary General of the

International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)

Mr. Juan Carlos Salazar

to the Global Implementation Support Symposium 2025

- 1. Distinguished Ministers, Directors General of Civil Aviation, industry representatives, colleagues and friends:
- 2. I am honoured to bring this fourth ICAO Global Implementation Support Symposium to a close, following three days of productive, informative, and inspiring discussions.
- 3. During our discussions, we have focused on two critical priorities: sustainability and ICAO's capacity-building mission. These interconnected goals are fundamental to enabling States and the broader international air transport community to achieve our shared goals.
- 4. We were privileged to host a record number of Ministers who powerfully articulated the ways in which civil aviation drives their States' economic and social development. Their insights on sustainability and environmental stewardship highlighted practical approaches to achieving responsible growth while advancing our Long-Term Global Aspirational Goals for net carbon neutrality.
- 5. The Ministers outlined several strategic priorities, including:
 - Developing and implementing standards to reduce civil aviation's climate impact,
 - Advancing the Finvest Hub Initiative to support critical infrastructure projects;
 - Strengthening ICAO's implementation support for resource-constrained States;
 - Creating targeted products, services, and technical assistance programmes, as well as engaging in resource mobilization activities.

- 6. The Ministerial Roundtable discussions established clear direction and momentum for our collaborative efforts.
- 7. Among the many significant topics we have addressed, artificial intelligence stands out. We examined not only its potential for innovation and efficiency but also how AI-driven adaptive learning systems can personalize training to meet individual needs.
- 8. Regarding training, I want to recognize the significance of the work of our Trainair Plus Members, who enable so much of our global aviation capacity-building efforts.
- 9. This week, Trainair Plus Members collaborated with ICAO's Global Aviation Training Office to advance technical assistance and resource mobilization. They focused on donor outreach, engagement, and developing data-informed products and services to address States' current and emerging needs.
- 10. The urgent challenge of climate change remained central to our discussions, with sustainable aviation fuels emerging as a critical element in our decarbonization strategy.
- 11. The focus on sustainable fuels led us to coordinate GISS with another groundbreaking initiative. The General Civil Aviation Authority of the UAE, partnering with ICAO and Sustainable Aviation Futures, launched the Global Sustainable Aviation Markets (GSAM). It is the first time a forum of this kind has showcased pathways to scale aviation decarbonization and SAF production worldwide.
- 12. Building on our Finvest efforts, the GSAM will serve as a catalyst for:
- Fostering SAF partnerships and innovation;
- Accelerating sector decarbonization;
- Creating incentives for SAF adoption; and
- Supporting cleaner energy integration across the aviation ecosystem.
- 13. As we conclude the 2025 Global Implementation Support Symposium, I extend my deepest gratitude for your engaged participation and valuable contributions. Special thanks to our host, the United Arab Emirates, for the exceptional hospitality and unwavering support of our shared vision.

[UAE host speaks]

14. On behalf of ICAO, I thank you for ensuring the remarkable success of this symposium. Following our GISS tradition, we will now view the announcement of our GISS 2026 venue.

[Morocco's Minister speaks]

- 15. Thank you Minister.
- 16. GISS 2025 has now come to an end. I wish you safe travels and look forward to continuing our important work together when we reconvene next year.
- 17. Thank you.