



Opening Remarks by

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*Video message*

1. Good morning from Montreal. Thank you for the opportunity to discuss aviation's energy transition – one of the most crucial challenges facing our sector.
2. The International Civil Aviation Organization works with governments and industry to determine common aviation standards and strategies. As Secretary General, I can report significant momentum in sustainable aviation across our global community. This September, our 193 Member States will be invited to review that progress at the ICAO Assembly and strengthen our common path forward.
3. Let me share what we've achieved together.
4. ICAO Member States have committed to work towards net-zero carbon emissions from international flights by 2050, commonly known as the Long-Term Global Aspirational Goal or LTAG.
5. We are already implementing this LTAG. At our 2023 Conference on Aviation Alternative Fuels, our Member States established the building blocks for this transition and a specific target for sustainable aviation fuel use by 2030, namely, to reduce carbon intensity by 5%.
6. Our progress also builds on CORSIA – the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation. CORSIA is significant as the first global market-based measure for any sector. Among

many other outcomes, it created the world's first comprehensive policy framework for sustainable aviation fuels.

7. Building on CORSIA's groundbreaking framework, we continue to adapt to rapid technological developments and emerging opportunities. Just last week, our environmental committee made crucial advances in measuring the full life-cycle impact of sustainable aviation fuels, hydrogen, and electric innovations. These technical agreements create a level playing field for clean aviation energy worldwide.
8. These advances are translating into concrete action. Through our Assistance, Capacity-building and Training for Sustainable Aviation Fuel (ACT-SAF) programme, we are conducting over twenty feasibility and implementation studies worldwide. These results are encouraging: ICAO Member States are actively exploring their clean aviation energy potential, leading to increased sustainable fuel production and new facilities globally.
9. To transform these initiatives from promising developments into global reality, we are aiming towards the following:

First, we need consistent implementation of our agreed framework. We already have global standards for sustainable aviation fuels through CORSIA. New national policies should build on these standards rather than create different requirements.

Second, we need to scale up production. Our new FINVEST programme is helping connect promising projects with financing, particularly in developing countries. The financial sector is actively seeking bankable sustainable aviation projects, and ICAO is uniquely placed to facilitate this collaboration.

Third, we need coordinated action. We have the goals, the technical framework, and unprecedented alignment between airlines, manufacturers, environmental organizations, and governments. Now we need to work together to overcome practical implementation challenges.

10. Reaching our 2030 and 2050 goals will be demanding. We'll need all types of sustainable feedstocks and production processes. But unlike many sectors, aviation already has its international agreement in place. Our task now is turning these agreements into reality.

11. The World Economic Forum partnership has been instrumental in our progress. I invite you to join us at ICAO's Aviation Climate Week, opening on 2 June this year, where we will develop specific recommendations for the ICAO Assembly.
12. Thank you for this opportunity. I look forward to hearing your ideas on accelerating this vital transition.