

**International Transport Forum Summit 2021**  
**Open Ministerial session**  
*Transformative governance: How can governments better foster innovation?*  
**Thursday 27 May 2021**

1. *Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen.*
2. Governments and aviation authorities are invested in enabling new air transport technologies, fuels, and operations today.
3. International air connectivity directly supports 15 of the 17 UN SDGs, and innovations in aviation hold the potential to promote critical efficiencies and improve our sector's capabilities as a catalyst for socio-economic and sustainable development.
4. Virtually every aviation innovation being explored today will positively contribute to decreasing sectoral emissions. Some very substantially.
5. The information ICAO is monitoring and collecting on these latest green developments is helping countries explore the next long-term CO<sub>2</sub> reductions goal for the sector, which will be discussed by the next ICAO Assembly, in 2022.
6. It's critical we appreciate that global aviation is a vast and complex network, and that some air transport innovations will require substantial and systemic R&D and infrastructure investments.
7. With public subsidies being heavily relied upon for this capital, governments need investment certainty, a level international playing field with a stable regulatory climate, and a dependable vision of how new technologies and operations will generate the economic and sustainability benefits expected of them.
8. This dependable vision is largely defined by the strategic performance outcomes they adopt through ICAO, requirements and targets which are intentionally not technology-specific.
9. This performance-based enabling framework also encourages very dynamic growth and development among small and medium-sized start-up enterprises, because there are also many new aviation concepts and technologies which have much lower development costs.

10. Lastly, but certainly not least importantly where ICAO is concerned, governments expect us to innovate in how we standardize and enable innovations, and become continuously more efficient in how we enable new developments.