

## ICAO EUR/NAT

I. Welcome

II. CORSIA

III. Capacity Building

IV. Upcoming EUR/NAT  
Training, Workshops &  
Webinars



# RD Brief

## I. WELCOME

Latest developments in environment activities marked significant progress in the global implementation of ICAO's Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA), despite the many challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic crisis.

On Tuesday 30 June 2020 the ICAO Council agreed to provide a clear safeguard to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic crisis that has significantly lowered international aviation operations and related emissions. In light of paragraph 16 of Resolution A40-19, the ICAO Council determined that in order to avoid inappropriate economic burden on the aviation industry for the CORSIA implementation during the pilot phase from 2021 to 2023, the value of 2019 emissions shall be used for 2020 emissions.

In spite of the the current global challenges, ICAO, continues to support its Member States to implement the CORSIA regulatory requirements.

Last but not least, I would like to highlight that Kazakhstan is the latest country in the EUR/NAT Region to announce its participation in the pilot phase of CORSIA which is voluntary. There are now 46 States out of 56 in the EUR/NAT Region who have decided and announced their participation in the voluntary phases of CORSIA.

Enjoy the reading,

Silvia Gehrler

## II. ICAO And CORSIA

In 2010, ICAO adopted two sectoral aspirational goals: (1) 2% annual fuel efficiency improvement, and (2) carbon-neutral growth from 2020 onwards. Ten years ago, international aviation became the first sector that committed to carbon-neutral growth.

In 2016, CORSIA was adopted as the first global market-based measure for any sector. CORSIA calls for international aviation to address and offset its emissions through the reduction of emissions elsewhere (outside of the international aviation sector), involving the concept of "emissions units". One emissions unit thereby represents one ton of CO<sub>2</sub>.

The average level of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from international aviation, covered by the scheme, between 2019 and 2020, represents the basis for carbon-neutral growth from 2020, against which emissions in future years are compared. In any year from 2021 when international aviation CO<sub>2</sub> emissions covered by the scheme, exceed the average baseline emissions of 2019 and 2020, this difference represents the sector's offsetting requirements for that year.

ICAO Resolution A40-19 also included the modalities to adjust CORSIA in case of an unforeseen circumstance that affects the sustainability of the scheme, or in case of an inappropriate economic burden such as that caused by COVID-19 pandemic crisis. Para 9 of resolution A40-19 mentioned the periodic reviews of the design elements to be conducted by the ICAO Council every three years starting in 2022.

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, which led to a drastic decrease in aviation operations and aviation emissions, ICAO has been monitoring carefully the situation and was aware of some initial concerns on the CORSIA baseline as well as on the capacity for States to meet the 2020 CORSIA reporting timelines.

<https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/CORSIA/Pages/CORSIA-and-Covid-19.aspx>

On 30 June 2020, the ICAO Council determined that the value of 2019 emissions shall be used for 2020 emissions to avoid inappropriate economic burden on the aviation industry, for the CORSIA implementation during the pilot phase from 2021 to 2023. The ICAO Council also noted the numerous measures taken by the ICAO Secretariat, to ensure that continued support was provided for the implementation of CORSIA requirements during the COVID-19 pandemic crisis.

### III. Capacity building

In July 2018, the Council of ICAO launched a new capacity building initiative, "ACT CORSIA", to support Member States in the implementation of CORSIA requirements. Thanks to ACT CORSIA more than 130 States have been trained and supported by experts from other States, which includes 4 donors States and 14 recipients States in the EUR/NAT Region. Indeed, ACT CORSIA has been initiated by the ICAO Council so that all recipient Member States would benefit from additional support and guidance in the development and implementation of national regulations and procedures, and thereon begin the monitoring, reporting and verification of CO2 emissions, as consistent with the ICAO SARPs.

More information on ACT CORSIA and participating States, please visit ICAO website

<https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/CORSIA/Pages/CORSIA-Buddy-Partnerships.aspx>



The ICAO EUR/NAT Regional Office is supporting the ACT CORSIA initiative by organizing and facilitating the corresponding meetings and webinars for the recipient Member States. Taking into account the upcoming deadlines in the implementation of CORSIA, the current focus of the support given is on the verification of the data and the use of the CORSIA Central Registry.

More information on the CORSIA Central Registry

<https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/CORSIA/Pages/CCR.aspx>



In addition to the webinars organized for ACT CORSIA, the ICAO EUR/NAT Regional Office provides regular and remote support to Member States in the Region regarding CORSIA implementation and mostly for questions related to the data to be submitted to ICAO, the verification of such data as well as on the use of the CCR.

*Capacity-building and assistance are fundamental in the success of turning this environmental policy into action at State's level.*

## Contact Us

International Civil Aviation  
Organisation  
European and North  
Atlantic Office  
(ICAO EUR/NAT)

### Address

3 bis villa Émile Bergerat,  
92200 Neuilly-sur-Seine  
Cedex, France

### Phone

+33 1 46 41 85 85

### Email

icaoeurnat@paris.icao.int

### Website

<https://www.icao.int/EURNAT/Pages/welcome.aspx>



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## IV. EUR/NAT TRAINING, WORKSHOPS & WEBINARS

ICAO Webinar on CORSIA Verification. All presentations are available on the website : <https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/CORSIA/Pages/2020VERCORSIA.aspx>

2020 Pre-Seminar Remote Training on the CORSIA Central Registry  
All presentations are available on the ICAO website:

<https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/CORSIA/Pages/VRS2020.aspx>

Additional information on CORSIA is available on the ICAO CORSIA Frequently Asked Questions document available on the ICAO website: <https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/CORSIA/Pages/CORSIA-FAQs.aspx>

Upcoming regional webinar on States Action Plan where the relation between States Action Plan on CO2 emissions reduction and CORSIA will be addressed: *EUR/NAT - Paris - 29 to 30 July - 14:00 Paris Time*

Upcoming ICAO webinars are available at <https://www.icao.int/Meetings/webinar-series/Pages/ScheduleAndRegistration.aspx>

## THE EUR/NAT Team

The contributor for this issue is:



Blandine Ferrier

Environment

ICAO EUR/NAT Office

*The next RD brief will circulate during the week of 27 July 2020. The focus will be on I-Packs Implementation Packages in support of aviation recovery from COVID-19*