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Subject: ICAO Fuel Savings Estimation Tool (IFSET) to support estimation of environmental benefits accrued from operational improvements

Action required: a) take note of the new IFSET tool; and
b) use the new tool to report benefits, where applicable

Sir/Madam,

1. I have the honour to draw your attention to ICAO policies and practices related to environmental protection and in particular the need to assess the benefits associated with ATM improvements. It is critical that a harmonized implementation of a fuel saving estimation process is used to support a coordinated global effort towards reduction of the aviation impact on climate change; therefore ICAO has developed the ICAO Fuel Savings Estimation Tool (IFSET).

2. This tool is not intended to replace the use of detailed measurement or modelling of fuel savings, where those capabilities exist. Rather, it is provided to assist those States without such facilities to consistently estimate the benefits from operational improvements. The tool was presented to the Steering Group Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection (CAEP) which recommended making the initial version of IFSET available to States as soon as possible for the purposes of estimating changes in fuel consumption from the implementation of operational measures and obtaining State feedback. As such, I encourage the use of IFSET or a more advanced tool for the necessary estimation of environmental benefits.

3. I would like to take the opportunity to thank the European Organisation for the Safety of Air Navigation (EUROCONTROL), the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and the Civil Air Navigation Services Organisation (CANSO) for their help in the development of the IFSET. I would also like to thank CANSO for their commitment to the IFSET roll-out and the work it will undertake in obtaining the results of fuel savings estimations by States and air navigation service providers (ANSPs) around the world.

4. The IFSET, as well as instructions on its use, can be accessed at <http://www.icao.int/environmental-protection>; ICAO is committed to updating the tool based on the feedback received from all stakeholders.

Accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Raymond Benjamin
Secretary General