



WEBINAR:

Understanding CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units and TAB Assessment Process

8 March 2023

ICAO Secretariat

TAB Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson





- 1) Background on CORSIA and eligible emissions units – **by ICAO Secretariat**
- 2) TAB assessment process, timeline and key documents – **by TAB Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson**
 - a) TAB assessment process and timeline
 - b) How to apply for TAB assessment – Understanding Application Forms
- 3) Q &A period

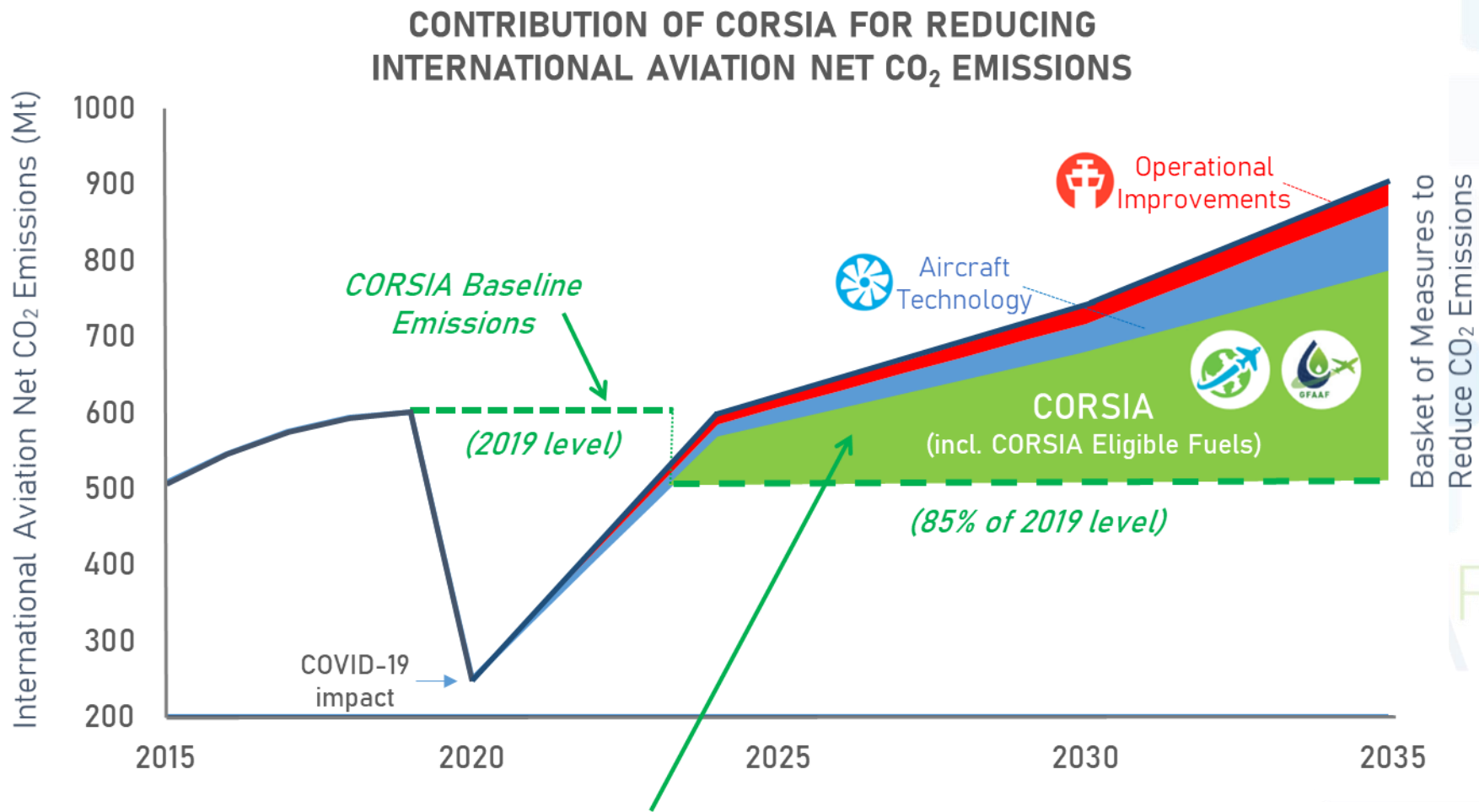
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1 CORSIA eligible emissions units

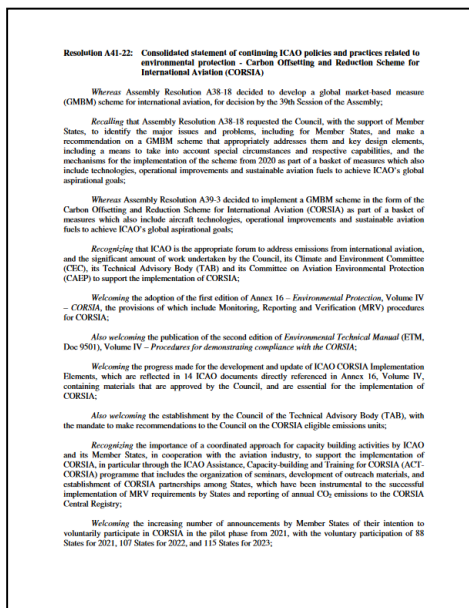
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CORSIA was adopted by the 39th ICAO Assembly (2016) as the **first global market-based measure** for any industry sector

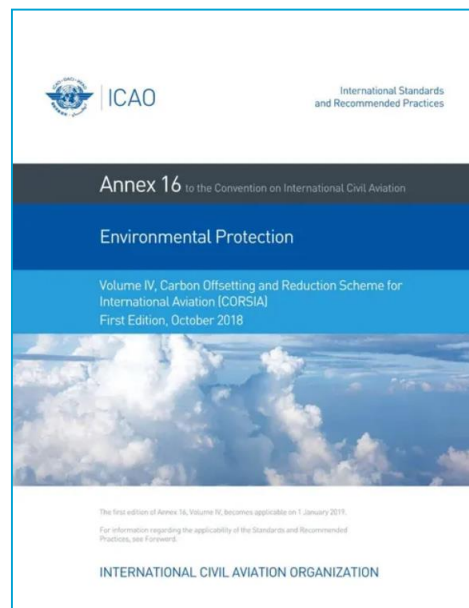


CORSIA addresses the remaining “emissions gap” to achieve Carbon Neutral Growth 2020

CORSIA Implementation Package



Assembly
Resolution A41-22



Annex 16, Volume
IV
(1st edition)



Doc 9501 (ETM),
Vol. IV (CORSIA)
(2nd edition)



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CORSIA Implementation
Elements and ICAO CORSIA
documents

- **CORSIA Implementation Element: *CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units***
 - Reflected in two ICAO documents referenced in Annex 16, Volume IV:
 1. *CORSIA Emissions Unit Eligibility Criteria*
 2. *CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units*
 - Both ICAO documents have been approved by the ICAO Council
 - » *CORSIA Emissions Unit Eligibility Criteria*: <https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/CORSIA/Pages/CORSIA-Emissions-Units.aspx>
 - » *CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units* : <https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/CORSIA/Pages/TAB.aspx>

- **CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units are determined by the ICAO Council, upon recommendation of the Technical Advisory Body (TAB)**
- **CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units meet the CORSIA Emissions Unit Criteria (EUC)**





What is the Technical Advisory Body (TAB)?

- In March 2019, the ICAO Council made the following decisions:
 - Approved the Emissions Unit Criteria (EUC) to be used by the TAB
 - Established the Technical Advisory Body (TAB), consisting of 19 members nominated by their States and approved by Council
 - Approved the TAB Terms of Reference (TOR), with the tasks of the TAB:
 - » ... undertake the assessment of emissions unit programmes against the emissions units criteria
 - » ... develop recommendations on the list of eligible emissions unit programmes (and potentially project types) whose emissions units would be eligible for use under the CORSIA, for consideration by the Council
- Since its establishment, TAB completed the first (Jan 2020), second (Nov 2020), third (Sep 2021), fourth (Sep 2022) and fifth (January 2023) assessments of applicants, and submitted reports and recommendations: <https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/CORSIA/Pages/TAB.aspx>

The CORSIA EUC used by TAB to assess the eligibility of emissions units and make recommendations to the Council, focusing on:

Programme Design Elements Assessment Criteria

Clear Methodologies and Protocols, and their Development Process

Scope Considerations

Offset Credit Issuance and Retirement Procedures

Identification and Tracking

Legal Nature and Transfer of Units

Validation and Verification procedures

Program Governance

Transparency and Public Participation Provisions

Safeguards System

Sustainable Development Criteria

Avoidance of Double Counting, Issuance and Claiming

Carbon Offset Credit Integrity Assessment Criteria

Are additional

Are based on a realistic and credible baseline

Are quantified, monitored, reported, and verified

Have a clear and transparent chain of custody

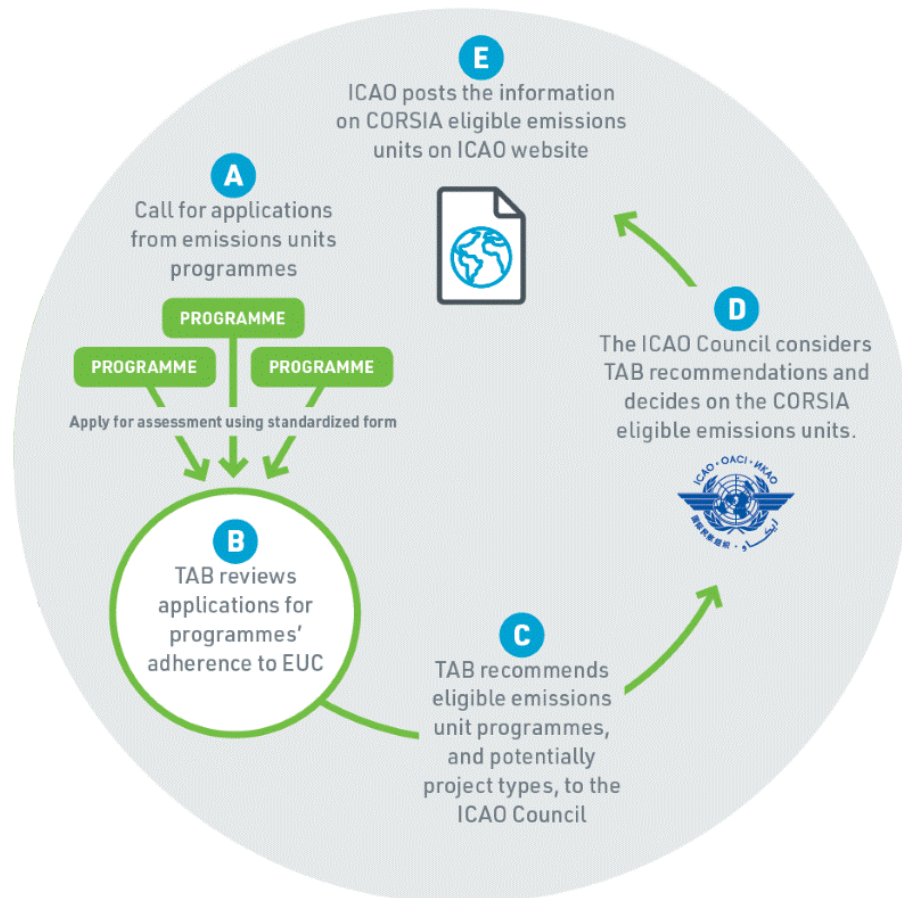
Represent permanent emissions reductions

Assess and mitigate against potential increase in emissions elsewhere

Are only counted once towards a mitigation obligation

Do no net harm

ICAO process for determining CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units:



- A. Application:** Emissions units programmes apply for consideration to be eligible for CORSIA
- B. Assessment:** An expert group, the Technical Advisory Body (TAB), reviews emissions units programmes for their adherence to the CORSIA Emissions Unit Criteria (EUC)
- C. Recommendations:** TAB makes recommendations on CORSIA eligible emissions units to ICAO Council
- D. Decision:** The ICAO Council decides on CORSIA eligible emissions units
- E. Publication:** Information on CORSIA eligible emissions units is posted on the ICAO CORSIA website



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TAB assessment process, timeline and key documents

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TAB assessment process and timeline

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What does the TAB assess ?

Based on the Council decisions, the TAB uses the CORSIA Emissions Unit Criteria (EUC) to assess emissions unit programmes:

- An emissions unit programme administers standards and procedures
 - for developing offset projects, and
 - for verifying and “issuing” offsets (units) created by those projects
- The CORSIA Emissions Unit Eligibility Criteria (EUC) focus on programme-level standards and procedures — as such, TAB assessment focuses on programmes
- The TAB may also assess a programme’s rule-set as it pertains to specific project “types”, e.g., sectors or emissions categories

TAB does not assess offset retailers, project developers or individual projects

- At the beginning of each year, TAB invites interested emission unit programmes to submit their applications for assessment.
- In 2023, TAB will assess eligibility of programmes to supply CORSIA Emissions Units for the **2024 – 2026 compliance period (CORSIA first phase)**.
- TAB has developed an **Application form** containing a series of questions to inform its assessment of each application against the CORSIA Emissions Unit Eligibility Criteria (EUC).
- Documents on the TAB website play an integrated role in informing and defining how TAB assess the applications and the eligibility of CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units, including :
 - **Application Form and Annexes (described later in this presentation)**
 - **Clarifications of TAB's criteria interpretation *new***
 - **TAB Terms of Reference**
 - **TAB Procedures**
- TAB website: <https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/CORSIA/Pages/TAB.aspx>

- After receiving the applications, TAB starts the assessment process according to its *Procedures*.
- TAB assessment begins in **5 sub-groups**. Each sub-group specializes in one sub-set of the EUC:
 - **Sub-Group 1 (Principles)**: Sustainable Development Criteria; Do no net harm; Safeguards System; Transparency and Public Participation Provisions; Governance
 - **Sub-group 2 (Unit creation)** : Validation and Verification procedures; Quantification and MRV; Offset Credit Issuance and Retirement Procedures; Identification and Tracking; Legal Nature and Transfer of Units; Clear and transparent chain of custody
 - **Sub-group 3 (Methods and Assumptions)**: Additionality; Realistic and credible baselines; Clear Methodologies, Protocols, and Development Process; Scope Considerations
 - **Sub-group 4 (Risk management)**: Permanence and Leakage
 - **Sub-group 5 (Double-counting)**: Avoidance of Double Counting, Issuance and Claiming; Only counted once towards a mitigation obligation
- To conduct its assessment, TAB uses Assessment Tables that “mirror” each question in the Application Form (to assess each applicant according to ~140 indicators)

Process for TAB assessment of applications

- During the assessment process, applicant organizations must provide information and evidence to TAB to support its assessment of eligibility. This is through:
 - Information in **Application Form and its Appendices**
 - After the applications, TAB interacts with applicants through:
 - » **Written clarification questions and answers**, between TAB and applicants (through the Secretariat)
 - » **Live interviews with applicants**, if/as needed to resolve outstanding questions
- TAB assesses all the information submitted/shared by programmes in sub-groups, also considering any **public comments** received on the relevant application.
- The consolidated findings of sub-groups are then discussed in the full TAB to resolve any outstanding questions before making recommendations on eligibility of programmes.
- TAB recommendations are presented to the Council for its consideration and final decision on eligibility of programmes to supply CORSIA emissions units.

- **ICAO Council will decide the eligibility of CORSIA emissions units, considering TAB assessment and recommendations**
- Upon Council's decision, emission unit programmes will receive notifications of the results of their application.
- Past TAB recommendations are available on the TAB website:
<https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/CORSIA/Pages/TAB.aspx>
- Upon the Council approval, CORSIA eligible emissions units will be included* in the ICAO document titled "*CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units*" :
<https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/CORSIA/Pages/CORSIA-Emissions-Units.aspx>

Note: After the Council's approval and prior to inclusion in the ICAO document "*CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units*", eligible programmes are requested to accept the "***Terms of Eligibility***". In addition, they are requested to submit the signed **program-registry attestations** to the ICAO Secretariat no later than 180 days after the Council decision.

In the ICAO document “*CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units*”, each eligible programme is listed with four sections, defining the nature of its eligibility:

A. Programme-designated Registry

- Lists the programme’s registry or registries and link(s) to each registry system
- Specifies further requirements for each Programme-designated Registry system
- Confirms receipt of Application Form, Appendix D – *Emissions Unit Programme Registry Attestation*, upon submission by programme

B. Eligibility Timeframe

- Identifies the CORSIA period(s) when specified units from listed programme are eligible for use toward CORSIA offsetting requirements. Currently, all listed programmes’ eligible units are eligible for use toward CORSIA offsetting requirements in the 2021-2023 compliance period (“pilot phase”)

C. Eligible Unit Dates

- Identifies the date(s) associated with the creation of eligible units by a listed programme

D. Scope of Eligibility

- Specifies any limitations and parameters that apply to the scope of a listed individual programme’s eligibility in CORSIA, defining also exclusions (if any) of the eligibility of certain emissions units according to, e.g., their: activity type, unit type, methodology, programme element, procedural class.

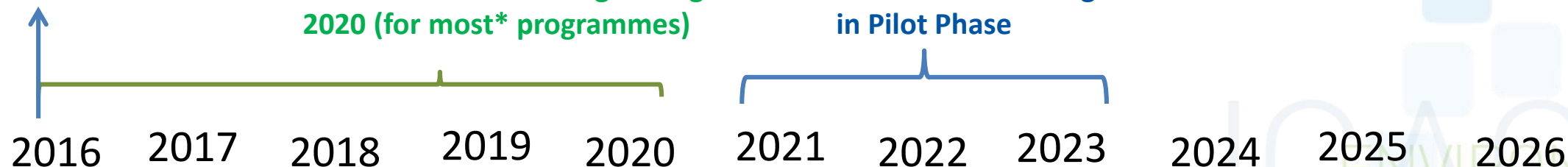
CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units (for Pilot Phase)

- 9 Emissions Unit Programmes to supply CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units for the **CORSIA pilot phase** (2021-2023 compliance period)
- CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units are issued...
 - ... to projects/activities that started their **first crediting period from 1 January 2016** and
 - ... in respect of reductions that occurred through **31 December 2020** (for most* programmes)

* For 2 programmes, in respect of reductions that occurred through 31 December 2023

Crediting period start:

1 January 2016



CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units (for Pilot Phase)

Until November 2022, ICAO Council considered the TAB recommendations and approved **9 Emissions Unit Programmes to supply CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units for the pilot phase (2021-2023 compliance period):**

- 1) American Carbon Registry 
- 2) Architecture for REDD+ Transactions 
- 3) China GHG Voluntary Emission Reduction Program 
- 4) Clean Development Mechanism 
- 5) Climate Action Reserve 
- 6) Forest Carbon Partnership Facility Program 
- 7) Global Carbon Council 
- 8) The Gold Standard 
- 9) Verified Carbon Standard 

Note:

Not all units from these programmes are eligible for use in CORSIA.

Certain emissions units from these programmes are not eligible.

*Each programme's Scope of Eligibility is described in the ICAO document: **CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units***

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



2023 TAB Assessment Timeline

- Call for applications for the 2023 TAB assessment cycle on CORSIA eligible emissions units for the first phase: **24 February to 24 March 2023.**
- The results of the 2023 TAB assessment and its recommendations are expected for consideration by the 230th Session of the Council (Oct/Nov 2023).
- Eligible programmes also have two deadlines in 2023 for reporting material changes to ICAO, if any: by 10 April 2023 and by 31 August 2023

Activities	2023																																		
	January			February			March			April			May			June			July			August			September			October			November			December	
1st Quarter 2023																																			
1.1 ICAO opens the call for 2023 assessment cycle applications (24 Feb 2023)							■																												
1.2 ICAO webinar for 2023 assessment cycle applications (8 March 2023)							■																												
1.3 ICAO closes the call for 2023 assessment cycle applications (24 Mar 2023)							■																												
1.4 2023 TAB Assessment cycle								■																											
1.5 228th Council Session: Consideration of TAB recommendations on re-assessment submitted in early 2022					■																														
2nd Quarter 2023																																			
2.1 Public comments invited on 2023 assessment cycle applications								■																											
2.2 Deadline (10 April 2023) for material change assessments to be considered at 230th Council Session (September 2023) and/or updated information on compliance with eligibility conditions (if needed), for pilot phase									■																										
2.3 229th Council Session														■																					
3rd Quarter 2023																																			
3.1 Deadline (31 August 2023) for material change assessments to be considered at 231st Council Session (March 2024)																																			
4th Quarter 2023																																			
4.1 230th Council: Consideration of TAB recommendations on programmes submitting material change assessments (submitted April 2023) and 2023 assessment cycle applications																																			





How to apply for TAB assessment – Understanding Application Forms

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Each organization applying for assessment must submit the following documents:

- **2023 Application Form** – for organizations applying for the first time, **OR**
- **2023 Re-application Form** – for programmes that have previously applied ***new*** ;
- **AND the required appendices:**
 - **Appendix A** – Emissions Unit Criteria and *Guidelines for Criteria interpretation*
 - » For information only – nothing for applicants to fill out
 - **Appendix B** – Programme *Assessment Scope* (.xlsx)
 - » Where applicants list the programme elements submitted for TAB's assessment
 - **Appendix C** - Programme *Exclusions Scope* (.xlsx)
 - » Where applicants list the programme elements excluded from TAB's assessment
 - **Appendix D** – Emissions Unit Programme Registry Attestation
 - » Where applicants attest to and describe their consistency with registry requirements

All documents available at: <https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/CORSIA/Pages/TAB.aspx>



2023 Application Form

- Required only for programmes applying for the first time (returning applicants are required to use the Re-Application form)
- Each section of the form corresponds to the EUC and *Guidelines for Criteria Interpretation* (contained in *Appendix A—Supplementary Information*)
- Contains a series of check boxes, narrative questions, and requests for “evidence” that programme procedures are in place and available for use

Question 3.6 Validation and verification procedures

Are standards, requirements, and procedures in place for... (<i>Paragraph 2.6</i>)	
a) the validation of activities?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
b) the verification of emissions reductions?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
c) the accreditation of validators?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
d) the accreditation of verifiers?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES

Provide evidence of the standards, requirements, and procedures referred to in a) through d), including their availability to the public:

[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)



2023 Re-application Form

- Required for programmes that have already applied before in a previous cycle (First-time applicants do not use this form – they must use the Application form)
- Each section of the form corresponds to the EUC and *Guidelines for Criteria Interpretation* (contained in *Appendix A—Supplementary Information*)
- Contains a series of check boxes, narrative questions, and requests for “evidence” that programme procedures are in place and available for use, and any updates or changes to the programme elements following the previous application or the Council’s approval:
 - A. Re-submit all information previously submitted to TAB for assessment, including Q&As
 - B. Summarize and provide updates of any changes to the information in ‘A’ above

Question 3.3. Offset credit issuance and retirement procedures

Are procedures in place defining how offset credits are... (<i>Paragraph 2.3</i>)	
a) <u>issued</u> ?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
b) <u>retired</u> / cancelled?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
c) <u>subject to discounting</u> (<i>if any</i>)?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
Are procedures in place defining... (<i>Paragraph 2.3</i>)	
d) <u>the length of crediting period(s)</u> ?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
e) <u>whether crediting periods are renewable</u> ?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES

Provide evidence of the procedures referred to in a) through e) (if any, in the case of “c”), including their availability to the public:

A. Information contained in the programme’s original application, including information submitted in response to follow-up discussions and written questions pertaining to this topic:

[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

B. Summary and accompanying evidence of any updates or changes to the programme elements described in “A” that were initiated following the previous application or the Council’s approval of programme eligibility (*if none, “N/A”*):

[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Complete responses to applications questions include three components:

1) *Written summary response*

2) *Supporting evidence:*

- ✓ Copy / paste the relevant text from programme documents into the form
- ✓ Include citations and web links to the supporting documentation
- ✓ If applicable, attach supporting documentation, with instructions for finding the relevant evidence in those documents

3) *Programme revisions: Where the programme has any plans to revise the programme (e.g., its policies, procedures, measures, tracking systems, governance, etc.):*

- ✓ Proposed revision(s);
- ✓ Process and proposed timeline to develop and implement the proposed revision(s);
- ✓ Process and timeline for external communication and implementation of the revision(s).

Re-Application Form includes an additional component:

- 4) *Updates and changes to programme procedures since the previous application/approval: Each question provides fields to include, and clearly distinguish between, two key pieces of information:***
- A. Information already provided by the programme in its previous application—which includes all written clarifications and explanations shared with TAB over the course of the programme’s previous assessment

AND

 - B. New information describing any and all procedural changes and updates that the programme introduced since its previous application or approval by ICAO Council, with the summary and evidences of any and all changes.

Example: Preferred approach to providing supporting evidence that could meet expectations for complete responses to a question:

“The Programme ensures its consistency with this requirement by requiring / undertaking / etc. the following:

[Including paragraph(s) introducing and summarizing specific programme procedures relevant to question, providing quotes/excerpts where applicable]

The full contents of these procedures can be found in [Document title, page X, Section X, paragraphs X-X]. This document is publicly available at this weblink: [weblink].”

Appendix B - Programme Assessment Scope

Appendix C - Programme Exclusions Scope

- Both are .xlsx documents, ask applicants to list the programme elements that are described in and/or excluded from their (re-)application forms
- To identify the elements that are within or beyond TAB's assessment and recommendations

SHEET A: DESCRIBED ACTIVITIES *(Here, list activities supported by the programme that are described in this form for further assessment)*

Sector	Supported activity type(s)	Implementation level(s)	Geography(ies)
e.g. Waste, Energy	e.g., Landfill methane capture; Coal mine methane capture;	e.g., Project-level only; Programmes of activities; Sector-scale	e.g., Global; Non-Annex I-only; Country X only

SHEET B: METHODOLOGIES / PROTOCOLS LIST *(Here, list all methodologies / protocols that support activities described in Sheet A)*

Methodology name	Unique Methodology / Protocol Identifier	Applicable methodology version(s)	Date of entry into force of most recent version	Prior versions of the methodology that are credited by the Programme (if applicable)	Greenhouse / other gases addressed in methodology	Web link to methodology
e.g. "Methodology to XYZ..."	e.g., ABC-123-V.20-XXX	e.g., V2.0	1/1/18			

- Appendix D – Emissions Unit Programme Registry Attestation

- To be signed by programme and registry administrators, accepting terms for the provision of registry services under CORSIA
- Registry representatives provide evidence of requirements indicated in the Registry Attestation

	<p>Does the Programme Registry fully meet the objectives of any and all Programme provisions and procedures related to the Programme Registry that the Programme is required to have in place in the manner represented by the Programme in the application form that the Programme has provided to the ICAO Secretariat and, if applicable⁷, as acknowledged by the Programme in the signed “Programme acceptance to terms of eligibility for inclusion in the ICAO document “<i>CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units</i>”?”</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
7.1	<p>Describe how the Registry ensures its ability to implement these provisions:</p>	
	<p>In the field below, provide link(s) to any web-based evidence of existing registry functionalities and/or of documents demonstrating business practices and procedures for the Programme Registry’s implementation of these provisions. Alternatively, or in addition, confirm that such evidence is included as an attachment to this <i>Emissions Unit Programme Registry Attestation</i>.</p>	



3 Q & A period

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Headquarters
Montréal

Western and
Central African
(WACAF) Office
Dakar

European and
North Atlantic
(EUR/NAT) Office
Paris

Middle East
(MID) Office
Cairo

Eastern and
Southern African
(ESAF) Office
Nairobi

Asia and Pacific
(APAC) Sub-office
Beijing

Asia and Pacific
(APAC) Office
Bangkok



THANK YOU