



Bratislava, 03 September 2016

DECLARATION OF DIRECTORS GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION OF EU MEMBER STATES¹ AND THE OTHER MEMBER STATES OF THE EUROPEAN CIVIL AVIATION CONFERENCE²: ADHERING TO THE GLOBAL MARKET-BASED MEASURE (GMBM) SCHEME FROM THE START

Whereas Assembly Resolution A38-18 decided to develop a Global Market-Based Measure (hereinafter referred to as "GMBM") scheme for international aviation, for decision by the 39th Session of the International Civil Aviation Organization Assembly;

Emphasising the commitment of the European Union (hereinafter referred to as "EU") and its Member States and the other Member States of the European Civil Aviation Conference (hereinafter referred to as "ECAC") to work towards the adoption by the 39th ICAO Assembly of a Global Market-Based Measure scheme, which aims to deliver the carbon-neutral growth of international aviation as of 2020;

Welcoming the adoption of the Paris Agreement at COP 21 and its objective of limiting global temperature increase to well below 2°C, pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C, and recognising the need for international civil aviation to contribute to the mitigation of climate change in that light;

Recalling that Europe considers that the scheme should be applicable to all States, unless exempted by the Resolution; aim to an emissions coverage that enables carbon-neutral growth from 2020 onwards; include a solid review clause that focuses on the need to increase environmental ambition over time and in light of the global objectives established under the Paris Agreement; take into account the special circumstances and respective capabilities of States, while ensuring non-discrimination such that all operators will be treated alike on the same route and avoiding market distortion;

Emphasising that Europe encourages as many ICAO States as possible and in particular all major aviation States to join from the beginning of the scheme, and to provide clarity on this before the end of the Assembly, and praising those who have already signalled their intention to do so, and notably the United States, Canada, Mexico and Indonesia;

Further recalling that Europe considers that the agreement should also include a clear roadmap for the remaining design elements to ensure that implementation is not delayed and its environmental effectiveness is ensured;

¹ Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom.

² Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Republic of Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Norway, San Marino, Serbia, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and Ukraine.

Recalling that the principles of environmental effectiveness, practicality, enforceability and non-discrimination should be taken into account in all components of the GMBM;

Emphasising the full commitment of the EU, its Member States and the other Member States of ECAC to the action against climate change through the full implementation of the basket of measures, as confirmed by the submission to ICAO of forty-one State action plans for emission reductions, which present their individual actions and the mitigating actions taken at European level;

Recognising the potential benefits from technological and operational improvements and use of alternative fuels to be taken into account in future reviews of the GMBM scheme and the goal for emissions reduction;

Recognising the European contribution to addressing the need for technical assistance and capacity building via the EU project on "Capacity Building for CO₂ Mitigation from International Aviation", in order to prepare for the implementation of the scheme;

Directors General of Civil Aviation of EU Member States and the other Member States of the European Civil Aviation Conference declare that:

- They intend to implement the Global Market-Based Measure scheme for international aviation from the start, as long as the agreed scheme reflects the aforementioned considerations;
- They welcome the commitment of a number of key aviation States and Regions of the world to also join the first implementation phase of the GMBM scheme and call on other major aviation States and those having the capacity to do so to do likewise and make their decision public before the end of the ICAO Assembly;
- They will work actively with other partners in order to reach a successful outcome at the ICAO Assembly; and
- They will strive to address, together with others, any future needs that may arise from States requiring technical assistance and capacity building in order to stand ready for the implementation of the scheme, including the ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices to be developed under the future GMBM scheme.

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