

DEMONSTRATING LEADERSHIP



This triennium has also seen ICAO and its Member States multiplying our partnerships with leading governmental and non-governmental organizations, industry bodies, and research institutes. These initiatives have already begun to bear fruit, and many meaningful CO₂ emissions reductions are being realized as a result. Some of these have been featured in this Report, which serves to demonstrate how States and international aviation are truly getting On Board a Sustainable Future.

Cooperation was also clearly on display in the important work undertaken of late by our Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection (CAEP), a key contributor to our technical achievements in the Environmental domain. The CAEP brings together more than 600 international experts, from all fields related to aviation and the environment, and its recent work has helped us to recommend the first-ever CO₂ certification Standard for aircraft. More generally, intensified cooperation is helping us to define new operational improvements, and to support the development and deployment of sustainable alternative fuels at an unprecedented pace.

In 2013, the 38th Session of the ICAO Assembly acknowledged our substantial progress in all areas of environmental action. In the field of aviation and climate change, it reaffirmed the collective aspirational goals of two per cent fuel efficiency improvement annually, and carbon neutral growth from 2020. To progress towards these goals, ICAO elaborated a comprehensive 'basket' of mitigation measures, namely innovative aircraft technologies, more efficient operations, sustainable alternative fuels, and market-based measures (MBMs).

With respect to the MBM, the 39th ICAO Assembly, taking place at our Montréal Headquarters this fall, will consider a detailed recommendation addressing the key design elements of a global MBM and the mechanisms for its implementation from 2020.

These achievements bolster ICAO's leadership role in limiting and reducing emissions from international civil aviation, and as President of the ICAO Council I can testify to our Member States' commitment to ensuring that leadership doesn't falter. This is particularly relevant following the historic agreement reached during the 21st United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of the Parties, held in Paris in December 2015, and ICAO is now driving the actions needed from international aviation to help complement the ambitious objectives set out in the Paris Agreement.

ICAO's leadership role on the environment relies in part on our historic ability to guide and assist those who wish to act to protect the environment, but who may not have the means to do so. In the spirit of our ongoing No Country Left Behind initiative, we will continue to pursue capacity-building and assistance measures towards the more effective implementation of ICAO's global Standards and Policies, a critical enabler of our broader environmental goals.

Dr. Olumuyiwa Benard Aliu
President of the Council