



**Statement pronounced by the President of the Council of the
International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO),
to the Thirty-Seventh Session of the UNFCCC Subsidiary Body
for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA37)**

(26 November to 1 December 2012 – Doha, Qatar)

Thank you, Mr Chairman. ICAO and its Member States are fully committed to meeting their responsibilities for the sustainable future of international civil aviation, by maximizing its support for social and economic development, while reducing its impacts on the environment.

Through a basket of mitigation measures, such as aircraft technology and Standards, more efficient operations, the use of sustainable alternative fuels, and market-based measures, the international aviation sector is making continuous progress across a broad range of sustainability issues.

ICAO is encouraged by an agreement reached in July 2012 by its Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection on a metric system related to an aircraft CO₂ certification Standard. All efforts are now being directed at finalizing the certification procedures early next year.

Commercial flights on sustainable alternative fuels are now a reality. Airlines are using drop-in biofuels that do not require changes to aircraft design or fuel delivery systems. Facilitating the availability of such fuels with competitive prices and in sufficient quantity for use in aviation is the next challenge, one for which an ICAO expert group is currently developing global policies.

Regarding market-based measures, work is underway on the development of a framework to guide the application of measures for international aviation, as well as on the feasibility of options for a global scheme, including practical means to accommodate special circumstances and respective capabilities of our Member States.

ICAO Member States remain actively involved in the preparation and submission of their action plans to reduce emissions from international aviation. Following an intense capacity-building programme under the auspices of ICAO, States representing more than 75 per cent of global air traffic developed and submitted action plans to showcase their mitigation measures.

ICAO is formulating a strategy to support States in both the development and implementation of mitigation measures.

Mr Chairman, ICAO is progressing in all key activities related to international aviation and climate change.

Moreover, I am pleased to inform you that the Council agreed on the creation of a High-level Group that will focus on fundamental policy issues, including those related to market-based measures. A proposal will be developed for consideration by the Council and ultimately by the 38th Session of the ICAO Assembly in September/October 2013.

We recognize that a lot of work has to be done before and after the Assembly. Any progress in this Conference related to bunker fuels to facilitate our work will be highly appreciated.

In conclusion, let me affirm that ICAO and its Member States will continue to take steps towards the ultimate aim of a sustainable future for international aviation.

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