



**Closing Remarks by  
the Council President of the  
International Civil Aviation Organization,  
Mr. Salvatore Sciacchitano,  
to the 41st Session of the ICAO Assembly**

*(ICAO HQ, Montréal, 7 October 2022)*

*Ladies and gentlemen,  
Distinguished participants and observers,*

First and foremost, I wish to begin by requesting a warm round of applause and appreciation for the President you elected for this 41st Assembly, Ms. Poppy Khoza of South Africa.

And let us also please appreciate the dedicated Vice-Presidents, Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons of the Committees and Commissions which have supported your work.

ICAO has been very encouraged to see such a high level of engagement from Member States and industry in the priorities we've addressed here over the last 10 days.

The combined result has achieved important progress on driving increased innovation and resilience in air transport, and perhaps most importantly of all by establishing international consensus on NetZero international operations by 2050.

States' adoption of this new long term goal for decarbonized air transport, following the similar commitments from industry groups, will contribute importantly to the green innovation and implementation momentum which must be accelerated over the coming decades to ultimately achieve emissions free powered flight.

You have also made progress on defining how to achieve this critical environmental objective, by promoting accelerated innovation in the technologies, operations, fuels, and coalitions that will be necessary for us to reach this goal.

The ACT-SAF agreements signed during this Assembly are a testimony to your current resolve, and the agreement on CORSIA is another crucial step.

In the areas of Aviation Safety and Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency, you have endorsed the latest editions of ICAO's GASP and GANP Global Plans, bringing the aviation community together around common targets and pathways to achieve an agile, safe, secure, sustainable, high-performing and interoperable global air transport system.

ICAO was also encouraged that you agreed to include the cyber resilience of safety critical systems as a key priority in the next edition of GANP, and that you have fully endorsed the Safety Stream recommendations from ICAO's High Level Conference on COVID-19.

The outcomes of the High Level Conference also factored into your agreements in the area of Air Transport Facilitation, and notably in terms of its recommendations on the need for a contactless digital passenger experience to be achieved, supported by new public health related ICAO provisions.

Other notable outcomes in these areas included the support for the revision of ICAO's Global Aviation Security Plan, and your strong emphasis on the need to strengthen the cybersecurity and cyber resilience of the civil aviation sector.

With respect to the Economic Development of Air Transport, you have strongly promoted the recognition of aviation as a powerful enabler of recovery, the need for increasing liberalization of air services, and the role of air cargo operations in keeping our world supplied and connected in times of crisis.

In addition you've agreed to improve funding access for the modernization of aviation infrastructure and air navigation services worldwide, while urging the ICAO Air Transport Regulation Panel (ATRP) to advance its work on the draft Convention on Foreign Investment in Airlines.

Along with these developments relating to ICAO's core Strategic Objectives, I was pleased to see your endorsement to apply the new Council approved ICAO Implementation Support Policy.

You also underscored the intrinsic value of ICAO's technical cooperation and assistance efforts to effective global capacity-building, and of its portfolio of products and services to support the recovery, resilience, and sustainable development of international aviation.

Similarly, your governments have underscored the invaluable assistance to Member States provided through ICAO's global aviation training activities and programmes, while agreeing that a new ICAO conference should soon be convened to fully assess current and future human resource skills requirements and training needs for global aviation.

Further decisions at this event will be critical to advancing ICAO's work in the Legal domain, and to promoting the alignment of our priorities and programmes with the associated needs of States and Regions as they pursue the attainment of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Of the many social and economic objectives this Agenda engages, let me please highlight here the importance of gender equality, given the clear need for aviation to move from ambition to action in this area.

I would like to express my profound thanks to all delegates and observers who have contributed to our impressive outcomes here, particularly for their unwavering dedication to multilateral consensus in the face of some intense diplomatic deliberations and difficult discussions. It is that very spirit of global cooperation that will continue to guide us and that will enable us to carry out the work set by this 41st Assembly.

I will now ask the President of this Assembly, Ms. Poppy Khoza, to conclude these proceedings with her closing thoughts.

Thank you.