



**DIRECTORS GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION - ICAO EUROPEAN AND NORTH ATLANTIC
REGIONS**

2025 MEETING (EUR/NAT-DGCA/2025)

Agenda Item 6: Advancing the LTAG

**SUSTAINABILITY: ICAO REGIONAL ACTIVITIES TO SUPPORT THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE LONG
TERM ASPIRATIONAL GOAL (LTAG)**

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper provides updates on ICAO activities at the regional level in follow up to EUR/NAT-DGCA2024 Conclusion on enhancing engagement, information-sharing, coordination and cooperation to achieve the Long Term Aspirational Goal (LTAG), and proposes some further actions to advance the LTAG across the EUR/NAT area.

1. Introduction

1.1 Following the outcomes of the 41st Session of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Assembly in 2023 and the Third ICAO Conference on Aviation and Alternative Fuels (CAAF/3) held in November 2023, the ICAO Council approved, in June 2024, the ICAO Roadmap for the implementation of the ICAO Global Framework for Sustainable Aviation Fuels (SAF), Lower Carbon Aviation Fuels (LCAF), and other cleaner aviation energies. This roadmap outlines planned actions, roles and responsibilities, timelines, required resources, and connections with related ICAO initiatives—such as the implementation of the Long-Term Global Aspirational Goal (LTAG)—in preparation for the 42nd Session of the ICAO Assembly in 2025.

1.2 To inform and support its Member States in implementing these landmark decisions and new policies, ICAO has organized a range of global and regional events and activities related to environmental protection throughout 2024 and 2025. At the global level, these include the ICAO Seminar on Green Airports held in April 2024, the 2024 ICAO LTAG Stocktaking Event, and a symposium on non-carbon dioxide (non-CO₂) aviation emissions, as well as new features on the ICAO website to showcase ongoing initiatives. At the regional level, several webinars and meetings have been held on topics such as green airport development, the development and update of State Action Plans, and the development of SAF implementation roadmaps.

2. Discussion

Implementation support in the EUR/NAT area

2.1 The ICAO EUR/NAT Regional Office provides implementation support on environment-related matters through workshops, on-site technical assistance missions and regular follow-up calls with designated State Focal Points. The EUR/NAT Environment Task Force further supports implementation efforts by facilitating the exchange of information on recent developments at the global, regional and national levels as well as the sharing of experience and best practices amongst States and stakeholders.

2.2 Since the 2024 EUR/NAT Directors General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) meeting, ICAO EUR/NAT activities have focused on:

- a) supporting States in developing and/or updating their SAPs;
- b) supporting the implementation of the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA) requirements and related ICAO environmental tools;
- c) promoting the ICAO Assistance, Capacity-building and Training for Sustainable Aviation Fuels (ACT-SAF) programme and supporting its implementation; and
- d) promoting and supporting the implementation of innovative solutions for airport environmental management.

2.3 In addition, the ICAO EUR/NAT Regional Office has further strengthened cooperation with regional organizations to enhance implementation support and avoid duplication of efforts. Several events were organized in collaboration with the Arab Civil Aviation Organization (ACAO) for the three Maghreb States (Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia), focusing on the development of SAPs and the implementation of CORSIA. Additionally, the ICAO EUR/NAT Regional Office contributed to the European Civil Aviation Conference (ECAC) SAP webinar in September 2024, delivering a presentation on the latest version of the ICAO *Guidance on the Development of States' Action Plans on CO₂ Emissions Reduction Activities* (Doc 9988).

2.4 Following the global ICAO Green Airport Seminar held in Athens, Greece, a regional environmental workshop on Green Airports was organized in cooperation with Airports Council International – Europe (ACI EUROPE) in Almaty, Kazakhstan in November 2024. The regional event focused on the regional specificities. The event showcased a strong commitment to sustainable aviation in Central Asia and Europe. The event highlighted the importance of the cross-border collaboration and the interest for this topic in our regions. Based on the outcomes of this successful regional event, another regional Green Airport event is planned for early 2026.

States Actions Plans – SAP

2.5 To date, 50 out of the 56 States in the EUR/NAT area have developed and submitted their SAPs to ICAO—an increase of one State since the last EUR/NAT DGCA meeting. Additionally, 19 EUR/NAT States have re-submitted their SAPs using the Action Plan Emissions Reduction (APER) website. States requiring support to develop or update their SAPs are encouraged to contact the ICAO EUR/NAT Regional Office.

2.6 While SAPs remain a key mechanism for communicating national climate action plans for international aviation, they also play a critical role in enabling ICAO to assess Member States' progress toward achieving the sector's collective long-term global aspirational goals. States are encouraged to include in their SAPs more detailed long-term strategies for reducing carbon emissions from international aviation, including through the use of innovative technologies, improved operational measures, and SAF. Furthermore, States are urged to incorporate the latest advancements in aviation technologies and cleaner energy sources, supported by relevant policies, implementation roadmaps, and long-term projections. The ICAO EUR/NAT Regional Office remains fully committed to supporting States in the development and regular updating of their SAPs.

This support will in particular assist States in taking into consideration the latest update of ICAO Doc 9988 (issued in 2024). This revised guidance is designed to assist States in integrating long-term carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions reduction initiatives into their SAPs and in reporting quantified data in a more harmonized manner, thereby facilitating progress monitoring toward the LTAG. The updated version incorporates the outcomes of the CAAF/3 as well as relevant elements from the ICAO Global Framework for SAF, LCAF, and other cleaner aviation energies.

Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA)

2.7 CORSIA has been widely recognized as the only global market-based measure for the international aviation sector and as a policy instrument that incentivizes the development and deployment of SAF and LCAF on a global scale. This includes the adoption of sustainability criteria, life-cycle emissions values, and certification processes for such fuels, thereby reducing offsetting requirements for airplane operators.

2.8 The ICAO Assembly strongly encouraged all States to voluntarily participate in the pilot phase (2021–2023) and the first phase (2024–2026) of CORSIA (Resolution A41-22), as broader participation strengthens the environmental integrity of the scheme. The ICAO document CORSIA States for Chapter 3 State Pairs was published on the ICAO CORSIA website and lists 129 volunteer States for 2025.

2.9 Increased participation in CORSIA will support ICAO in achieving the global aspirational goal of carbon-neutral growth for international aviation. In this regard, 30 June 2025 is the deadline for States that have not yet volunteered to notify ICAO of their intention to participate in CORSIA from 2026 onward.

2.10 Under the Assistance, Capacity-building and Training for the CORSIA (ACT-CORSIA) programme, “buddy partnerships” have been established involving 16 donor States (including 5 EUR/NAT States: France, Germany, Italy, Spain, and the United Kingdom) and 98 recipient States (including 14 EUR/NAT States). The EUR/NAT Regional Office has organized two ACT-CORSIA webinars since the beginning of 2025 and has supported numerous follow-up coordination calls with States.

2.11 In 2025, training under the ICAO ACT-CORSIA programme continues to focus on the use of the CORSIA Central Registry (CCR), with particular emphasis on its updated functionalities, including CORSIA Eligible Fuels and CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units. Since the start of ACT-CORSIA in the EUR/NAT area:

- a) Germany, as a donor State, has trained 11 States from Central and Eastern Europe; and
- b) France, as a donor State, has trained 3 Maghreb States.

2.12 Regarding CORSIA implementation, the EUR/NAT Regional Office continues to support State Focal Points with the following upcoming deadlines:

- a) notification to ICAO of voluntary participation by 30 June 2025 (for first-time participants only);
- b) verification and submission of 2024 CO₂ emissions data via the CCR by 31 July 2025; and
- c) submission of the list of aeroplane operators and verification bodies for 2025 by 30 November 2025.

ACT SAF

2.13 As of today, 109 States and 126 organizations have joined the ACT-SAF programme and are recognized on the ICAO website. The programme includes training, SAF feasibility studies, support for SAF certification and policy development, implementation of specific SAF projects, and the establishment of partnerships among States and other stakeholders.

2.14 Since the last EUR/NAT DGCA Meeting, nine additional States (Algeria, Azerbaijan, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Morocco, Sweden, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan) joined ACT-SAF. This brings the total number of EUR/NAT States participating in ACT-SAF to 23 out of 56.

2.15 The ACT-SAF Series of trainings organized by ICAO continues to deliver monthly thematic sessions for all ACT-SAF Partners. Additionally, one-on-one SAF trainings are being provided to States, in collaboration with supporting States and ICAO Regional Offices.

2.16 As part of the ENV Task Force meeting, the ICAO EUR/NAT Office organized a webinar in April 2025 focused on the development of national SAF roadmaps. During the session, the ICAO Secretariat and experts from participating States shared their experiences in drafting SAF roadmaps and integrating them into updates of their States' Action Plans.

Support to COP/29

2.17 The ICAO EUR/NAT Regional Office supported ICAO Headquarters during the 29th Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP/29), held in Baku, Azerbaijan, in November 2024. Throughout the event, ICAO actively promoted the adoption of supportive policies, financing mechanisms, and capacity-building efforts crucial for scaling-up SAF development and advancing the implementation of CORSIA. ICAO played an active role during both the Energy Day and Transport Day, contributing to panels on SAF, decarbonisation strategies and international cooperation. In addition, ICAO engaged in strategic discussions with State leaders and international organizations such as the World Bank, the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), focusing on emissions management and financing solutions. Notably, during COP29, Azerbaijan formally joined the ICAO ACT-SAF programme.

Outreach activities

2.18 Since the last DGCA Meeting, the ICAO EUR/NAT Regional Director has carried out several outreach activities to emphasize the urgent need to accelerate the production and deployment of SAF. These activities took place during official visits to States and at conferences and seminars where ICAO's environmental initiatives and programmes were presented and discussed. In Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan, the outreach included meetings with leaders from national oil and gas companies, as well as senior representatives from the ministries of energy and environment.

2.19 Based on the foregoing, the following is proposed:

Draft EUR/NAT-DGCA Conclusion 2025/1 – Further enhancing coordination and cooperation to achieve LTAG

That the ICAO Regional Director, Europe and North Atlantic, take action to:

- a) encourage EUR/NAT States to:
 - i) develop or update their quantified State Action Plans (SAP) on CO₂ Emissions Reduction Activities in line with the provisions of the updated Guidance on the Development of States' Action Plans on CO₂ Emissions Reduction Activities (ICAO Doc 9988), and to contact the ICAO EUR/NAT Regional Office for any assistance needed in the preparation, submission, and implementation of their SAP and related mitigation measures;
 - ii) join CORSIA during its first phase and notify ICAO accordingly (by 30 June 2025 for voluntary participation starting from 1 January 2026), and participate—either as donor or beneficiary States—in ICAO ACT-CORSIA capacity-building activities, including the CORSIA Buddy Partnerships;
 - iii) join, as donor or beneficiary States, the ICAO Assistance, Capacity-building and Training for Sustainable Aviation Fuels (ACT-SAF) programme by signing the Terms and Conditions available on the ICAO website;

- iv) for States having join ACT-SAF, take actions to invite in relevant activities, such as webinars, representatives and experts from ministries in charge of energy and environment, as well as oil and gas companies;
- v) inform the ICAO EUR/NAT Regional Office of any ongoing or planned activities related to SAF, including feasibility studies and capacity-building initiatives; and
- b) invite international and regional organizations to continue supporting information-sharing and coordination efforts, with the aim of avoiding duplication, promoting synergies, ensuring consistency, and contributing to ICAO regional environmental protection activities.

3. Action by the Meeting

3.1 The Meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information provided,
- b) amend as necessary and endorse the proposed Conclusion; and
- c) provide direction as deemed necessary.

— **END** —