



ASSEMBLY — 42ND SESSION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 16: Environmental Protection – International Aviation and Climate Change

SUSTAINABLE AVIATION FUEL (SAF) TASK FORCE INITIATIVE IN MALAYSIA

(Presented by Malaysia)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This paper presents Malaysia's initiatives on Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF), particularly the establishment of a national SAF Task Force chaired by the Civil Aviation Authority of Malaysia (CAAM) and Malaysia Aviation Group (MAG). The Task Force provides strategic guidance, capacity development, and stakeholder coordination in support of Malaysia's aviation decarbonisation efforts, aligned with ICAO's long-term aspirational goal (LTAG) towards net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.

<i>Strategic Goals:</i>	This working paper relates to the Strategic Goal – <i>Aviation is Environmentally Sustainable</i> .
<i>Financial implications:</i>	Promoting SAF development can help achieve economies of scale, foster a level playing field across operators, and drive significant cost savings in the long term. Early investments in SAF infrastructure, feedstock supply, and policy incentives are expected to reduce overall production costs, improve fuel price stability, and enhance competitiveness of both airlines and fuel producers
<i>References:</i>	Nil

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The aviation industry is a critical enabler of global connectivity but faces significant challenges in addressing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. To align with international climate goals, the development and deployment of Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) has been identified as the most significant lever to achieve decarbonisation. Recognising this, Malaysia has taken proactive steps to advance its SAF agenda.

1.2 Since 2023, Malaysia has convened a SAF Task Force under the leadership of CAAM and MAG, with representation from airlines, fuel producers, government ministries, research institutions, and regulators. The Task Force is designed to act as a central coordinating body to ensure alignment, knowledge-building, and policy development, leading towards a robust national SAF roadmap.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Establishment of the SAF Task Force in 2023, chaired by CAAM and MAG. Membership includes airlines, relevant ministries, regulators, government agencies, SAF and fuel producers.

2.2 The Task Force serves as strategic advisory role that provides recommendations to Government on SAF roadmap, policy measures, incentives, and cost implications.

2.3 The Task Force assists as:

- Strategic advisory role to provide recommendations to the Government on SAF roadmap, policy measures, incentives, and cost implications.
- Central Coordination to ensure synchronisation of policies, incentives, and stakeholder contributions under one national framework.
- Advocacy & Engagement in enhancing stakeholder buy-in and promoting public awareness on SAF benefits.
- Capacity Development and knowledge-building across the SAF value chain — feedstocks, production technologies, certification, and supply chain readiness.
- National SAF Strategy (2030): Ongoing discussions on roadmap including feedstock evaluation, technology readiness, incentives, R&D, and SAF blending mandates.

2.4 Current SAF Policy Development in Malaysia:

- National Energy Transition Roadmap (NETR) sets a 1% SAF aspiration by 2027. Long-term goal to achieve up to 47% SAF contribution to decarbonisation by 2050.
- Alignment with Malaysia Aviation Decarbonisation Blueprint (MADB) Target:
 - Aircraft technologies (18%)
 - Operational improvements (5%)
 - Sustainable Aviation Fuel (46.2%)
 - Market-based measures (30.8%)

2.5 Malaysia SAF Progress:

- SAF Outlook in Southeast Asia: Accounts for 8% of global jet fuel demand; pivotal for global SAF scale-up.
- Production Potential: By 2050, Southeast Asia could produce ~45.7 Mt/year of SAF, meeting 12% of global aviation demand.
- Malaysia Feedstock Potential: Palm oil residue, rice residue, used cooking oil (UCO), municipal solid waste (MSW), and wood residues (based on RSB and Boeing Feedstock Study for Southeast Asia: <https://rsb.org/2024/09/03/rsb-launches-study-with-boeing-on-sustainable-feedstock-potential-in-southeast-asia/>)
- Refinery Development: Six SAF refineries currently in the pipeline across Malaysia, based on ICAO latest data.
- First Production Timeline: Anticipated first commercial SAF output in Q4 2025.
- Stakeholder Engagement: Ongoing collaboration with ICAO, IATA, AAPA, EASA and other regional and global industry players.
- Challenges Identified: Cost competitiveness, feedstock certification, infrastructure readiness, and policy alignment.
- Opportunities: Export positioning, regional hub potential, and contribution to ASEAN aviation decarbonisation.
- International Collaboration: Explore partnerships on R&D, offtake agreements, financing, and cross-border policy harmonisation.

3. CONCLUSION

3.1 Malaysia's SAF Task Force initiative demonstrates a whole-of-nation approach towards developing a sustainable aviation fuel ecosystem. Through coordinated stakeholder engagement, strategic policy development, and regional collaboration, Malaysia is committed to ensuring SAF becomes a cornerstone of its aviation decarbonisation strategy and contributes to ICAO's global LTAG objectives.

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