



**Closing remarks
by the Council President of the
International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
Mr. Salvatore Sciacchitano,
to the 2021 ICAO Stocktaking Event**

(Virtual event, 3 September 2021)

The presenters and innovators we have engaged with here over the last four days have informed, inspired, and challenged us to accelerate aviation's green transition. In particular, allow me to acknowledge the inspiring addresses of the keynote speakers, beginning with the eighth UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, and the excellent and valuable contributions of all speakers.

They have also underscored for us that we will only succeed if we work together, and that international sharing of experience and cooperation is more important than ever before.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has recently and very unambiguously reminded us that the only way to address the impending climate crisis is to act now. In light of the sheer scope and complexity of global air transport, this will require determined diplomacy and agreed upon international time-frames and road maps.

I'm therefore personally encouraged that ICAO Member States have already directed the ICAO Council to explore a long-term global emissions reduction goal for international aviation, and that so many innovators, pioneers, and others have joined us at these Stocktaking events to help inform those considerations.

As the Council of ICAO will soon consider the work of CAEP on Long Term Aspirational Goals in view of the 41st ICAO Assembly, the inputs and messages received from Industry, Research Groups and Academia during this event will be very important to assist the Council in outlining its proposal to the Assembly.

We have also appreciated some net zero and other bold sustainability commitments which have been announced during these sessions, from both governments and industry, and this trend toward extremely ambitious green targets and outcomes is only gaining in momentum.

Many questions and challenges still remain to be addressed, of course, but I think that all of us can agree that tremendous progress is now being made, and that the pace of the innovation in so many areas of aviation sustainability and capability is nothing short of remarkable today.

In approximately two months' time, COP26 will provide an important and timely opportunity for new global commitments as we confront the climate crisis.

It will also provide the ICAO Sustainable Aviation Coalition with the chance to showcase the tremendous innovations presented to these Stocktaking events, and I would encourage any of you who have not already done so to step forward now to join this movement, and to become a more active contributor in our shared pursuit of net zero powered flight.

I now invite you to view the following video from Mr. John Kerry, United States Special Presidential Envoy for Climate, that was recently addressed to the ICAO Council in a special virtual event on climate change.

Thank you once again for your tremendous enthusiasm and dedication in the face of this very urgent priority for international civil aviation.