



**Speech by the President of the ICAO Council
Mr. Salvatore Sciacchitano
to the “International Aviation Climate Ambition Coalition” launch event
organized by UK Government on UNFCCC COP26 Transport Day**

(Pre-recorded message, 10 November 2021)

Your Excellences, Ministers, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my great pleasure to address you on behalf of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) on the occasion of COP26 Transport Day hosted by the UK Government.

As we know, COVID-19 disrupted aviation activities in an unimaginable and unprecedented manner.

Nevertheless, from disruptions come opportunities.

As air transport begins its recovery, only the introduction of radical, disruptive, revolutionary innovation, will be able to deliver the aspiring levels of decarbonisation. And, let us remember that innovation is in aviation's DNA.

To keep net carbon emissions from international aviation at the 2020 level, as decided by ICAO States at the 38th Assembly in 2013, States are implementing a basket of measures including green technologies, sustainable fuels, operational improvements and CORSIA – ICAO's Global Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation, the first global market based measure for a sector.

CORSIA is fully on track. ICAO completed all necessary steps for the start of the pilot phase on 1 January 2021. In advance of the mandatory phase, 107 States are participating.

Airlines and Governments are now reporting the verified CO₂ emissions data to ICAO annually, and the compensation under CORSIA is operational both on the use of eligible carbon credits and the use of Sustainable Aviation Fuels to reduce the operator's offsetting requirements.

At the same time, ICAO is working with priority on the feasibility of a long-term global aspirational goal (LTAG) for international aviation.

Data collection on CO₂ emissions reductions from green technologies and innovations is a key component for this LTAG work. In 2020 and 2021, ICAO organized open and

inclusive Stocktaking events in order to bring together all stakeholders to share information on solutions and policies for decarbonizing international aviation.

Industry has been a key player at these ICAO events, which has provided them with opportunities to announce concrete and ambitious plans. For example, what started with a major airline group's net zero announcement last year has recently evolved into an industry-wide 2050 Net-Zero Commitment.

In the same way, we have witnessed a growing number of States announce their commitments to net zero, and their road maps to achieve it. Let me at this point, congratulate the UK for their plans and for showcasing not only that the green transition is possible, but how it can be done, in concrete terms. Other States have now announced their commitments and their tailored solution to reach their ambitious goals.

The ICAO Stocktaking process will continue to serve as an important forum to collect information and track progress by the aviation sector towards the realization of global aspirational goals.

ICAO tracking tools and the ICAO Global Coalition for Sustainable Aviation, a forum of stakeholders promoting sustainable international aviation, facilitate dissemination and progress in the development and implementation of CO₂ mitigation measures, speeding up the green transformation.

To ensure a transparent and inclusive process for the LTAG work, ICAO organized a series of Global Aviation Dialogues (GLADs) this year, to raise awareness and enable an open exchange of information and views among Member States. A second round of GLADs is planned next year to familiarize States with the results of the technical analysis and to discuss means of implementation.

In addition, ICAO will convene a High-level Meeting in July 2022 to facilitate the conversion of views on LTAG. Together, these dialogues and meetings will facilitate recommendations by the ICAO Council on the long-term goal, for consideration by the 41st Session of the ICAO Assembly in September 2022.

In this context, I would like to welcome the launch of the International Aviation Climate Ambition Coalition today. Cooperation has never been so crucial for our progress. This Coalition is well placed to play an important role in building momentum among all ICAO Member States ahead of our Assembly next year.

I am sure that this very much welcomed initiative, together with several others initiated at the national level, will play a pivotal role in support of ICAO deliberations on global aviation decarbonisation.

Thank you for your support in this journey towards aviation's green transformation.