



**Opening Address by
the Council President of the
International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
Mr. Salvatore Sciacchitano,
to the 2024 ICAO LTAG Stocktaking Event**

(Montréal, 7 October 2024)

Good morning.

And a warm welcome to all of you attending this 2024 ICAO LTAG Stocktaking Event.

Today, we gather to address one of aviation's most significant challenges: achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2050 as decided in this very Hall exactly two years ago by the 41st ICAO Assembly.

We are here to share progress, learn from each other, and chart our path forward. This Stocktaking Event represents an important step in our journey towards this ambitious target.

Since 2019, participation at these stocktaking gatherings has grown and we have witnessed increased momentum in the decarbonization efforts of international civil aviation. These positive developments highlight the importance and impact of our work at stocktaking and throughout the year.

I want to highlight that our efforts have garnered global recognition, including from the G7 and G20.

The ICAO Global Framework for Sustainable Aviation Fuels, Lower Carbon Aviation Fuels and Other Cleaner Energies adopted in Dubai last year calls for a five per cent reduction in CO₂ emissions by 2030.

The roadmap adopted by the ICAO Council for achieving this goal outlines clear steps, roles, and the resources needed, which, let me say, are not marginal.

We only have five years left. That is why ICAO is focused on implementation, especially through our expanding partnerships. Just last week, in the margins of a G20 meeting in Brazil, we signed a new agreement with the International Renewable Energy Agency, IRENA, to mobilize resources. Partnerships are vital now and will be even more critical in the years ahead.

The ICAO Assistance, Capacity-building and Training for Sustainable Aviation Fuels, or ACT-SAF, initiative provides another excellent illustration of the power of collaboration. With 200 partners, it is driving real progress. If you are not already part of this initiative, I urge you to join the ACT-SAF event on Friday.

Our partnerships and approach must be holistic. In addition to cleaner energies, decarbonization will require new technologies, improving operations, and enhancing fuel efficiency. These innovations will require ICAO to broaden our horizon of technical standard-setting. In fact, in the next few weeks the ICAO Council is going to examine a “standardization roadmap”, which will consider new decarbonization technologies while setting new safety standards.

Decarbonization will also require huge investments worldwide. For this reason ICAO is engaging with the finance sector, International and Regional Investment Institutions as well Fuel producers, to support our goals.

This holistic approach extends beyond decarbonization efforts. We must keep in mind that all this work is taking place in the context of ICAO’s broader commitment to environmental protection. This includes initiatives such as promoting Green Airports and studying the effects of non-CO₂ emissions.

I would like to conclude by reiterating that the expertise you share over the next four days is crucial to advancing our core LTAG priorities. Your contributions will have benefits that extend beyond decarbonization to other environmental priorities, helping us shape a comprehensive strategy for sustainable aviation.

Thank you for your continued commitment to this crucial cause and I wish you a very productive four days.