



**WORKING PAPER**

**ASSEMBLY — 40TH SESSION**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Agenda Item 17: Environmental Protection – Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA)**

**CORSIA IMPLEMENTATION**

(Presented by Mexico)

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Mexico highly welcomes the significant progress, in responding to the requests from the 39th Assembly, for the timely implementation of the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA), including the adoption of Annex 16, Volume IV and progress in the development of other CORSIA Implementation Elements. CORSIA implementation is on track, largely due to the successful ICAO Assistance, Capacity-building and Training for CORSIA (ACT-CORSIA) programme and CORSIA buddy partnerships among States under the ICAO coordinated approach. For the successful implementation of CORSIA, ICAO Council should make further progress to develop and update CORSIA-related SARPs and guidance, and Member States should continue to take necessary actions, including necessary national policies and regulatory frameworks for the compliance of the CORSIA, in accordance with the timeline set forth by Annex 16, Volume IV.

**Action:** The Assembly is invited to:

- a) request ICAO Council to make further progress to develop and update CORSIA-related SARPs and guidance, including the development of remaining CORSIA Implementation Elements related to CORSIA eligible fuels and CORSIA eligible emissions units;
- b) request Member States to continue to take necessary actions, including necessary national policies and regulatory frameworks for the compliance of the CORSIA, in accordance with the timeline set forth by Annex 16, Volume IV;
- c) underscore the critical importance of a coordinated approach under ICAO in facilitating global cooperation to provide assistance and capacity building for CORSIA implementation, through ICAO ACT-CORSIA and buddy partnerships among Member States; and
- d) encourage more States to voluntarily participate in CORSIA from 2021.

<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	This working paper relates to Strategic Objective E – Environmental Protection
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<sup>1</sup> English and Spanish versions provided by Mexico

<i>Financial implications:</i>	The activities referred to in this paper will be undertaken subject to the resources available in the 2020-2022 Regular Programme Budget and/or from extra budgetary contributions.
<i>References:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Resolution A39.</li></ul>

## 1. **CORSIA SARPS AND IMPLEMENTATION ELEMENTS**

1.1 Mexico welcomes significant levels of efforts and dedications by CORSIA-related experts for the development of CORSIA-related SARPs and guidance since the 39th Session of the Assembly in a very short timeframe. In June 2018, the ICAO Council adopted the Annex 16, Volume IV that contains Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) for the implementation of CORSIA. Subsequently, the Annex 16, Volume IV became applicable since 1 January 2019.

1.2 Mexico also recognizes the development of the ICAO CORSIA CO<sub>2</sub> Estimation and Reporting Tool (CERT), which will help the estimation and reporting of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from international flights for aeroplane operators with low levels of activity, and enable these operators to fulfil their monitoring and reporting requirements under CORSIA in a simplified manner, as requested by the Assembly.

1.3 Following the ICAO Council approval of functional requirements of the CORSIA Central Registry (CCR), the ICAO Secretariat has been developing the CCR with its operationalization to be expected from early 2020.

1.4 The availability of accredited verification bodies for all airlines to be involved in the CORSIA Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) process is another challenge, for which Mexico welcomes the development of the ICAO training course on CORSIA verification and requests ICAO, in cooperation with the States, an effective capacity building for accredited verification bodies in support of all member States.

1.5 More work needs to be done by the ICAO Council for the timely implementation of CORSIA, such as an agreement on the means to calculate and claim the benefits accrued from the use of sustainable aviation fuels within the context of CORSIA, such as default values and the methodologies for calculating actual values, for the life-cycle CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reduction benefits of such fuels from different feedstocks. More work is also needed to determine, taking into account environmental integrity and recognizing the different capacities and circumstances of all member States, eligible Sustainability Certification Schemes which will certify fuels against the CORSIA sustainability criteria.

1.6 As requested by the 39th Assembly, the ICAO Council established the Technical Advisory Body (TAB), which will assess the eligibility of emissions units for use in CORSIA, in light of the agreed Emissions Unit Criteria (EUC).

## 2. **CAPACITY BUILDING FOR CORSIA**

2.1 Mexico welcomes an important step forward by ICAO on the development of a new capacity building programme called ACT-CORSIA (Assistance, Capacity-building and Training for the

CORSIA), which was endorsed by the ICAO Council in June 2018 to better support Member States for timely CORSIA implementation.

2.2 The Council emphasized the importance of a coordinated approach under ICAO ACT-CORSIA programme to harmonize and bring together all relevant actions and promote coherence to capacity building efforts. The Council also requested that any bilateral or multilateral partnerships among States should be coordinated with ICAO, so that the global progress of such coordinated efforts would be monitored. In this regard, Mexico points out to Member States, that when considering parallel and independent programs for capacity-building, those initiatives are coordinated within the framework of the ACT-CORSIA of ICAO, in order to ensure a higher harmonisation and better use of resources, minimizing as well, duplications and inconsistencies.

2.3 Under the ICAO ACT-CORSIA programme, Buddy Partnerships among States were established across the Regions, including Mexico as one of donor States since summer 2018. Under the ACT-CORSIA Buddy Partnerships, technical experts provided by donor States worked together with the CORSIA focal points of recipient States to provide on-site training and a necessary follow-up for implementation of the recipient States' CORSIA MRV system, with a focus on emissions monitoring and national regulatory frameworks.

2.4 Building upon the very successful and coordinated approach under ICAO ACT-CORSIA, the second phase of the ACT-CORSIA Buddy Partnerships has been established in summer 2019, with a focus on reporting and verification under Annex 16, Volume IV.

2.5 Due to successful capacity building under ICAO ACT-CORSIA programme, with substantial contributions of Member States to establish buddy partnerships among them, 81 States have announced their intention to voluntarily participate in CORSIA, including Mexico, as of July 2019. More States are encouraged to voluntarily participate in the CORSIA from the pilot phase.

### 3. **NEXT STEPS**

3.1 For the successful implementation of CORSIA, ICAO Council should make further progress to develop and update CORSIA-related SARPs and guidance, including the development of remaining CORSIA Implementation Elements related to CORSIA eligible fuels and CORSIA eligible emissions units, with contributions of relevant technical bodies (i.e. CAEP and TAB). Also, the ICAO Council's Advisory Body on CORSIA (AGC) should continue to play an important role to oversee the implementation of CORSIA and provide necessary advice and recommendations to the Council.

3.2 Member States should continue to take necessary actions, including necessary national policies and regulatory frameworks for the compliance of the CORSIA, in accordance with the timeline set forth by Annex 16, Volume IV.

3.3 In this regard, Mexico underscores the critical importance of a coordinated approach under ICAO in facilitating global cooperation to provide assistance and capacity building for CORSIA implementation, through ICAO ACT-CORSIA and buddy partnerships among Member States. Such coordination under ICAO will ensure the good, efficient and consistent quality of training and materials to be provided to recipient States, and global progress of such efforts can be monitored in a transparent manner.