

**HIGH LEVEL MEETING ON THE FEASIBILITY OF A LONG-TERM  
ASPIRATIONAL GOAL FOR INTERNATIONAL AVIATION CO<sub>2</sub> EMISSIONS  
REDUCTIONS (HLM-LTAG)**

**Montréal, 19 to 22 July 2022**

**STATEMENT BY NEW ZEALAND**

(Presented by H.E. KIERAN MCANULTY, Minister for  
Emergency Management and Associate Minister of Transport,  
New Zealand)

Kia ora tatou, gidday everyone

I'm grateful for the opportunity to speak about the importance of long-term goals to address climate change in the international civil aviation sector.

Along with many other governments around the world, we recognise that climate change is the biggest threat we face as a country and a global community.

In Aotearoa New Zealand transport is responsible for over a third of our CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, and so reducing our transport emissions will play a significant part in our journey to tackle climate change.

The benefits of decarbonising transport go beyond the environmental gains. Decarbonisation will enable a more sustainable, inclusive, safe and accessible transport system that better supports economic activity and community life.

New Zealand recognises the importance of setting long term targets to encourage investment and innovation.

Our climate response is supported by legislation that protects a net-zero CO<sub>2</sub> emissions target by 2050, a carbon price in the Emissions Trading Scheme, and the setting of carbon budgets and emissions reduction plans.

Last month, we released the first Emissions Reduction Plan for Aotearoa. In it we propose to reduce transport emissions by 41% by 2035.

New Zealand will set specific targets for domestic aviation reductions next year, and the work through ICAO's long term aspirational goal will set the international target.

We'll look to achieve the international target through sustainable aviation fuels, zero emission aircrafts, and other operational improvements and measures.

During COP26, New Zealand joined many countries in declarations to be part of the international effort to reduce carbon emissions. This includes the International Aviation Climate Ambition Coalition, and associated declaration, supporting net zero aviation emissions by 2050.

In Aotearoa we have a whakatauki: He manako te koura I kore ai

This translates to wishing for the crayfish won't bring it.

This whakatauki emphasises that sitting back, wishing and waiting, will not result in the change that we need to achieve to address climate change.

This issue will not fix itself; we need to take action now to decarbonise the aviation sector.

As a small country in the Pacific, aviation is important for New Zealand's connectivity and economic interests. Being a small country in the Pacific, we also cannot afford to delay action on climate change.

I encourage all parties at this meeting today and over the next few days to be as ambitious as possible. I encourage you to adopt and pursue an ambitious goal for the international civil aviation sector.

Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā tatou katoa; cheers.