

**STATEMENT BY MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT S ISWARAN FOR THE ICAO
HIGH LEVEL MEETING ON THE FEASIBILITY OF A LONG-TERM
ASPIRATIONAL GOAL ON 19 JULY 2022**

President of the ICAO Council Mr Salvatore Sciacchitano,

Secretary-General Mr Juan Carlos Salazar,

Fellow Ministers, distinguished delegates,

1. Climate change is an existential threat, and the defining challenge of our times. There is great urgency for strong global climate action. The international aviation sector must act now, decisively and collectively. We must do our part to ensure a sustainable international aviation system, and make a meaningful contribution to global climate action.

2. As a major global air hub, Singapore is fully committed to this endeavour and we are developing a Sustainable Air Hub Blueprint, which will be released next year.

3. Under the ICAO's leadership, and with the industry's staunch support, good progress has been made by the aviation sector. A medium-term goal for carbon-neutral growth has been set, followed by the adoption and implementation of the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSA), with wide participation. Many States have also submitted their State Action Plans, which include operational and technological measures for greater aircraft and air traffic management efficiency, and moves towards the use of sustainable aviation fuels (SAF).

4. While the steps we have taken are important, climate action is a multi-year and multi-decade effort. The sector therefore needs clear direction, and setting a long-term aspirational goal (LTAG) will be crucial. An ambitious long-term aspirational goal will signal the sector's resolve towards climate action under the ICAO's leadership, and it will also help rally the sector. The certainty provided to the industry and investors will catalyse further action and unlock the opportunities presented by green financing.

5. As international aviation emissions are inherently transboundary, it is imperative for the LTAG to be a global, collective, and inclusive goal. The setting of the LTAG should recognise the diversity across countries in terms of their special circumstances and respective capabilities while adhering to the principle of non-discrimination. The goal should be accompanied by sufficient technical support, training and capacity-building, and Singapore stands ready to contribute to these efforts, as we have always done.

6. Let me conclude by underscoring Singapore's commitment to actively support ICAO in international aviation sustainability and climate action. We look forward to working closely with ICAO, Member States, and all other stakeholders towards successful outcomes at this High-Level Meeting and the 41st ICAO Assembly.

7. Thank you.