



International Civil Aviation Organization

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NEW PROGRESS ON AIRCRAFT CO₂ STANDARD

Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation, 11 July 2012 – Global aviation moved an important step closer to establishing a worldwide CO₂ Standard for aircraft yesterday, as the International Civil Aviation Organization's (ICAO's) Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection (CAEP) unanimously agreed on a CO₂ metric system which characterizes the CO₂ emissions for aircraft types with varying technologies.

“The new CO₂ metric system agreed today by States, as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, addresses emissions from a wide variety of aircraft on a fair and transparent basis,” stressed ICAO Council President, Roberto Kobeh González. “It includes factors which account for fuselage geometry, maximum take-off weight and fuel burn performance at three different cruise conditions and is a major move forward.”

The CAEP agreement on the new aircraft CO₂ metric system will allow the States and observer organizations that together comprise the CAEP to move onto the next stages in the development of an ICAO CO₂ aircraft Standard. This work includes the definition of certification procedures to support the agreed metric system and the Standard's scope of applicability.

An appropriate regulatory limit for the aircraft CO₂ Standard will then be analyzed, using the ICAO criteria of technical feasibility, environmental benefit, cost effectiveness and the impacts of interdependencies.

“This metric system is a very important milestone which comes after extensive technical discussions,” commented ICAO's Environment Branch Chief, Jane Hupe. “That ICAO was able to achieve consensus between the States who serve on the CAEP, in addition to the major airlines, aircraft manufacturers, environmental NGOs and other stakeholders who serve as observers to this process, highlights that there is a great deal of motivation in every quarter of our sector to achieve real progress on aviation environmental performance.”

A specialized agency of the United Nations, ICAO was created in 1944 to promote the safe and orderly development of international civil aviation throughout the world. It sets standards and regulations necessary for aviation safety, security, efficiency and regularity, as well as for aviation environmental protection. The Organization serves as the forum for cooperation in all fields of civil aviation among its 191 Member States.

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