

# ICAO highlights green aviation opportunities arising from pandemic

For immediate release

**Montréal**, **24 November 2020** – ICAO's Aviation Green Recovery Seminar is continuing at the UN aviation agency this week, exploring the ongoing work by ICAO and the aviation community towards green recovery.

The event is showcasing the concrete measures in place to promote an open and inclusive environmentally sustainable future for international air transport, and will provide a forum for discussion on how the world's green aviation future can be shaped

ICAO Secretary General Dr. Fang Liu opened the seminar, and reassured its speakers and guests that governments are continuing to collaborate with industry and civil society on the current ICAO environmental work programme and its priorities.

"This includes all activities to limit and reduce aviation's impacts on climate change, and the ongoing research into long-term targets for global CO<sub>2</sub> produced by international flights," she noted.

She also highlighted September's ICAO Stocktaking Seminar on in-sector CO<sub>2</sub> reductions as a good example of how momentum is being maintained in an effective and inclusive manner during COVID-19, and applauded its strong focus on innovation and determining a more sustainable path for air transport as it reconnects the world.

Participants to the seminar will be beginning discussions on the proposed near-, mid-, and long-term actions needed to ensure a greener recovery, and future, for international aviation.

"To do so you will need to holistically assess the technology, financing, infrastructure, policy, and many other perspectives this work engages," Dr. Liu emphasized.

Drawing attention to the continued reliance of the world on air transport to move perishable foods, medical supplies, and other urgent goods to where the world needs them most, Dr. Liu further noted that "the air transport network is still being highly relied upon by countries during the pandemic, and that its benefits would continue to support societies and economies everywhere."

"How greenly and sustainably the aviation engine will deliver these benefits for future generations is the challenge before us today."



Recognizing the profound challenges to international connectivity and prosperity being posed by COVID-19, ICAO Secretary General Dr. Fang Liu told participants to ICAO's Aviation Green Recovery Seminar earlier today that "despite its grave threats to current sustainability objectives, the pandemic's shut down of more than half the world's aviation capacity has also provided us with an important opportunity."

#### Resources for Editors

ICAO and Environmental Protection ICAO's COVID-19 Portal

### About ICAO

A specialized agency of the United Nations, ICAO was created by governments in 1944 to support their diplomacy on international air transport matters. Since that time, countries have adopted over 12,000 standards and practices through ICAO which help to align their national regulations relevant to aviation safety, security, efficiency, capacity and environmental protection, enabling a truly global network to be realized. ICAO forums also provide opportunities for advice and advocacy to be shared with government decision-makers by industry groups, civil society NGOs, and other officially-recognized air transport stakeholders.

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