

¹Statement by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), to the Fortieth Session of the UNFCCC Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA40)

(4 to 15 June 2014 – Bonn, Germany)

Thank you, Mr Chairman. ICAO and its Member States have been actively engaged in making progress on a comprehensive strategy to address CO_2 emissions from international aviation, with a view to achieving the collective global aspirational goals for the sector's CO_2 emissions reductions.

A key area of ICAO's work is the development and facilitation of a basket of mitigation measures, which includes aircraft technology and operational improvements, sustainable alternative fuels, and market-based measures (MBMs), as well as providing support for the development and implementation of Member States' action plans to reduce CO_2 emissions from international aviation, through assistance and capacity building.

Indeed, the robust capacity building strategy which has been put into place over the last triennium has enabled the submission of States' action plans on CO_2 emissions reduction from international aviation by Member States that represent over 80 per cent of global international air traffic. The Assembly encouraged Member States to submit more complete and robust data in their action plans and emphasized the need for the Secretariat to provide further guidance and other technical assistance. Moreover, the Assembly requested that additional seminars be organized in the regions to provide States with an overview of ICAO's environment-related activities on noise, local air quality and climate change. With a view to responding to these requests in an effective manner, two seminars, the ICAO International Aviation and Environment Seminar and ICAO States' Action Plans Seminar, are planned to be held back-to-back. The two first seminars (out of seven), namely in Mexico and in Peru, were held in April 2014. The next seminars are planned for the African region in Cameroon and Kenya in June 2014, for the Asia Pacific region in Malaysia in October 2014, for the Middle East Region in the United Arab Emirates in early 2015, and for the European and North Atlantic Region in Poland, also in early 2015.

The development of a global MBM scheme for international aviation, as requested by the Assembly, requires significant efforts by the Organization, and the ICAO Council in February 2014 defined a clear roadmap to achieve this objective. The newly established Environment Advisory Group (EAG) has been making progress using the approach of a "Strawman" which started with a simple and basic proposal for a global scheme, with a view to generating the discussion on advantages and disadvantages of its design elements and allowing for the improvements of the Strawman. This iterative approach will ensure the full engagement of States and other stakeholders.

ICAO is also involved in the preparation of the upcoming UN Climate Summit in September 2014. The Organization is cooperating with UNEP and the UNFCCC to "green" the UN Summit and in organizing a climate neutral event. The ICAO Carbon Emissions Calculator will be used to estimate the air travel related component of the carbon emissions generated by the Summit and its delegates. ICAO is also planning to showcase concrete initiatives from States and industry in the field of renewable energy, such as through flights with sustainable biojet fuels to New York.

Mr Chairman, with the increasing engagement of Member States, and in close cooperation with the aviation industry and other international organizations, ICAO has been working actively toward developing global solutions to address GHG emissions from international aviation, as the Organization moves forward in demonstrating how it intends to achieve the ultimate vision of a sustainable international aviation sector.