

Statement from the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) to the Thirty-third Session of the UNFCCC Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA33)

(30 November to 4 December 2010 – Cancun, Mexico)

The International Civil Aviation Organization, as per the latest SBSTA decision, is pleased to provide this meeting with information on recent developments in international aviation and climate change.

At the 37th Session of the ICAO Assembly in October 2010, ICAO was able to bring its 190 member States together and adopted a comprehensive, robust and global policy on how to address GHG emissions from international aviation. The Assembly Resolution A37-19 reflects the determination of ICAO's member States to continue to play a leading role in the global efforts to address climate change by working through ICAO to limit or reduce GHG emissions from international aviation. It builds upon the series of ICAO's past achievements since the last ICAO Assembly including through its High-level Meeting and Alternative Fuels Conference in 2009, and goes one step further by incorporating the following key elements:

- 1. further endorsement of the global aspirational goal of 2 per cent annual fuel efficiency improvement up to year 2050;
- 2. a medium term global aspirational goal from 2020 that would ensure that while the international aviation sector continues to grow, its global CO₂ emissions would be stabilized at 2020 levels;
- 3. further work to explore the feasibility of a long-term global aspirational goal for international aviation;
- 4. development of a framework for market-based measures, including further elaboration of the guiding principles adopted by the Assembly, and exploration of a global scheme for international aviation;
- 5. concrete steps to assist States to contribute to the global efforts;
- 6. *de minimis* provisions to ensure that States with small contributions to the global air traffic are not burdened disproportionately; and
- 7. States' action plans, covering information on CO₂ emissions reduction activities and assistance needs.

With the global agreement reached at the ICAO Assembly, international aviation is the first sector with a shared global commitment to environmental goals of increasing fuel efficiency and stabilizing its global CO_2 emissions in the medium-term. The Assembly also decided that the Council should undertake further work in order to continue to make progress on a number of issues, where States expressed concerns, such as the implementation of the medium term global aspirational goal and market-based measures.

The Assembly Resolution is a clear demonstration of the willingness of ICAO and its 190 member States to take concrete steps towards a global solution to address CO_2 emissions from international aviation. We sincerely look to this Conference to deliver an agreement that acknowledges ICAO's significant achievements and encourages its member States to work further through ICAO towards the sustainable development of international aviation.

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Note: All information related to the outcome of the 37th Session of the ICAO Assembly including the full text of Resolution A37-19, is provided in the ICAO's submission to this SBSTA session (FCCC/SBSTA/2010/MISC.14) and is also available at ICAO's exhibition booth.