RESOLUTION ON THE INDUSTRY’S COMMITMENT TO REACH NET ZERO CARBON EMISSIONS BY 2050

At the 66th IATA AGM in 2010, IATA member airlines adopted a resolution which endorsed three ambitious goals to address aviation’s CO₂ emissions, namely: an average improvement in fuel efficiency of 1.5% per year between 2010 and 2020; a cap on net aviation CO₂ emissions from 2020; and a reduction in net aviation CO₂ emissions of 50% by 2050 relative to 2005 levels. Since then, a lot of progress has been made. Airlines have achieved an average annual improvement in fuel efficiency of over 2%, with a cumulative improvement between 2009 and 2019 of 21.4%, largely through the investment of hundreds of billions of dollars in more efficient aircraft.

Meeting aviation’s climate goals cannot be achieved with a standalone commitment and action by airlines.

Governments must implement constructive policy frameworks that focus on production incentives for sustainable aviation fuels (SAF) and helps to realize cost-effective new technologies that together will support the Paris Agreement objectives and secure a sustainable future for aviation.

Aircraft and engine manufacturers, fuel-producing companies, airports, and air navigation services providers must each individually take responsibility to address the environmental impact of their policies, products, and activities.

Collectively, all industry stakeholders must work together to deliver sustainable products and services and ultimately break aviation’s dependance on fossil fuels.

RESOLUTION

The 77th IATA Annual General Meeting:

Adopts the collective target to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050 in support of the Paris Agreement goal and reaffirms the airlines’ full support for the ICAO Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA) as an effective measure to stabilize net emissions from international aviation at 2019 levels in the short- to medium-term.

Calls on ICAO to provide strong unwavering leadership that aligns governments to address aviation emissions through a global approach with coordinated policies, rather than a patchwork of regional, national, or local measures.

Calls on the governments of ICAO Member States to agree on a long-term goal equivalent to the ambition of the industry and ensure that:

- the industry’s action is supported by a coherent and coordinated policy framework which drives innovation and initiative; and
- does not rely on cost-ineffective instruments with little or no environmental benefits such as ticket and carbon taxes.

Encourages all IATA member airlines to continue to improve the efficiency of their operations to achieve sustained in-sector emissions reductions and to lead the urgent transition to sustainable aviation fuel.

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Demands that all industry stakeholders commit to addressing the environmental impact of their policies, products, and activities with concrete actions and clear timelines, specifically including:

• fuel-producing companies providing large scale, cost-competitive sustainable aviation fuels to the market;
• governments and air navigation service providers eliminating inefficiencies in air traffic management and airspace infrastructure;
• aircraft and engine manufacturers producing radically more efficient airframe and propulsion technologies; and
• airport operators providing the needed infrastructure to supply SAF, at cost, and in a cost-effective manner.