RESOLUTION ON AVIATION’S COMMITMENT TO RECONNECT THE WORLD SAFELY AND SUSTAINABLY

NOTING the devastation that the impact of the COVID-19 crisis has brought to economies around the world;
RECOGNIZING that pre-COVID-19 the aviation, travel and tourism industries supported 88 million jobs but that, due to the crisis, 46 million of those jobs are currently at risk;
ACKNOWLEDGING that the government support (totaling USD173 billion to date) which has helped limit the number of airline bankruptcies in the crisis, is diminishing in many jurisdictions;
WARNING that, despite severe cost cutting and restructuring, airline financial failure remains at risk;
EMPHASIZING that a safe, environmentally sustainable and financially viable airline industry is critical to the eventual economic recovery from COVID-19;
RECALLING aviation’s resilience in responding to previous crises; and
RECOGNIZING that the unprecedented scale of the COVID-19 crisis will require even greater levels of cooperation and coordination between industry and governments;

RESOLUTION

The 76th IATA Annual General Meeting:

• AFFIRMS that safety will always be the top priority of every airline; and
  – CALLS on governments to work with airlines to maintain safety standards and critical skill levels during the crisis and in a safe re-start and scale-up of operations in the recovery.
• REAFFIRMS that the strong commitment of IATA member airlines to respond to humanity’s challenge of climate change is unwavering;
  – PLEDGES to achieve the industry’s target of reducing net CO2 emissions to half of 2005 levels by 2050 and to explore pathways collectively to reach net zero emissions in aviation; and
  – URGES governments to support the transition to sustainable aviation fuels and avoid cost-ineffective instruments such as ticket or carbon taxes.
• CALLS on governments to prioritize comprehensive financial support and regulatory alleviations to preserve aviation’s financial viability and critical employment levels.
• COMMITS to safely and sustainably reconnect the world and restore the benefits that the freedom to fly brings to individuals and economies.