

Joint Statement on Environmental Cooperation

The delegations of the United States and the European Union and its Member States reaffirmed the critical importance of addressing the environmental impacts of international aviation. They expressed their shared commitment to the environmental objectives established at the 35th Assembly of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), namely to strive to:

- a) limit or reduce the number of people affected by significant aircraft noise;
- b) limit or reduce the impact of aviation emissions on local air quality; and
- c) limit or reduce the impact of aviation greenhouse gas emissions on the global climate.

The delegations acknowledged the outcome of the 15th Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Copenhagen Accord, including the shared recognition of the scientific view that the increase in global temperature should be below two degrees Celsius.

The delegations confirmed the Parties' strong desire and willingness to work together to build upon the progress achieved by the ICAO High Level Meeting on International Aviation and Climate Change by seeking to join with international partners in a collective effort at ICAO to establish a more ambitious program of action, including robust goals, a framework for market-based measures, and considerations for the special needs of developing countries.

Both sides noted their commitment to cooperate within the ICAO Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection (CAEP) to ensure the timely and effective delivery of its work programme, including adoption of a global aircraft CO₂ standard and other measures on climate change, noise, and air quality.

The delegations emphasized the importance of reducing the environmental impacts of aviation through:

- continuing cooperation on the NextGen and SESAR air traffic management modernization programmes, including the Atlantic Interoperability Initiative to Reduce Emissions (AIRE);
- fostering and accelerating, as appropriate, the development and implementation of new aircraft technologies and sustainable alternative fuels, including through the Clean Sky Joint Technology Initiative, the Continuous Low Energy, Emissions and Noise (CLEEN) Program, the Commercial Aviation Alternative Fuels Initiative (CAAFI), and the Sustainable Way for Alternative Fuel and Energy in Aviation (SWAFEA) initiative; and
- collaborating with the scientific community through, for example, the CAEP Impacts and Science Group to better understand and quantify the effects of aviation on the environment, such as health and non-CO₂ climate impacts.

