



Media Release

World aviation industry joins forces to act on climate change

GENEVA, 22 April 2008 – At the global Aviation and Environment Summit currently underway in Geneva, commercial aviation industry leaders today signed a declaration on climate change to lead towards carbon neutral growth and a totally sustainable industry.

In a significant move, the declaration has brought together all sectors of commercial aviation – aircraft manufacturers, airlines, airports, air traffic control and engine manufacturers. This is the first time the industry has united in this way, highlighting the importance it is placing on environmental issues.

The declaration outlines aviation's concept of 'carbon neutral growth' with an aspirational goal of carbon-free flight. The industry will achieve this through focusing on a four-pillar approach to climate change: investment in new technology, increasing operational efficiency, air traffic and airport infrastructure improvements and appropriate economic measures.

The Declaration states: "We agree on the need to accelerate action to mitigate our environmental impact, especially in respect to climate change while preserving our driving role in the sustainable development of our global society.

"Our efforts and commitment to work in partnership with governments, other industries and representatives of civil society will provide meaningful benefits on tackling climate change and other environmental challenges".

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The industry also called on governments to play their part by pushing forward a global, workable emissions trading scheme; helping with research and development; and being more proactive in reducing infrastructure blockages that result in unnecessary carbon emissions, such as implementing the Single European Sky.

According to Summit organiser, Dr Philippe Rochat, “The declaration is not just fine words. For the first time the industry can agree on a set of common goals and a pathway to achieve those goals – through the industry’s four pillar strategy. And we have a strong track record of driving through major industry initiatives. Look at what we have done with e-ticketing and safety. This declaration sends a signal that we are devoting the same energy, investment and sheer determination to ensure the industry has a sustainable future.”

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Notes for media:

- The full list of Declaration signatories can be found at www.enviro.aero/declaration
- The 3rd Aviation & Environment Summit will bring together around 450 CEOs, regulators, environmental and communication representatives from across the industry. Since the first summit in 2005, the aviation industry has intensified its joint efforts to limit its environmental impact. This Summit allows the leaders of the industry to work together to achieve the common goals of the aviation industry.
- For more information, please contact one of the Summit media team at the Summit Press Office (staffed Tuesday and Wednesday) on +41 22 747 0385, or:

Quentin Browell
International Air Transport Association, Geneva
Tel: +41 22 770 2555
Mob: +41 79 723 9670
browellq@iata.org

Haldane Dodd
Airports Council International World Headquarters, Geneva
Tel: +41 22 717 8585
Mob: +41 79 429 8710
hdodd@aci.aero

Chris Goater
Civil Air Navigation Services Organisation, Amsterdam
Tel: +31 23 568 5380
Mob: +31 630 475 595
chris.goater@canso.org

