

# JOIN US IN SHAPING SUSTAINABLE AIR TRANSPORT



AIR TRANSPORT ACTION GROUP

GROUPE D'ACTION DU TRANSPORT AÉRIEN

GRUPO DE ACCIÓN DEL TRANSPORTE AÉREO

航空运输行动组

Группа действий по вопросам воздушного транспорта

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# MISSION

Our members share a vision of ensuring air transport can continue to connect the world in the decades to come in line with the Paris Agreement commitment to climate action, while supporting social and economic development. In 2021, ATAG brought together the aviation industry around a goal of net-zero carbon by 2050. It is now our mission to make that a reality.

**ATAG IS A UNIQUE PLATFORM THAT BRINGS TOGETHER ACTORS FROM ALL PARTS OF THE AIR TRANSPORT VALUE CHAIN TO WORK ON ISSUES OF COMMON IMPORTANCE: SUSTAINABILITY, CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ROLE OF AVIATION IN CONNECTING COMMUNITIES AROUND THE WORLD.**

To do this, ATAG provides a collaborative environment to foster the exchange of ideas, joint approaches to common issues and a united voice to ensure governments, industry and civil society can work together to progress the sustainable development of air transport.

# OUR MEMBERS

## PRINCIPAL PARTNERS



## STRATEGIC ASSOCIATES



## SUPPORTERS

- Arab Air Carriers Organization (AACO)
- Airlines for Europe (A4E)
- Airlines International Representation in Europe (AIRE)
- Asociación Latinoamericana y del Caribe de Transporte Aéreo (ALTA)
- Comac
- European Regions Airline Association (ERA)
- Fédération Nationale de l'Aviation et de ses Métiers (FNAM)
- Genève Aéroport
- International Air Rail Organisation
- International Chamber of Commerce
- International Coordinating Council of Aerospace Industries Associations (ICCAIA)
- Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA)
- Paris Aéroport
- Administratia Romana a Serviciilor de Trafic Aerian (ROMATSA)
- World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC)

# WORKING TOGETHER FOR THE COMMON GOOD OF THE AVIATION SECTOR AND GLOBAL SOCIETY

ATAG was created in 1990 to provide the aviation sector with a common framework for addressing future challenges. Climate change became the association's core focus in the mid 2000s, whilst continuing coordination in other sustainable development areas.

Aviation is a well-coordinated ecosystem that is used to collaborating to solve operational and strategic challenges. ATAG provides that platform for climate change, representing the common voice of aviation at various United Nations institutions.

In addition, ATAG develops research and analysis on the role aviation plays in global society, making these freely available for governments, UN agencies, academia, the general public and the whole aviation sector.

## WHAT WE DO

- Collaboration
- Research and education
- Advocacy

ATAG membership helps to support the association's work as the common voice of a unique global sector. It also allows greater involvement in the work of the association and a key role in discussions on policy development, as well as opportunities to interact with key decisionmakers as global action is taking place. For two decades, ATAG has led the way towards a sustainable future for air transport. A committed and collaborative membership has been that driving force.

# GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

ATAG is active in a number of United Nations and international organisation processes:



ICAO

The aviation sector's most enduring international relationship is with the United Nations specialised agency, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). ATAG has been the voice of the aviation sector on climate change issues at recent ICAO Assemblies and has coordinated other industry associations with a common approach to governments meeting at ICAO. It was through ATAG coordination that the industry committed to net-zero carbon by 2050, which was then adopted by governments at the ICAO Assembly in 2022: the first such global commitment from any single sector.



ATAG has observer status at the UN ECOSOC and was active in the discussions leading up to the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals in 2015.



United Nations  
Climate Change

ATAG has coordinated aviation activities at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) since COP15 in 2009, including running the industry delegation to the COP21 talks which produced the Paris Agreement.



ATAG is invited to the International Transport Forum and has produced several events alongside this annual gathering of transport ministers.



ATAG has been the voice of aviation in the World Bank-driven Sustainable Mobility for All initiative, working alongside ICAO to ensure that aviation is included appropriately in these transport discussions.



ATAG is an observer in the Green Climate Fund process.



ATAG has been working for several years advising the World Economic Forum's Clean Skies for Tomorrow initiative, as well as other aviation-related activity.

# ATAG

# OUR SERVICES

## TO MEMBERS

- **Advocacy coordination** (for various UN and international processes): there is regular collaborative effort within the ATAG membership and across the entire sector. In addition, ad-hoc collaboration is organised to deal with challenges as they present themselves. There is also regular contact with the ATAG team and consultation on key decisions for the association, participating in ATAG working groups and projects on specific issues.
- **Knowledge sharing** (sharing expertise, working closely with other likeminded industry professionals, participating in regular sustainability briefings and working groups on noteworthy topics). The aviation system works best when it works together: ATAG provides a collaborative platform at the broadest global level.
- **Communications tools** (access to ATAG's communications resources and online toolkits; drafting aviation-wide research and messaging; social media campaigns and a weekly media digest).
- **Being part of the ATAG community** (invitation to the annual General Assembly; a dedicated company profile page on the ATAG website).

## TO GLOBAL SOCIETY

- Aviation connects the world and the system works best when it is coordinated well.
- ATAG publications and analysis is made freely available to governments, academics, our partners and the broader public.
- Governments benefit from a united aviation strategy providing clear guidance to global issues: the fact that the sector was able to present a long-term goal of net-zero carbon by 2050 accelerated government adoption of the same goal at the United Nations.
- Air transport's collective action will help ensure connectivity of communities across the world for decades to come and the vital contribution to job creation, whilst continually improving fuel efficiency and shifting away from fossil fuels as our energy source: protecting people, economies and the planet at the same time.

# HOW WE WORK

In October 2022, the aviation sector became one of the first in the world to adopt a global long-term net-zero carbon goal, aligning itself with the Paris Agreement and showing that, despite the enormous challenge for such a hard-to-abate sector, a common approach and determination can unleash significant action. **Here is how ATAG helped make this historic agreement a reality.**

## 1) ALIGNING AVIATION BEHIND A COMMON APPROACH TO DECARBONISATION

- In 2008, ATAG convened aviation leaders at a Summit in Geneva to adopt a set of short-, medium- and long-term goals for action on climate change. This approach, with a four-pillar strategy for action, became the common standard for air transport and elements of the plan started to be adopted at ICAO.
- Following the Paris Agreement in 2015 and the IPCC's special report on 1.5°C in 2018, the ATAG community started working on strengthening the long-term goal for the sector.
- In order to inform the decision, a robust piece of analysis – *Waypoint 2050* – was commissioned and coordinated by ATAG, bringing together 70 experts from across the sector to show how net-zero carbon could be reached in 2050. [www.aviationbenefits.org/W2050](http://www.aviationbenefits.org/W2050)
- In 2021, following discussions within the sector, the industry aligned behind net-zero 2050, committing to this challenging, but necessary climate goal a year before the ICAO Assembly. [www.aviationbenefits.org/FlyNetZero](http://www.aviationbenefits.org/FlyNetZero)
- Advocacy coordination ahead of the ICAO Assembly in numbers: 9 monthly industry-wide 'Road to ICAO' coordination calls (with 330 industry global participants invited); 5 communicators group meetings; 7 working paper drafting group calls; 11 industry delegation calls and meetings.

## 2) BRINGING GOVERNMENTS ON BOARD

Achieving unity amongst companies is one challenge, ensuring governments share that vision is another. Following the industry adoption of a net-zero goal for aviation, ATAG spent the next year encouraging governments to adopt the same goal through a range of activities:

- 10 ATAG press releases issued advocating for a deal at ICAO
- 5 official working and information papers delivered
- 71 ICAO Member States with direct ATAG interaction: meetings or workshops
- 29 meetings with ICAO Council members
- A series of events to promote a net-zero goal in the lead-up to the ICAO Assembly: the ATAG Global Sustainable Aviation Forum in September 2021; ATAG Net-zero Aviation Briefings in Latin America and Asia-Pacific; the ATAG Net-Zero Dialogue with over 30 States represented in Montreal, a side event on the topic at COP27 in Glasgow; the ATAG / Cranfield University 2022 Global Aviation Summit.

### 3) ENSURING SUPPORT FROM THE NEXT GENERATION

In 2022, ATAG also enlisted help from the next generation of aviation leaders, asking young aviation professionals to send a video message to the world's governments through social media to adopt a long-term goal that would serve their future jobs and connect the world:

- 65 young aviation professionals took part in our #FlyNetZero campaign
- 20 countries represented
- 3 main videos in English, French, Spanish and Mandarin
- 45 individual young aviation voices videos for social media
- 100+ social media cards developed and used
- 1 toolkit for communications
- 1,373 #FlyNetZero posts across social media channels during campaign
- 241m potential views during campaign

### 4) RESULT ACHIEVED

Following months of intense discussions, as well as interventions in the process by ATAG at the pre-negotiations and the ICAO Assembly itself, the world's governments meeting at ICAO also adopted a goal of net-zero carbon by 2050.

The ATAG approach relies on something that aviation excels at: teamwork. ATAG is a collaboration of the expertise and voices of its members, coordinated and led by a passionate team in the association.



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