



# Cabinet Economic Development Committee

## Minute of Decision

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### International Civil Aviation Organization: Climate Change Negotiation Mandate

**Portfolio**                      **Associate Transport**

On 14 September 2022, the Cabinet Economic Development Committee (DEV):

- 1        **noted** that the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from aviation is a critical component of achieving the temperature limit goals of the Paris Agreement;
- 2        **noted** that the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) is the lead United Nations agency for deciding and implementing emissions reduction measures, and for determining any emissions reduction target, for the aviation sector;
- 3        **noted** that it is proposed that Aotearoa New Zealand will participate in ICAO discussions on:
  - 3.1      the adoption of a long-term aspirational goal to reduce GHG emissions from international aviation;
  - 3.2      the 2022 periodic review of the Carbon and Offsetting Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSA);
- 4        **noted** that decisions made at ICAO will have wider implications for the government, with potential impacts on trade and the broader environment beyond just GHG emissions;
- 5        **noted** that, by 2024, the Climate Change Commission will review whether to include international aviation in Aotearoa New Zealand's national emissions budget;
- 6        **invited** the Associate Minister of Transport to report back to DEV on the impacts to Aotearoa New Zealand of any proposed ICAO measures after the ICAO General Assembly meeting (if necessary);
- 7        **agreed** that Aotearoa New Zealand's engagement on reducing GHG emissions from aviation at the ICAO General Assembly should be mutually supportive with other foreign policy priorities, including those relating to climate change, trade and the Pacific;
- 8        **agreed** that Aotearoa New Zealand's principles for engagement at the ICAO will be to:
  - 8.1      advocate for an ambitious LTAG which aligns with the collective commitment in the Paris Agreement to pursue efforts to limit the global temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels;

- 8.2 support the 2022 periodic review of CORSIA, with the objectives of maintaining ambition for CORSIA and of accelerating decarbonisation of the international aviation sector;
  - 8.3 resist approaches to differentiate responsibilities on climate action where it is not justified, and instead encourage staying true to the ‘spirit of Paris’ where countries’ national circumstances are the arbiter of the effort they are required to commit;
  - 8.4 support Pacific partners to participate and amplifying their voices and concerns, while sensitively traversing the differences of views in the region;
  - 8.5 limit disproportionate negative impacts for geographically remote economies like Aotearoa New Zealand;
  - 8.6 support the development of measures that are fair and not unnecessarily complex or administratively burdensome, and serve to encourage the development of mutually supportive international GHG management and trade obligations;
- 9 **authorised** the Associate Minister of Transport, in consultation with the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Export Growth, Environment, and Climate Change, to provide direction to officials as necessary on Aotearoa New Zealand’s position if an issue emerges that meets some but not all of the provisions outlined above.

Janine Harvey  
Committee Secretary

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**Present:**

Hon Dr Megan Woods (Chair)  
Hon Carmel Sepuloni  
Hon David Parker  
Hon Damien O’Connor  
Hon Stuart Nash  
Hon Dr David Clark  
Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall  
Hon Priyanca Radhakrishnan  
Hon Kieran McAnulty  
Hon James Shaw  
Rino Tirikatene MP  
Dr Deborah Russell MP

**Officials present from:**

Office of the Prime Minister  
Officials Committee for DEV