

Europe's airports applaud IAG's Net Zero CO2 commitment

For immediate release

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ACI EUROPE

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Brussels, 10 October 2019: Earlier today, IAG announced that it is stepping up its climate action with a package of measures to reduce its airlines' carbon footprint and committing to Net Zero CO2 emissions by 2050. Reacting to the announcement¹, Europe's airports applauded the move and offered their support to help the group reaching that long-term goal. They also reiterated their call for Europe to adopt policies that effectively facilitate and enable the decarbonization of aviation at large.

IAG's bold move complements the commitment of the European airport industry to achieve Net Zero for carbon emissions under their control by 2050². This airport industry pledge has so far been undersigned by 203 airports which individually committed to the same goal – these airports account for 64.3% of the continent's air traffic.

Olivier Jankovec, Director General of ACI EUROPE said: *"IAG's new climate targets are excellent news and should be applauded. Collective industry leadership is crucial to maintain aviation's societal relevance in the face of the Climate Emergency. While achieving carbon-neutral growth as of 2020 is an important and needed first step, we all need to go beyond that – and set a long-term ambition for Net Zero for the sector. Europe's airports stand ready to help and support IAG in its endeavours, and we hope that other airlines will quickly follow its lead. But, beyond airlines, Air Traffic Management (ATM) must also get aligned and contribute. I am increasingly hearing voices downplaying the role that ATM can play in decarbonization – this is simply not acceptable. There can be no justification to defend the status quo."*

ENDS

Notes for editors:

¹IAG's Press Release can be viewed here:

<https://www.iairgroup.com/en/newsroom/press-releases/newsroom-listing/2019/net-zero-emissions>

²The ACI EUROPE NetZero2050 Resolution can be viewed here:

<https://www.aci-europe.org/component/downloads/downloads/6110.html>

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*ACI EUROPE is the European region of Airports Council International (ACI), the only worldwide professional association of airport operators. ACI EUROPE represents over **500 airports** in 45 European countries. Our members facilitate over 90% of commercial air traffic in Europe: **2.3 billion passengers, 21.2 million tonnes of freight and 25.7 million aircraft movements** in 2018. In response to the Climate Emergency, in June 2019 our members committed to achieve net zero carbon emissions for operations under their control by 2050, without offsetting.*

EVERY FLIGHT BEGINS AT THE AIRPORT.