

European aviation industry welcomes EU trilogue agreement on RefuelEU Aviation regulation as an important step towards decarbonisation of the aviation sector

Brussels, 26 April - The five leading European aviation associations which are close partners through the DESTINATION 2050 decarbonisation roadmap – A4E, ACI EUROPE, ASD, CANSO, and ERA – welcome yesterday’s political agreement between the European Parliament and the Council of the EU on the ReFuel EU Aviation regulation.

The agreement marks an important and timely step necessary to the realisation of the ambitious targets of the decarbonization roadmap to which the sector has committed. Sustainable Aviation Fuels play a decisive role in that endeavour and the agreement lays the foundation for all key stakeholders to move on in a concerted effort to reach the blending shares of SAF to kerosene agreed upon. This is expected to stimulate increased production and larger scale market-uptake of SAF through to 2050.

Through DESTINATION 2050, announced in early 2021, the European aviation industry was the first in the world to commit to the realisation of a net-zero goal for all departing flights by 2050. This will be achieved through a combination of four key pillars including improvements in aircraft and engine technologies, using Sustainable Aviation Fuels (SAF), implementing economic measures, and improvements to air traffic management (ATM) and aircraft operations in Europe.

Whilst the trilogue agreement is an important step into the right direction, further support is needed through complementary EU policies and initiatives.

About DESTINATION 2050

Europe’s aviation sector is collectively on board to lead the way in reducing aviation CO₂ emissions by 2030 and 2050 – making flying more sustainable for the long term. In February 2021, Europe’s airlines, airports, aerospace manufacturers and air navigation service providers laid out a joint long-term vision along with concrete solutions to the complex challenge of reaching net zero CO₂ emissions from all flights departing the EU, UK and EFTA by 2050. The independent report by the Royal Netherlands Aerospace Centre (NLR) and SEO Amsterdam Economics shows how a combination of actions from all stakeholders – including the EU and national governments – in four key areas could achieve substantial CO₂ emissions reductions in line with EU climate goals. These include: Improvements in aircraft and engine technologies (including hybrid, electric and hydrogen propulsion), using sustainable aviation fuels (SAFs) both for fixed- and rotary-wing platforms, implementing economic measures and improvements in air traffic management (ATM) and aircraft operations. For more information, visit www.destination2050.eu

Media contacts

A4E

Kevin Hiney
Communications Director
Email: kevin.hiney@a4e.eu
Phone: +32 499 82 82 94

ACI EUROPE

Virginia Lee
Senior Vice President: Communications, Membership and Marketing
Email: virginia.lee@aci-europe.org
Phone: +32 2 552 09 82

ASD

Adrian Schmitz
Communications Director
Email: adrian.schmitz@asd-europe.org
Phone: +32 473 13 33 30

CANSO

Johnny Pring
Manager Europe Policy and Advocacy
Email: johnny.pring@canso.org
Phone: +32 493 53 61 24

ERA

Paula Bangle
GM Business Development
Email: paula.bangle@eraa.org
Phone: +44 1276 485558