

Information on the Carbon Offsetting and
Reduction Scheme for International
Aviation (CORSA) under the UN
International Civil Aviation Organization
(ICAO)

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Agenda

- What is the UN International Aviation Organization (ICAO)?
- ICAO's relationship to the UNFCCC
- What is the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA)?
- How will offsets be certified by ICAO and by when?
- Potential considerations for Participants Committee members

What is the UN International Aviation Organization?

- Specialized UN agency that sets standards for international aviation on safety, security, and environment.
- **Basic structure:**
 - ***ICAO Assembly***—191 countries meet every three years. (Big high-level decisions.)
 - ***ICAO Council***—36 countries elected for three-year terms to govern ICAO (Ongoing decisions)
 - Technical committees and task groups—***Committee for Aviation Environmental Protection***



What is ICAO's relationship to the UNFCCC?



- ICAO creates environmental standards to *only* address international aviation flight emissions not domestic flights.
- Domestic aviation emissions under national inventories so the domain of the UNFCCC and countries' NDCs.
- Ongoing coordination
- Important overlap with regard to Article 6 of the Paris Agreement.

What is the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSAIA)?

- The first-ever market-based measure adopted by an entire industry sector.
- ***International flight routes included in the scheme must offset their emissions above 2020 levels starting in 2021.***



What is the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIIA)?

- 66 countries participating in the voluntary phases (Pilot Phase [2021-2023]; Phase 1 [2024-2026])
- More countries enter in the “mandatory phase” (Phase 2 [2027-2035])
- **~2.5 billion tons CO₂e to be offset** over the entirety of the scheme (2021-2035)

How will offsets be certified by ICAO and by when?

- ICAO's Global Market Based Technical Task Force developed high-level criteria to assess and screen emissions units
- Approved by the ICAO Council in 2016.

How will offsets be certified by ICAO and by when?

Programme criteria

Offset programmes should meet a range of design elements covering the need for:

- 1) clear, publicly disclosed, methodologies and protocols;
- 2) considerations of the scope of activities;
- 3) credit issuance and retirement procedures;
- 4) identification and tracking of units;
- 5) the legal nature and transfer of units;
- 6) validation and verification procedures;
- 7) governance;
- 8) transparency and public participation provisions;
- 9) safeguarding systems to address environmental and social risks;
- 10) sustainable development criteria; and
- 11) the avoidance of double counting, issuance and claiming.

How will offsets be certified by ICAO and by when?

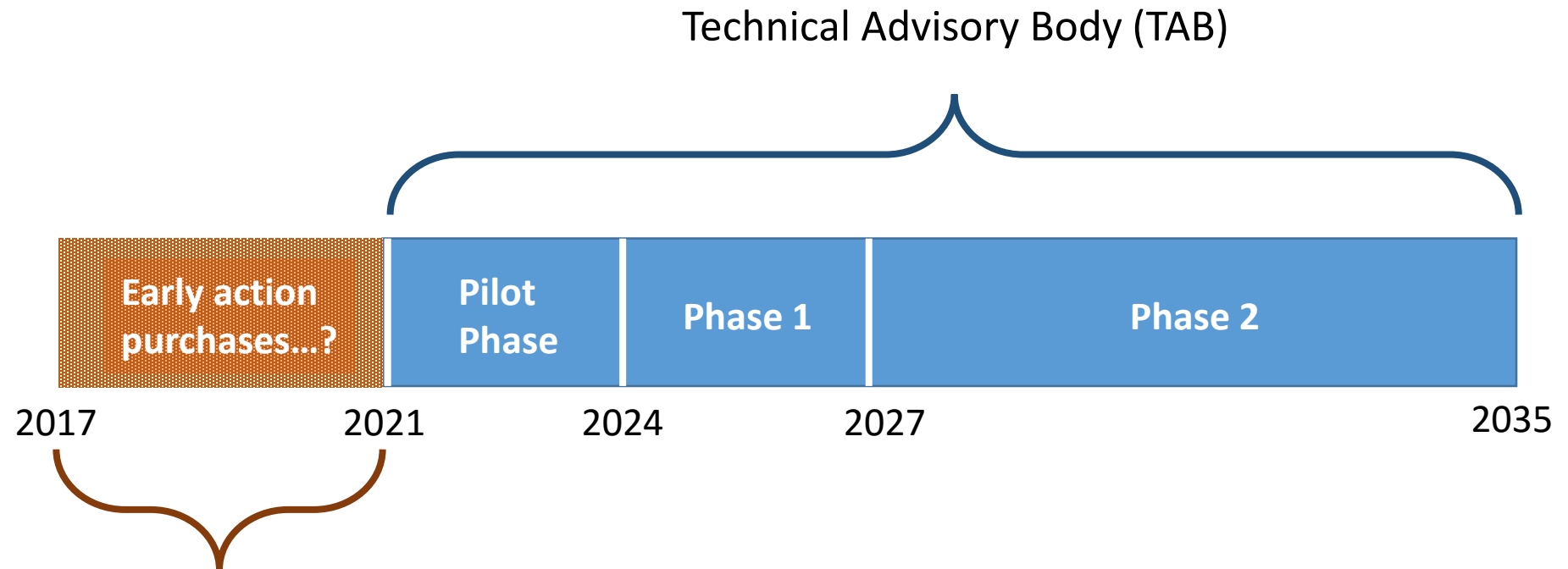
Emissions unit criteria

Programmes should deliver carbon offset units that represent emissions reductions, avoidance, or sequestration that:

- 1) are additional;
- 2) are based on a realistic and credible baseline;
- 3) are quantified, monitored, reported, and verified;
- 4) have a clear and transparent chain of custody;
- 5) represent permanent emissions reductions;
- 6) assess and mitigate against potential increase in emissions elsewhere;
- 7) are only counted once towards a mitigation obligation; and
- 8) do no net harm.

How will offsets be certified by ICAO and by when?

- Technical Advisory Body (TAB) to be developed to apply offset criteria for 2021-2035, but **not operational before 2021**.
- Airlines wanted early action to stimulate carbon markets and gain experience.
- Interim Programme Assessment Group (IPAG) created certify offsets for early action purchase.



Potential considerations for Participants Committee members

- Some have suggested that the FCPF could link with ICAO to provide a supply of emissions reductions that could benefit both REDD+ countries and the airlines.
- To take advantage of “early action” FCPF would need to act quickly to position possible linkages with ICAO.

