

météo et climat

THEMATIC MEETINGS
19 — 20 November 2026

International conference

En route to sustainable aviation: from climate science to mitigation policies

Abstract

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Waypoint 2050: Charting Aviation's Path to Net Zero

Achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2050 is one of the greatest challenges facing the global aviation industry. But what will it take to get there, and are we on track? This presentation will explore the findings of the third edition of Waypoint 2050, published by the Air Transport Action Group (ATAG) in 2026. Drawing on the collective expertise of the global aviation industry, the report assesses progress towards the sector's net-zero goal and outlines potential pathways to decarbonise air transport by mid-century.

The presentation will examine the role of sustainable aviation fuels, new aircraft technologies, operational and infrastructure improvements, and market-based measures in reducing aviation's carbon emissions. It will also highlight the challenges ahead, particularly the urgent need to accelerate SAF production and deployment, and the importance of supportive government policies, investment and cross-sector collaboration.

While the road to net zero remains challenging, Waypoint 2050 demonstrates that the goal is still within reach, provided decisive action is taken today.