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IBAC Hails ICAO Council, European Commission Actions on Climate Change

Montreal, 12 November 2012 – The International Business Aviation Council (IBAC) hailed recent, key steps taken by the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the European Commission to find a global solution for market-based measures to address international aviation carbon emissions.

On Friday, the ICAO Council launched a high-level policy initiative to establish a harmonized, global framework for market-based measures to be applied to international aviation, for approval at the ICAO Assembly in fall 2013. In response, the European Commissioner for Climate Action announced today her intent to “stop the clock” on application of the European Union Emissions Trading System to flights to and from Europe pending the Assembly’s decision.

“The ICAO Council’s decision to establish a high-level group to address market-based measures was essential to moving the global aviation community toward a real resolution of this complex challenge. Commissioner Hedegaard’s statement today provides critical encouragement to ICAO’s work,” stated Kurt H. Edwards, IBAC Director General.

IBAC represents the interests of international business aviation operators at ICAO and in other global and regional forums. Business aviation is an increasingly efficient mode of travel, and, although it is a small contributor to overall man-made carbon emissions (0.04%), business aviation remains committed to the industry-wide global carbon emissions goals for international aviation:

- 2% annual fuel efficiency improvement until 2020;
- carbon-neutral growth from 2020; and
- 50% reduction in emissions by 2050 compared to 2005 levels.

“Business aviation understands that market-based measures may be necessary to reach the carbon-neutral growth goal. IBAC and its member associations look forward to working with the ICAO Council, led by President Roberto Kobeh, and governments to develop an appropriate global framework allowing the industry to contribute its fair share to the fight against climate change,” offered Mr. Edwards.