

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# **GBTA Welcomes EU Push for Harmonised Emissions Measurement**

Brussels, (12 July 2023) – Consistent and accurate measurement of transport emissions is critical to help business travellers make informed travel decisions and track sustainability improvements. This is why the Global Business Travel Association (GBTA) supports the European Commission's new CountEmissionsEU proposal, to harmonise the way emissions are calculated across all modes of transport. This marks an **important milestone towards a transparent**, **trustworthy measurement framework to promote more sustainable choices and ultimately, low-carbon business travel**.

Specifically, GBTA supports the following aspects of the new CountEmissionsEU proposal:

- 1. **Inclusion of all modes of transport**: The framework's consideration of all modes of transport, including rail, road, and air, is critical to enable comparisons and display of emissions for journeys connecting air to rail.
- 2. **The facilitation of greener travel choices**: By providing a clear and consistent measure of emissions across all forms of transport, the framework helps business travellers make informed and sustainable choices when booking travel services.
- 3. **Push for global standardisation**: The proposal promotes an internationally recognised standard for emission calculations, namely ISO 14083:2023, paving the way for broader adoption of sustainable practices on a global scale.
- 4. **Alignment with EU Standards and Aviation Labelling**: This initiative works hand in hand with the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) by enriching transport emissions data for corporate sustainability reports. Moreover, we particularly applaud the effort to ensure consistency between CountEmissionsEU and the dedicated environmental label for flights under the REFuelEU Aviation initiative.

The necessity for a standardised, international approach to calculate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from travel, is underscored by findings from the recently released report, "The State of Climate Action in Business Travel - Global Industry Barometer 2023".

The report shows that today, **64% of corporate travel managers are tracking emissions from their business travel programs** (compared to 55% in 2022), and another 15% are planning to do so.

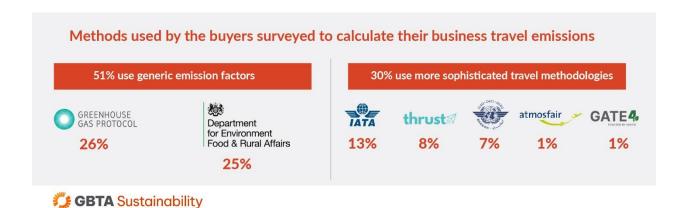
#### Measuring, Tracking and Reporting Efforts Specific to Business Travel Emissions







These corporate travel managers are, however, finding it difficult to track and report emissions data from employees' travels, as there are still many different methodologies. **Many are using more than one method to obtain and calculate emissions data**, which only adds to the complexity and likely makes it difficult to get a holistic view of business travel emissions.



The CountEmissionsEU proposal offers a much-needed harmonised framework and solution for this industry-wide challenge. By establishing a unified methodology, CountEmissionsEU paves the way for businesses to achieve greater transparency and consistency in their emissions reporting.

This data-centric approach enables organisations to make informed decisions, thereby facilitating the transition to more sustainable travel choices.

GBTA looks forward to collaborating with EU policymakers to further enhance the initiative's efficacy in guiding our industry towards greener practices.

### **About GBTA**

The Global Business Travel Association (GBTA) is the world's premier business travel and meetings trade organization headquartered in the Washington, D.C. area serving stakeholders across six continents. GBTA and its 7,600+ members represent and advocate for the \$1.158 trillion\* global business travel and meetings industry. GBTA and the GBTA Foundation deliver world-class education, events, research, advocacy, and media to a growing global network of

more than 28,000 travel professionals and 125,000 active contacts. For more information, visit <u>GBTA.org</u> and <u>GBTAFoundation.org</u>.

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