

Brussels, 17 May 2023

Dear Members of the European Parliament,

As a signatory of the <u>Glasgow Declaration on Climate Action in Tourism</u>, and a supporter of the <u>Toulouse Declaration on the sustainability and decarbonisation of aviation by 2050</u>, the Global Business Travel Association (GBTA), representing close to 7,000 business travel professionals across the globe, urgently appeals to you to include Sustainable Aviation Fuels (SAF) as a priority technology to be listed in the new Net Zero Industry Act (NZIA).

As a key user of air transport, the business travel community is actively supporting the shift towards cleaner aviation throughout the European Union, by stimulating market demand for SAF. In a recent report released by the GBTA Foundation on <u>Managing Emissions from Business Travel Programs</u>, SAF is highlighted as the most immediate opportunity to decarbonise air travel by delivering a net reduction in carbon emissions compared to fossil-based jet fuel.

Scaling and deploying SAF at the speed needed to meet 2030 and 2050 climate goals must be matched with significant investments in SAF production. GBTA believes that it is a missed opportunity that the current draft Net Zero Industry Act fails to explicitly endorse existing SAF pathways. By including this technology within the NZIA framework and recognising its strategic value to achieve climate-neutrality, co-legislators can enable European businesses to continue leveraging business travel as an enabler of economic growth and human interactions, while minimising its environmental impact.

Recent political agreements on the RefuelEU Regulation, which GBTA has <u>welcomed</u>. and Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Regulation represent meaningful strides. However, the European Union has yet to match the pace set by other major economies. The U.S., in particular, has demonstrated its commitment to bolster SAF production through dedicated financial incentives, as recently exemplified by the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). GBTA urges the EU to develop a similar enabling approach focused on incentives for low carbon fuels that will help decarbonise aviation.

More specifically, we encourage the EU to make the following additions to the NZIA:

- Add Sustainable Aviation Fuels into the annex, thereby designating SAF production as a Net-Zero Strategic Project. This will facilitate investment and expedite permit-granting processes, accelerating the development and deployment of SAF technologies, and contributing to the resilience and competitiveness of the EU's aviation industry.
- Broaden the scope of CO2 capture to encompass Carbon Capture and Utilisation (CCU) processes in the strategic net-zero technologies in the annex. This strategy would facilitate the conversion of CO2 emissions into synthetic aviation fuels, supporting SAF production, and help mitigate greenhouse gas emissions in the aviation sector, and align with the EU's RefuelEU ambitious targets.



• Integrate SAF production training into the curriculum of Net-Zero Industry Academies under Chapter V, to enable the EU to nurture a skilled workforce primed to fuel the growth of the SAF industry within the EU.

GBTA is dedicated to collaborating with the European Parliament throughout the co-legislative process and we would welcome a meeting with you to further discuss how the business travel industry can support your work and the EU's decarbonisation goals.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to hearing back from you.

Yours sincerely,

Suzanne Neufang

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CEO – Global Business Travel Association (GBTA)