

Official Statement No.15

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Official Statement No. 15: Cercarbono statement regarding CORSIA application status

Cercarbono is aware of the recent publication by ICAO regarding the status of our CORSIA application, specifically the Technical Advisory Body's (TAB) assessment and recommendation.

Since April 2020, Cercarbono has engaged critically, constructively, and proactively with ICAO throughout every stage of the review process. Our priority remains to ensure that accurate information is available and that the process operates in a fair, transparent, and timely manner.

Cercarbono has responded comprehensively to every request for information and has provided detailed documentation throughout the review, including updates to procedures, safeguards, and measures to prevent double claiming. Following last year's TAB assessment, two additional actions were requested: a long-term administrative management plan, which was submitted and resolved, and further clarification of procedures to prevent and reconcile double claiming, consistent with Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, which remains the only outstanding point under review.

Over the past year, Cercarbono has introduced a series of programme-level improvements to reinforce alignment with CORSIA and further strengthen the integrity of its certification framework. These updates have been fully integrated into the standard's governance, technical, and procedural operations.

- Enhancements to baseline and leakage management were a key feature of *Protocol Version 4.5*, which now explicitly requires projects to identify, assess, and report both emission and leakage sources. The updated framework strengthens procedures for quantifying indirect emissions, particularly in projects involving equipment or system replacement, and provides clearer guidance for validation and verification bodies to ensure consistency across sectors. These measures reinforce the programme's conservativeness and prevent overestimation of emission reductions.
- The *Additionality Tool* was reaffirmed as fully aligned with international best practice and remains mandatory for all new validations and renewals.
- In February 2025, Cercarbono submitted to ICAO its *Long-Term Administration Plan (Version 2.1)*, setting out institutional, financial, and operational safeguards to ensure continuity and independence, including annual external audits, a legal reserve, and defined procedures for the orderly transfer of projects and credits.
- In parallel, Cercarbono developed a new *Procedural Guidance for Preventing Double Claiming*, consolidating all relevant measures under a single framework. It establishes procedures for identifying and reconciling potential overlaps under Article 6 and CORSIA, with clear monitoring and reporting requirements to ensure transparency in the application of corresponding adjustments. Further refinements are underway to align with evolving Article 6 guidance.

Cercarbono understands that its conditional acceptance remains valid and continues to cooperate fully with ICAO in addressing the outstanding clarification.

Cercarbono supports strong and credible oversight of all carbon crediting programmes. We share ICAO's goal of ensuring environmental integrity and transparency across the market. Over the course of this multi-year evaluation, Cercarbono has undertaken an exhaustive process of technical, procedural and institutional review. This has required the sustained commitment of our entire team, the active engagement of our governance bodies, and the collaboration of independent experts and partner institutions. Through this effort, Cercarbono has strengthened every dimension of the carbon programme to ensure it meets and

exceeds the highest international principles.

We remain committed to continuous improvement and the ongoing enhancement of our normative framework to ensure full alignment with CORSIA's requirements and evolving international expectations. Additional updates are already being assessed to increase the clarity and traceability of all programme requirements, ensuring they are easily identifiable and accessible across the entire body of normative documents.

We are confident that continued dialogue will bring this process to a timely and balanced conclusion, one that strengthens confidence in both the CORSIA framework and the wider voluntary carbon market.

Ends

Cercarbono
Carbon Voluntary Programme