Abra and Sumitomo Partner to Unlock Industry Solutions to Airline Decarbonization in Brazil

- Abra Group and Sumitomo Corporation do Brasil – a subsidiary of Sumitomo Corporation – sign MoU to accelerate industry solutions to decarbonize the air transport sector, with the goal of addressing the high cost of Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF)
- Partnership seeks to tackle barriers to sustainable and equitable solutions, working towards the realization of the Brazil-Japan Joint Crediting Mechanism and paving the way to a long-term offtake agreement for SAF
- MoU represents a best-practice model for cross-border climate collaboration, in line with COP30 objectives and UNFCCC Principles.

London, UK – 14 November 2025 – Abra Group (Abra), which brings together iconic brands Gol, Avianca, and Wamos Air under one of the most competitive air transport groups in Latin America, and Sumitomo Corporation do Brasil (Sumitomo), a subsidiary of Sumitomo Corporation, a leading integrated trading company engaged in diverse businesses across a global network, today announce the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to accelerate the identification of industry solutions for decarbonization in the air transport sector.

Under the MoU, Abra – engaged in Brazil via its subsidiary Gol Linhas Aéreas – and Sumitomo will jointly engage with stakeholders, including both the Brazilian and Japanese governments, for the realization of a Brazil-Japan Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) under Article 6.2 of the Paris Agreement. This will then pave the way for a long-term offtake agreement of Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) between Abra and Sumitomo.

Global demand for SAF is expected to reach 400 million tons by 2050, with demand from developed economies with limited feedstock availability, such as Japan, Singapore, and the European Union, placing increasing pressure on the aviation industry to decarbonize. Brazil is well positioned to become a leading global SAF producer, supported by abundant feedstocks, a longstanding ethanol and biodiesel tradition and a strong commitment to renewable energy. However, securing financing for SAF projects – and ensuring Brazilians continued access to essential, affordable, aviation – remain key challenges. The JCM has the potential to bridge these gaps. JCM is Japan's bilateral carbon offset scheme initiated in 2011, and allows Japan to collaborate with developing economies to accelerate emissions-reduction projects abroad while receiving a proportion of the resulting carbon credits to support its national climate targets.

The combined approach of Abra and Sumitomo provides mutual benefits, while also delivering direct advantages to the Brazilian and Japanese governments, SAF producers in Brazil, domestic airlines and airline customers from both countries.

Maria Del Mar Whittaker, Chief Corporate Responsibility Officer, Abra Group, said: "At a time when financing for SAF projects is particularly challenging due to market uncertainties, demand constraints and evolving regulations, creative solutions that leverage the strengths of different global regions are the best path forward. This joint initiative represents an important step towards global climate alignment, connecting Japan's commitment to decarbonization with Brazil's unique capacity for SAF production and its need for affordable aviation connectivity.

Our collaboration with Sumitomo will focus on establishing a fair and transparent implementation structure to support the growth of Brazil's SAF industry and promote truly sustainable solutions while addressing the critical issue of price. By fostering bilateral cooperation and shared innovation, we aim to unlock the potential of sustainable aviation at scale, in full alignment with the Paris Agreement and COP30 objectives."

Takamasa Ueda, Senior Director and Head of Energy Innovation Initiative, Sumitomo Corporation do Brasil, said: "In order to unlock and accelerate the development of SAF capacity globally, it is essential to take a creative approach to overcome the key challenges facing this emerging industry. Sumitomo is actively engaged in SAF market development worldwide, and strongly believes that Brazil, with its abundant feedstock resources, has tremendous potential to become a major SAF supply hub for the global market.

Our proposed scheme brings together the complementary strengths of Brazil and Japan to create a solution that is both economically viable and environmentally sustainable. We are pleased to leverage the JCM scheme as a key enabler in unlocking Brazil's significant potential and advancing the global sustainable aviation industry."

As the world looks toward Latin America during COP30 in Brazil, this agreement further reinforces Abra Group's role as a leading advocate for responsible aviation policies that protect and promote connectivity, economic mobility, environmental integrity, social impact and market innovation across Latin America.

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About Abra Group

Abra, a UK-based company, is one of the most competitive air transport groups in Latin America. It brings together the iconic Gol and Avianca brands under a single leadership and a strategic investment in Wamos Air, anchoring an airline network that has one of the lowest unit costs in its respective markets, leading loyalty programs across the region (LifeMiles and Smiles) and other synergistic businesses. In addition, Abra has a convertible debt representing a minority stake investment in Sky Airline Chile. The Group consolidates a team of around 30,000 highly qualified aviation professionals and a fleet of more than 300 aircraft, with scheduled flights serving over 25 countries and more than 140 destinations. Gol is one of Brazil's leading airlines, operating a standardized fleet of 143 Boeing 737 aircraft and employing 15,000 highly qualified professionals. Avianca, the second oldest airline in the world, operates more than 140 A320 and B787 passenger aircraft, as well as 6 cargo aircraft, and has more than 14,000 employees. Finally, Wamos Air is Europe's leader in wide-body ACMI operations, operating 13 A330 passenger aircraft.

For more information, visit www.abragroup.net

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