



21 | JANUARY-MARCH 2025

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# **Editorial**

Dr Kostas latrou Director General. Hermes - Air Transport Organisation



# **Top News** January-December 2024 Latest Industry News and Updates



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Dr Kostas latrou **Director General** Hermes - Air Transport Organisation

#### **DEAR HERMES MEMBER**

n behalf of the Board of Directors I would like to wish a Happy New Year! 2024 was a remarkable year for our organisation.

In March 2024 Hermes held its annual general meeting and signed an MoC with IFATSEA. During the year, Hermes hosted networking receptions in ACI Europe Assembly held in Istanbul (with the kind sponsorship of iGA Istanbul Airport); in IATA WAGA held in Dubai (with the kind sponsorship of A4A) and in Chicago (4th of December) and Athens (7th of December) on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of ICAO with the kind sponsorship of Athens International Airport.

In December 2024, Hermes announced the Air Transport Hall of Fame and presented the book with the first 50 inductees during our reception for the 80th anniversary of ICAO in Chicago. In the same event Hermes also presented the updated publication for the history of air transport namely "Air Transport Milestones" and signed a joint statement for the 80th anniversary of the signing of the Chicago Convention and the landmark Declaration entitled Aviation4All.

Throughout the year, Hermes continued its close collaboration with the aviation industry and stakeholders, and I had the pleasure to represent our organization in numerous events of our partners.

Finally, we have the honor to host an interview with the Secretary General of ICAO, Juan Carlos Salazar in this issue.

Enjoy reading!

Kostas latron



### 11/01/2024

### ACI WORLD WELCOMES ITS FIRST WOMAN CHAIR: MS. CANDACE MCGRAW, CEO OF CINCINNATI/NORTHERN KENTUCKY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Ms. McGraw will chair the ACI World Governing Board (WGB) that consists of 28 leading airport CEOs nominated by the regional ACI Boards, plus the Immediate Past Chair. The ACI WGB directs the organization through strategic discussions on key subjects for airport operators that reflect the concerns and interests of ACI members for the benefit of travellers and communities worldwide.



#### 16/01/2024

### **EASA PROPOSES FIRST EU-WIDE REGULATION** ON GROUND HANDLING

The European Union Aviation Safety Agency published the first-ever proposal to regulate ground handling across European Union airports, to increase the safety, cybersecurity and consistency of all the actions that happen on the ground before and after a flight, delivering benefits to passengers and their airlines. This Opinion, for the first time, proposes a regulation that will affect approximately 300 000 workers in the ground handling industry, one of the largest groups of aviation employees.

The regulation will also ensure that ground handling is covered by Regulation (EU) 2022/1645 on cybersecurity.

#### 17/01/2024

### TIACA STRENGTHENS COOPERATION WITH ALTA WITH MOU

Key points of the MoU signed between TIACA and ALTA will allow the two organizations to work together:

- · to facilitate understanding on the contribution of aviation to economic and social development within the Latin American and Caribbean region;
- to work collaboratively to enhance an increasingly safe air transport system across the region;
- to work towards educating and developing projects with governments and entities to achieve an efficient industry in terms of costs and operations;
- to promote the specific needs for air cargo liberalized economic regimes facilitating flexible and efficient cargo services;
- to promote safety in the supply chain addressing where possible awareness of the risks associated with counterfeit and noncompliant cargo; and
- · to promote sustainable solutions that enhance the role of air cargo in support of the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development goals.

### 22/01/2024

### IATA & ICAO EXTEND COOPERATION ON STANDARDS FOR **DANGEROUS GOODS SHIPMENTS**

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) have extended their long-standing cooperation on setting and implementing global standards for the safe carriage of dangerous goods by air. An agreement to this effect was concluded at the IATA Executive Offices in Geneva during a visit by ICAO Secretary General Juan Carlos Salazar during which greater collaboration between the two organizations was discussed.



#### 25/01/2024

# EASA TO INFORM AIR PASSENGERS ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF THEIR FLIGHT



As of 2025, when booking flights online, passengers will be able to see standardised information on the "carbon footprint" and "carbon efficiency" of flights in the European Union, along with an explanation of the result. This will be achieved via the Environmental Labelling Scheme, an initiative led by the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), which aims to provide passengers with trustworthy and harmonised environmental information about their flights.

#### 30/01/2024

# IATA RELEASES 2024 CARGO AND GROUND HANDLING MANUALS WITH UPDATED INDUSTRY STANDARDS

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has completed the annual revision of its industry manuals for cargo and ground handling operations, incorporating the latest changes and revisions made to many of the underlying industry standards, as well as any State and operator variations. These reflect the sector's ongoing commitment to further improving safety, introducing more sustainable operations, as well as enhancing the passenger experience and cargo handling. In total more than 300 changes have been made.

### 08/02/2024

### INCLUSION OF SUSTAINABLE AVIATION FUEL (SAF) IN EU'S NET-ZERO INDUSTRY ACT ONLY THE FIRST STEP IN DEVELOPING WORLD LEADING SAF INDUSTRY IN EUROPE

Reacting to the inclusion of SAF on the single list of 'net zero technology' under the EU Net Zero Industry Act with criteria for selecting strategic projects in those technologies, the five leading European aviation associations representing Europe's airlines, airports, civil aeronautics industry and air navigation service providers - which are close partners through the DESTINATION 2050 alliance - are calling on EU policymakers to go further to ensure Europe develops a world leading SAF industry that will be crucial for European aviation to reach net zero carbon emissions by 2050 in line with EU climate ambitions.

### 01/02/2024

### ONEWORLD REACHES A 25-YEAR MILESTONE, HAVING FLOWN NEARLY NINE BILLION CUSTOMERS SINCE 1999

The oneworld® alliance today celebrates 25 years of delivering an exceptional and seamless travel experience to its customers worldwide, with a member airline flight taking off or landing somewhere in the world every six seconds, 24 hours a day, seven days a week

Since 1999, the alliance has flown nearly nine billion customers on its member airlines, connecting them with friends, loved ones and different cultures around the globe.

Launched on 01 February 1999 by its founding members American Airlines, British Airways, Cathay Pacific, and Qantas, the alliance was formed to increase connectivity and flexibility for passengers and to reward frequent flyer customers with special benefits and privileges.

Source:oneworld







### 13/02/2024

### CELEBRATING THE ICAO AIR NAVIGATION COMMISSION'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

Established on 1 February 1949, the Commission is composed of nineteen members who have "suitable qualifications and experience in the science and practice of aeronautics", as outlined in the Convention on International Civil Aviation (Chicago Convention). It considers and recommends Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) and Procedures for Air Navigation Services (PANS) for adoption or approval by the ICAO Council, in technical consultation with aviation operators and industry, labour groups, and other non-governmental organizations.



### 28/02/2024

### IATA: 2023 SAFEST YEAR FOR FLYING BY SEVERAL PARAMETERS

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) released its 2023 Annual Safety Report for global aviation. Aviation continues to make progress on safety with several 2023 parameters showing "best-ever" results.

There were no hull losses or fatal accidents involving passenger jet aircraft in 2023. However, there was a single fatal accident involving a turboprop aircraft, resulting in 72 fatalities. There were 37 million aircraft movements in 2023 (jet and turboprop), an increase of 17% on the previous year.

Report highlights include:

- The all accident rate was 0.80 per million sectors in 2023 (one accident for every 1.26 million flights), an improvement from 1.30 in 2022 and the lowest rate in over a decade. This rate outperformed the five-year (2019-2023) rolling average of 1.19 (an average one accident for every 880,293 flights).
- The fatality risk improved to 0.03 in 2023 from 0.11 in 2022 and 0.11 for the five years, 2019-2023. At this level of safety, on average a person would have to travel by air every day for 103,239 years to experience a fatal accident.
- IATA member airlines and IATA Operational Safety Audit (IOSA) registered airlines experienced no fatal accident in
- · A single fatal accident occurred in 2023, on a turboprop aircraft, resulting in 72 fatalities. This is reduced from five fatal accidents in 2022 and an improvement on the five-year average (2019-2023) which was five.





### 6/03/2024

### SINGLE EUROPEAN SKY: DEAL ON BETTER MANAGEMENT OF EUROPEAN AIRSPACE

After a decade of negotiations MEPs and the Belgian Presidency of the Council have agreed on new EU rules to optimise flight routes, reduce flight delays and cut CO2 emissions.

A provisional agreement was reached on Wednesday morning between Parliament, led by rapporteurs Marian-Jean Marinescu (EPP, Romania) and Bogusław Liberadzki (S&D, PL), and Council negotiators on the reform of the so-called Single European Sky rules.

### 11/03/2024

### **ENHANCING THE CROSS-BORDER** TRANSFERABILITY OF AIRCRAFT AND COMPLIANCE WITH THE CAPE TOWN CONVENTION

Recognizing the importance of harmonized regulations, practices, and streamlined processes in the context of cross-border aircraft transactions, a new agreement between the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the Aviation Working Group (AWG) will facilitate capacity building initiatives for States, particularly in developing States, to further enhance safety and efficiency in these processes.

### 11/03/2024

### ICAO COUNCIL APPOINTS SECRETARY GENERAL SALAZAR FOR SECOND TERM

Today, the 36 States on the governing Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) appointed Juan Carlos Salazar, of Colombia, for a second three-year term as Secretary General.

Since Mr. Salazar's appointment on 1 August 2021, the ICAO Secretariat has embarked on a broad transformation of its activities and operations, ushering a new era for this specialized agency of the United Nations.



### 17/03/2024

### **2024 AIR TRANSPORT AWARDS**

- -ATN Individual Award: Serkan Kaptan, TAV Airports
- -ATN Corporate Award: Bordeaux Airport
- -ATN International Organisation Award: ASA Airport Services Association
- -Alliance of the Year: SkyTeam
- -Manufacturer of the Year: Embraer

- -Airport of the Year: iGA Istanbul Airport
- -Airline of the Year: IndiGo
- -Hermes Award: Henrik Hololei, European Commission
- "Katerina & George latrou" Lifetime Achievement Award: Nicholas E. Calio, President and CEO, A4A
- -Leader of the Year: Dr. Eng. David Ciceo, CEO, Cluj International Airport





### 31/03/2024

### ACI EUROPE AND ETC CELEBRATE ENTRY OF **BULGARIA AND ROMANIA INTO SCHENGEN** AREA STARTING WITH AIR AND SEA BORDERS

ACI EUROPE and the European Travel Commission celebrate the first stage of Romania and Bulgaria's accession to the Schengen Area today as controls at air and sea borders are lifted. This momentous first step is set to bolster social cohesion and deepen European integration.

### 4/04/2024

### ICAO URGES STATES TO ACCELERATE RATIFICATION OF INTERNATIONAL UNRULY AIR PASSENGER TREATY

In response to the increase in incidents of unruly passenger behavior on international flights being reported by regulators and airlines, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) issued an urgent call to its Member States to fast-track the ratification of the 2014 Protocol to Amend the Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed on Board Aircraft (Montréal Protocol 2014 or MP14).

### 1/04/2024

### FLORIAN GUILLERMET STARTS NEW ROLE AS EASA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Florian Guillermet took up his duties as Executive Director of the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) in April 2024. During his 26 years working in the aviation sector, Guillermet has held top-level management posts at aviation organisations in France and the European Union. In addition to extensive leadership experience, he has acquired profound knowledge of many aviation domains, particularly safety and Air Traffic Management (ATM).



### 5/04/2024

### ICAO COUNCIL ADOPTS NEW INTERNATIONAL AVIATION STANDARDS AND RECOMMENDED PRACTICES FOR REMOTELY PILOTED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS

New aviation Standards and Recommended **Practices** (SARPs) adopted at the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) will enhance safety and accelerate the transformation of the global air navigation system, including the integration of Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS).



The Council of ICAO approved amendments to 15 of the 19 Annexes to the Convention on International Civil Aviation, and approved a new "Procedure for Air Navigation Services (PANS) on Information Management" during its recently concluded 231st Session.



### 14/04/2024

# TOP 10 BUSIEST AIRPORTS IN THE WORLD SHIFT WITH THE RISE OF INTERNATIONAL AIR TRAVEL DEMAND

Airports Council International (ACI) World has today unveiled the highly anticipated preliminary top 10 busiest airports worldwide for 2023, showcasing significant shifts driven by the resurgence of international air travel.

The global total passenger forecast for 2023 stands close to 8.5 billion, reflecting a remarkable recovery of 93.8% from pre-pandemic levels. Notably, international traffic recovery drew nearer to that of domestic traffic, emphasizing its essential role in propelling the industry's resurgence and expansion.

PASSENGERS*									
2023	2022	2019	AIRPORT	2023	% CHANGE VS 2022	% CHANG VS 2019			
1	1	1	ATLANTA, USA (ATL)	104 653 451	11.7	-5.3			
2	5	4	DUBAI, UAE (DXB)	86 994 365	31.7	0.7			
3	2	10	DALLAS/FORT WORTH, USA (DFW)	81 755 538	11.4	8.9			
4	8	7	LONDON, UK (LHR)	79 183 364	28.5	-2.1			
5	16	5	TOKYO, JAPAN (HND)	78 719 302	55.1	-7.9			
6	3	16	DENVER, USA (DEN)	77 837 917	12.3	12.8			
7	7	28	ISTANBUL, TURKEY (IST)	76 027 321	18.3	45.7			
8	6	3	LOS ANGELES, USA (LAX)	75 050 875	13.8	-14.8			
9	4	6	CHICAGO, USA (ORD)	73 894 226	8.1	-12.7			
10	9	17	NEW DELHI, INDIA (DEL)	72 214 841	21.4	5.4			

<sup>\*</sup> Total passengers enplaned and deplaned, passengers in transit counted once

2023	2022	2019	AIRPORT	2023	% CHANGE VS 2022	% CHANG VS 2019
1	1	1	DUBAI, UAE (DXB)	86 994 365	31.7	0.8
2	2	2	LONDON, UK (LHR)	74 909 019	28.6	-1.5
3	3	3	AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS (AMS)	61 882 546	17.9	-13.7
4	4	6	PARIS, FRANCE (CDG)	61 412 198	18.6	-12.1
5	9	7	SINGAPORE, SINGAPORE (SIN)	58 411 000	83.1	-13.6
6	5	14	ISTANBUL, TURKEY (IST)	58 232 674	20.0	47.1
7	32	5	INCHEON, KOREA (ICN)	55 763 768	212.9	-21.0
8	6	8	FRANKFURT, GERMANY (FRA)	54 089 293	20.8	-14.2
9	8	15	DOHA, QATAR (DOH)	45 913 805	28.5	18.4
10	7	11	MADRID, SPAIN (MAD)	43 799 968	20.9	-2.5

Source: ACI World



### 23/04/2024

### DIRECTORS GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION FROM EUROPE, CENTRAL ASIA AND NORTH AFRICA **ENHANCING REGIONAL COOPERATION**

An ICAO event resulted in closer collaboration on sustainability, resilience, and safety among European, Central Asian, and North African Directors General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) concluded on 23 April in Toulouse, France. The meeting, convened by ICAO's European and North Atlantic (EUR/NAT) Office in Paris, provided a powerful platform for advocacy in support of air transport's crucial role as a catalyst for sustainable development.



### 25/04/2024

### WORLD PREMIERE: BRUSSELS AIRLINES AND TOMORROWLAND PRESENT AIRCRAFT WITH **AUGMENTED REALITY IN NEW LIVERY**

Brussels Airlines and Tomorrowland proudly present "Amare", the newest Belgian Icon. Amare represents unity for people all over the world. The brand-new Airbus A320neo's livery features augmented reality, a world-first. Both partners also ramp-up efforts to make the Tomorrowland-flights more sustainable.





#### 7/05/2024

### GROUND HANDLING PRIORITIES: SAFETY, GLOBAL STANDARDS & SUSTAINABILITY

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) highlighted three priorities for ground handling at the IATA Ground Handling Conference (IGHC) which opened in Reykjavík today hosted by Icelandair: 1. Improving safety through reducing operational risk 2. Implementing global standards 3. Embedding sustainability – people, planet, and prosperity – in all activities.

### 8/05/2024

### ACI WORLD APPOINTS JUSTIN ERBACCI AS NEW DIRECTOR GENERAL AND CEO

Erbacci brings a wealth of experience to ACI World, having previously served as the Chief Executive Officer of NEOM Airports and of Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA). At LAWA, before assuming the CEO position from 2020 to 2023, he served as Chief Operating Officer, Chief Innovation and Commercial Strategy Officer, and Chief Innovation and Technology Officer, demonstrating his versatility and commitment to innovation within the aviation industry. His career also includes notable roles at Star Alliance, Credit Suisse, United Airlines, Reese Mc-Mahon LLC, Cambridge Management Consultants, and Deloitte Touche. With a proven track record of leadership and strategic vision, he is well-equipped to lead ACI World into its next phase of growth and development.



Source: ACI World

#### 22/05/2024

# ACI WORLD ASSEMBLY CHARTS COURSE FOR SUSTAINABLE AVIATION WITH THREE KEY RESOLUTIONS

Today at the Airports Council International (ACI) World Annual General Assembly, ACI airport members unanimously adopted three foundational Resolutions aimed at ensuring a safe and sustainable aviation system as demand for air travel continues to increase.

### ACI World Resolutions:

- Safety and security at airports as fundamental enablers of sustainable growth
- Enabling system capacity at airports to meet future growth
- · Aviation decarbonization and airport climate action

### 29/05/2024

## TIACA STRENGTHENS COOPERATION WITH ACI WITH MOU

The International Air Cargo Association (TIACA) and Airports Council International (ACI) announce the signature of an MOU aimed at strengthening cooperation for the benefit of each of the associations members and the industry.

The primary objective of the MoU is to improve the overall level of safety, efficiency and sustainability of cargo operations within the airport ecosystem for the benefit of the aviation industry and its related stakeholders.

#### 6/06/2024

### WORLD'S FIRST IN-FLIGHT STUDY OF COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT USING 100% SUSTAINABLE AVIATION FUEL SHOW SIGNIFICANT NON-CO₂ EMISSION REDUCTIONS

Results from the world's first in-flight study of the impact of using 100% sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) on both engines of a commercial aircraft show a reduction in soot particles and formation of contrail ice crystals compared to using conventional Jet A-1 fuel.





### 22/07/2025

### ACI WORLD AND AIRBUS STRENGTHEN GLOBAL COOPERATION TO DECARBONIZE AVIATION

Airports Council International (ACI) World and Airbus have signed a cooperation agreement to support the industry's efforts to reduce the environmental impact of aviation.

This partnership leverages the strengths of the world's leading aircraft manufacturer and the largest and most important international association of airports to make significant progress in both decarbonizing aviation and mitigating aircraft noise impact.



#### 13/07/2025

## ICAO SIGNS NEW AGREEMENTS WITH AFRICAN STATES TO BOOST SUSTAINABLE AVIATION DEVELOPMENT

The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) made a significant step forward in enhancing aviation's role as a catalyst for sustainable development in Africa. During the AFI Week held in Gabon, ICAO signed four pivotal capacity building and implementation support agreements with Member States, each aimed at strengthening their aviation sectors and alignment with international standards.



### 22/07/2025

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This partnership leverages the strengths of the world's leading aircraft manufacturer and the largest and most important international association of airports to make significant progress in both decarbonizing aviation and mitigating aircraft noise impact.

### 27/07/2025

# EUROCONTROL AND ICAO: STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIP FOR AVIATION TRAINING

A new agreement was signed in Montreal by EUROCONTROL Director General Raúl Medina and ICAO Secretary General Juan Carlos Salazar, building on EUROCONTROL's role as a Corporate Partner in the ICAO TRAINAIR Plus programme.

Globally, the aviation sector is facing a challenge to recruit and retain professionals. The new training course will focus on mentoring, which is one of the most efficient tools for supporting anyone starting an aviation career, especially for those

people from under-represented groups. As mentoring helps people to grow in their chosen careers, it will make aviation more attractive both for junior and middle-level professionals.





### 28/07/2024

### AVIATION SAFETY IMPROVED DESPITE THE CHALLENGES OF PANDEMIC RECOVERY

The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) announced to delegates during its 14th ICAO Air Navigation Conference underway in Montréal that aviation safety continued to improve despite the operational challenges of the pandemic recovery.

The Organization's Safety Report for scheduled commercial air travel in 2023 shows that the fatality rate dropped to 17 people per billion passengers in 2023, down from 50 people per billion passengers in 2022.

The global accident rate decreased to 1.87 accidents per million departures in 2023, down from 2.05 in 2022.

This occurred as passenger traffic increased to around 4.2 billion passengers globally in 2023, up from 3.2 billion in 2022, and flight departures increased to over 35 million in 2023, compared to around 31 million in 2022, and represents progress towards the goals set forth in ICAO's Global Aviation Safety Plan.

### 1/09/2025

#### SAS OFFICIALLY JOINS SKYTEAM GLOBAL AIRLINE ALLIANCE



SAS has officially joined the SkyTeam global airline alliance today, marking a major milestone for the airline and elevating SkyTeam's global network to new heights.

SkyTeam will now serve the southernmost and northernmost commercial airports in the world.

By joining SkyTeam, SAS contributes to the alliance's strategic focus on customer experience and sustainability. SAS customers will also benefit from seamless connectivity to over 1,000 destinations in SkyTeam's extensive global network, notably opening new opportunities in regions such as Africa, Latin America, and the Caribbean.

### 3/09/2025

### ASA'S GLOBAL ROLE RECOGNIZED BY ICAO

The Airport Services Association (ASA) is delighted to announce that it has been formally recognized by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) as an international association. This acknowledgment was confirmed during the 232nd session of the ICAO Council on 10 June.

ASA has been an influential international trade body for over 25 years, and this recognition by ICAO reinforces its role in the global aviation landscape, in particular in the field of ground handling services. It also formalizes the access of ASA and its members to the relevant ICAO meetings, providing a platform for ground handlers to contribute to the development of international aviation standards and can be seen as a form of appreciation of the central role ground handlers play in the overall air transport safety.





### 19/09/2025

## ASIA PACIFIC NATIONS COMMIT TO SUSTAINABLE AVIATION FUTURE AT LANDMARK MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE IN NEW DELHI

Asia Pacific nations have committed to a landmark shift towards sustainable aviation, enhanced safety and technological innovation in a unanimous declaration adopted at a high-level Ministerial conference in New Delhi. The Delhi Declaration, endorsed by 29 countries, sets ambitious targets for the future of air travel in one of the world's fastest-growing aviation markets.



In this significant step towards shaping the future of aviation in the Asia Pacific region,

Ministers and high-level officials gathered at the Second Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Civil Aviation in New Delhi. The Honorable Minister of Civil Aviation of India Shri Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu was elected Chairperson of the conference while Honorable Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation of Fiji Viliame Rogoibuli Gavoka was elected as Vice Chairperson.

### 24/09/2025

## IATA ANNOUNCES MATCHMAKER PLATFORM FOR AIRLINES AND SAF SUPPLIERS

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) will create the Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) Matchmaker to link airlines and SAF suppliers. The development was announced at the World Sustainability Symposium (WSS) with an expected launch date in the first quarter of 2025.

### 17/10/2025

### INDONESIA, MALAYSIA, PHILIPPINES, SINGAPORE AND THAILAND COLLABORATE AND SHARE SAFETY DATA AND INFORMATION TO ENHANCE AVIATION SAFETY

Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand will be launching a Regional Aviation Safety Data and Information Sharing Initiative to enhance aviation safety as air travel achieves full recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. In a first-of-its-kind initiative in the Asia-Pacific, the five States will collaborate and share de-identified safety data and safety information to identify safety hazards and trends and develop mitigating measures to better manage safety risks. The initiative was first mooted at the inaugural Asia-Pacific Summit for Aviation Safety held in Singapore in 2023. Since then, the States have worked together to agree on the list of safety data and information to share in the first instance and the principles and protocols that will govern data confidentiality.

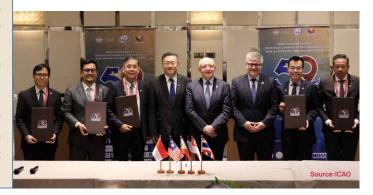
### 2/10/2025

## IATA LAUNCHES IATA CONNECT: A NEW HUB FOR AVIATION SAFETY AND COMPLIANCE

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has launched IATA Connect, creating a secure community of aviation safety, security, compliance and operations experts at airlines, regulatory agencies and auditors.

With an initial focus on the IATA Operational Safety Audit (IOSA), IATA Connect community members will be able to access and use the platform to securely exchange safety documentation, share information, and collaborate to support further improvements in aviation safety.

In addition to the IOSA Registry, IATA Connect will also house a secure private documentation repository with analytical and benchmarking capabilities. Contents of the document repository include IOSA audit reports, standards and related information, guidance materials, 440 airline profiles, industry alerts and news sources which can be accessed and shared.





### 18/10/2025

### INTERNATIONAL AIR TRAVEL LIABILITY LIMITS SET TO INCREASE, ENHANCING CUSTOMER COMPENSATION

Travelers will soon benefit from higher compensation limits for international flights, with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) announcing today that the Montreal Convention liability limits for death,

injury, delays, baggage and cargo issues, will increase on 28 December 2024.

ICAO has informed the 140 States Parties that the limits would increase in line with the Convention's built-in review mechanism, to adjust for inflation every five years. This ensures that passenger and cargo compensation remains appropriate over time. This is the fourth review since the treaty came into force in 2003.

#### 30/10/2025

### AIRBUS DELIVERS FIRST A321XLR TO IBERIA

Spanish flag carrier Iberia has taken delivery of its first A321XLR, becoming the launch operator of the world's newest single-aisle aircraft.

The aircraft, powered by CFM LEAP-1A engines, will be operated by Iberia on a number of regional flights across the airline's European network before its first transatlantic mission from Madrid to Boston later in November.



### 4/11/2025

### IATA AND ASA STRENGTHEN COOPERATION

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) and the Airport Services Association (ASA) are strengthening their collaboration to improve ground handling safety and efficiency. Together, the organizations will work to reinforce standardization, promote safety data sharing, and explore new approaches to enhance sector resilience.

### 5/11/2025

## FIRST MEETING OF THE EURASIAN CIVIL AVIATION CONFERENCE (EACAC)

On November 5, 2024, the First meeting of the aviation authorities of the Member States of the Eurasian Civil Aviation Conference (EACAC) will take place in Almaty. The initiative on establishment of the Eurasian Civil Aviation Conference (EACAC) was first announced in May 2023 within the 1st Kazakhstan Aviation Dialogue: "Energy Transition for Sustainable Development and Transit Implementation in Central Asia". In April 2024, in Toulouse (France), the EACAC project was presented during a meeting of the



Source:EACAC

Directors General of Civil Aviation of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) European and North Atlantic Bureau of ICAO (EURNAT-DGCA).



### 5/12/2025

#### ICAO CELEBRATES 80 YEARS WITH "SAFE SKIES. SUSTAINABLE FUTURE" FOCUS

The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) commemorated its 80th anniversary with an Extraordinary Session of the Governing Council, highlighting the continued impact of the Convention on International Civil Aviation (Chicago Convention).

The Council adopted a resolution which recognizes the significant contributions that ICAO has made over the eight decades since the 1944 meeting and looks to the future, to shape an aviation sector that is safe, sustainable and more accessible to all. The Council resolution also celebrates the significant contributions of civil aviation to global cooperation, peace, and economic development. It also urges Member States to continue promoting innovation, inclusivity, and environmental sustainability, including achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.



### 8/12/2025

## AVIATION INDUSTRY UNITES TO SUPPORT GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT BY SIGNING THE "AVIATION4ALL" DECLARATION

In recognition of the 80th anniversary of ICAO and the signing of the Chicago Convention, a number of international organizations and leading aviation businesses have united to commit to a vision for an even better tomorrow.

Under the Aviation4All Declaration, an initial group of 43 organizations and businesses, jointly assert their commitment to the International Aviation Forum (IAF) document which addresses the most critical aspects of commercial aviation to ensure sustainable and prosperous growth.

Addressing topics such as;

- Environmental commitments to "net zero"
- Enhanced inclusivity and diversity in the workplace
- · Increased global accessibility
- Enhanced safety and security to protect passengers, customers, and the workforce
- Improved customer and shipper experience
- Adoption of seamless technology-based solutions
- Improved operational performance to minimize service disruptions
- Extended reach of aviation to a greater percentage of the global population
- Enhanced positive impact on society





### 17/12/2025

#### ICAO UNVEILS 2026-2050 STRATEGIC PLAN: "SAFE SKIES, SUSTAINABLE FUTURE"

The International Civil Aviation Organization has launched its ground-breaking 2026-2050 Strategic Plan - designed to ensure a safe, secure, and sustainable global aviation system that will increase connectivity, drive innovation, enhance safety and security, and shape an even more impactful future for global aviation.

Under the theme "Safe Skies, Sustainable Future," the Strategic Plan outlines ICAO's vision for the next 25 years, driven by three essential aspirations:

- 1. Reaching zero fatalities from aviation accidents and acts of unlawful interference.
- 2. Achieving net-zero carbon emis-
- sions by 2050 for international civil aviation operations.
- Positioning aviation as a vital part of a connected, accessible, inclusive, and affordable global transport system, fostering socio-economic development and ensuring that no country is left behind.

#### 19/12/2025

## PEGASUS AIRLINES ORDERS UP TO 200 BOEING 737-10 AIRPLANES

Pegasus Airlines has signed a new order agreement with Boeing for 200 aircraft to further strengthen its fleet in line with its growth targets. The aircraft deliveries from the new order are scheduled to join the Pegasus fleet starting from 2028. This marks the largest order ever placed in the airline's history.

Pegasus Airlines, the airline with the youngest fleet in Türkiye, and one of the youngest in the world, continues to expand its fleet with



next-generation aircraft, and has made a significant investment in line with its goal of becoming a leading global player. Following extensive evaluations regarding aircraft requirements for 2028 and the following decade, Pegasus has signed an agreement with The Boeing Company for 200 Boeing 737-10 aircraft. Under the terms of the agreement, Pegasus has placed a firm order for the first 100 Boeing 737-10 aircraft for delivery from 2028, with 100 additional purchasing options, which can be converted into firm orders in the future. The total value of the contract for 200 Boeing 737-10 aircraft is approximately 36 billion USD, based on Boeing's publicly announced current list prices.

### 19/12/2025

## TURKISH AIRLINES SETS GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS™ TITLE FOR THE "MOST COUNTRIES FLOWN TO BY AN AIRLINE"

Turkish Airlines, which has held the title of flying to the most countries in the world since 2012, has been officially recognized by Guinness World Records<sup>™</sup> as the record holder. The national flag carrier has successfully achieved the Guinness World Records<sup>™</sup> title for the "Most Countries Flown to by an Airline".

The record certificate was presented at Santiago Arturo Merino Benítez International Airport following Turkish Airlines' inaugural flight to Chile. The ceremony was attended by Turkish Airlines executives and Guinness World Records<sup>TM</sup> officials.

Based on Guinness World Records™ evaluation criteria, Turkish Airlines set the record with flights to 120 countries, reflecting only the active routes of the past 12 months. Nevertheless, including temporarily suspended routes and today's inaugural flight to Chile, Turkish Airlines' flight network now spans 131 countries.







### **IFATSEA** and Hermes sign MoC

During the 202 Hermes AGM & Leaders Forum held in Ekali on Monday 18 March, IFATSEA and Hermes – Air Transport Organisation, have signed a Memorandum of Cooperation.

The MoC was signed by Dr Kostas Iatrou, Director General, Hermes – Air Transport Organisation and Theodore Kyritsis, President, IFATSEA.

Theodore Kyritsis: "I am happy to formalize Hermes cooperation with IFATSEA after many years of a fruitful exchanges through the signature of our MoC. All these years IFATSEA has actively contributed to the recommendations of our organisation a record of which can be found on http://www.ifatsea.org/"

"Hermes is glad to cooperate with IFATSEA and also to welcome his President Theodore Kyritsis as member of Hermes. All these years IFATSEA has actively contributed to the recommendations of our organisation" added Dr latrou.



**18 MAR** 

# Simon Hocquard joins Hermes Board of Directors as its Board Member

Simon Hocquard, Director General of CANSO joined at the 2024 Hermes AGM the Board of Directors as its Board Member.





### Hermes participates at the 2024 A4E Aviation Summit

4E CEOs gathered in Brussels for the annual Aviation Summit. In an election year for the EU, they signed A4E's commitment to Europeans and our call to action for the next European Parliament and European Commission to future proof flying.

Airlines connect millions of Europeans across the EU and with the rest of the world every year. They are essential for enabling people and goods to move freely across Europe, employ hundreds of thousands and are key cogs in the EU economy.

The CEOs committed to ensuring their industry is:

- -Connected
- -Dependable
- -Modern
- -More Sustainable
- -Available to all

Dr Kostas Iatrou, Director General represented Hermes in the summit and had the opportunity to meet with A4E Managing Director, Mrs Ourania Georgoutsakou.





### Hermes Director General participates at the Aviation Conference: Europe's Flight Plan to a Sustainable Future

Pr Kostas latrou, Director General of Hermes participated at the Aviation Conference: Europe's Flight Plan to a Sustainable Future held in Brussels on the 9th of April 2024, organised by the Belgian Presidency, represented by the Belgian Deputy Prime Minister Georges Gilkinet.

Following the Aviation Conference the Belgian Presidency calls on the European Union to take the following steps during the next legislature:

https://gilkinet.belgium.be/fr/aviation-conference-policy-recommendations-belgian-presidency-next-legislature-promote-sustainable



**20 APR** 

# The Director General of Hermes participated in the Olympic torch relay

On the occasion of the Summer Olympic Games, that will be held in Paris from 26 July until 11 August, Dr Kostas latrou, Director General of Hermes – Air Transport Organisation, participated in Greek section of the Olympic torch relay The Olympic flame was lighted on Tuesday 16 April in Ancient Olympia. Dr latrou said: "Thrilled to run as a torchbearer today for Paris Olympics. This is a unique experience especially for me as it was my uncle, Ilias Lalaounis, who designed the torch that lights the flame in Ancient Olympia. I would like to thank the Hellenic Olympic Committee for this honor."



The Lighting of the Olympic flame traditionally takes place in Ancient Olympia and is carried out by the Hellenic Olympic Committee. Its history begins in 1936, on the occasion of the Olympic Games in Berlin. With the help of a concave mirror and as the ritual defines, the Lighting is performed by the High Priestess in the Temple of Hera (Heraion), in the archaeological site of Olympia. There, the priestess asks the help of the sun god Apollo to light the torch as she makes the invocation.

### Who is the creator of this torch?

Ilias Lalaounis created it for Juan Antonio Samaranch on the occasion of the Olympic Games in Barcelona, inspired by the ribs of the columns seen in the temples of antiquity. The torch was given to Juan Antonio Samaranch in 1992 in a ceremony held on Filopappos Hill. The torch is inspired by the column stripes found in temples of the ancient classical period. Date Created: 1992. Material: Silver. – Ilias Lalaounis, Designer.



### **Industry leaders meet with ICAO President**

On the occasion of the Future Aviation Forum held in Riyadh industry leaders met with the President of the Council of ICAO, Salvatore Sciacchitano and discussed the ways to develop a promotion of aviation.



**24 MAY** 

# The Director General of Hermes met with the President of the Council of ICAO

On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of Hellenic Aviation Society and the official visit in Greece the President of the Council of ICAO, Salvatore Sciachitano met with the Director General of Hermes, Dr Kostas latrou.

During their meeting they had fruitful discussions especially on the celebrations for the 80th anniversary of ICAO.

Dr Iatrou, Honorary Member of Hellenic Aviation Society, presented during the event the book for the anniversary of the society and presented the first copies to Mr and the Minister of Transport of Greece, Mr Christos Staikouras.





### Hermes hosts a reception on the occasion of IATA 80th AGM and World Air Transport Summit

n the occasion of the IATA 80th AGM and World Air Transport Hermes – Air Transport Organisation hosted a cocktail reception on Sunday 2nd June in Dubai, UAE. Sponsor of the event was Airlines for America.



**18 JUN** 

### Commemorative Medal offer of the Air Academy of Greece

he Air Academy of Greece offers its Commemorative Medal of Honor to Dr Kostas latrou Director General of Hermes - Air Transport Organization as a sign of recognition of his global scope and multifaceted work, his unifying attitude and his significant contribution to the promotion of Aviation and cooperation between the various stakeholders.

Lt. General, Hellenic Air Force (Ret) Stylianos Alexopoulos, Chairman of the Board of Air Academy of Greece presented the medal to Dr latrou.





### **The Director General of Hermes meets** with the Managing Director of A4E

n the occasion of the 2024 Summer Aviation Forum hosted by ATN – Air Transport News in Athens, Dr Kostas latrou, Director General of Hermes – Air Transport Organisation met and discussed the latest developments in air transportation with Ms. Ourania Georgoutsakou, Managing Director of A4E.



4 JUL

### Hermes hosts a reception on the occasion of the 34th ACI EUROPE **Annual Congress & General Assembly 2024**

n the occasion of the 34th ACI EUROPE **Annual Congress &** General Assembly 2024 Hermes – Air Transport Organisation hosted a cocktail reception on Thursday 4th July in Istanbul.

Sponsor of the event was iGA Istanbul Airport.





### 42nd Plenary (Triennial) Session (ECAC/42), Strasbourg

The Directors General of ECAC Member States, along with high-level representatives from ICAO Member States and various international and regional organisations, including ICAO, the European Commission, EASA and EUROCONTROL, convened for ECAC's 42nd Plenary (Triennial) Session at the European Parliament in Strasbourg. This significant gathering brought together over 150 delegates from 47 States, organisations as well as industry representatives.

Chaired by ECAC President, Alessio Quaranta, the Plenary Session began with opening addresses from ICAO Council President, Salvatore Sciacchitano, and European Commission Director General for Transport and Mobility, Magda Kopczynska. Dr Kostas Iatrou, Director General of Hermes represented the organisation.



**09 OCT** 

### **ERA General Assembly 2024**

The General Assembly 2024, the high-light of the ERA calendar, took place in Seville, Spain on 8–10 October. ERA members enjoyed topical conference sessions and quality networking in a vibrant exhibition hub plus a range of exciting social gatherings, allowing delegates to connect with colleagues from ERA's membership and industry, representing over 170 businesses across the aviation ecosystem including senior leaders from ERA's 54 airline members. Dr Kostas latrou, Director General represented the organisation.





### 28th Annual North America/Central Europe Airport Issues Conference

he purpose of the conference held in Athens was to provide a forum for aviation officials to discuss challenges facing the industry today. The conference drawd airport and aviation industry leaders from Europe, and the U.S. as well as corporate, airline and government officials from the region. This unique program also provided excellent networking opportunities among airport and government officials and service/product providers. Dr Kostas Iatrou, Director General moderated the session Airline Sustainability Issues.





### **ACI Europe & ICAO Regional Seminar on Green Airports**

n Almaty, during ICAO Week in Kazakhstan, a regional seminar titled 'Green Airports' was held by the ICAO European and North Atlantic Bureau in collaboration with ACI EUROPE.

The event was attended by the Vice Minister of Transport of the Republic of Kazakhstan Talgat Lastayev, the Regional Director of the ICAO European and North Atlantic Office (EUR/NAT) Nicolas Rallo, Director General of Airports Council International Europe (ACI Europe) Olivier Jankovec, Chairwoman of the Civil Aviation Committee of the Ministry of Transport of the Republic of Kazakhstan Saltanat Tompiyeva, Director General of the Aviation Administration of Kazakhstan Catalin Radu, along with representatives of international civil aviation organizations, airports from Kazakhstan and Europe, and airlines.

Dr Kostas Iatrou, Director General of Hermes moderated the first panel entitled: Understanding Green Airports Initiatives: Overview of the latest work of ICAO on Climate Change mitigation, including LTAG of net zero carbon emissions by 2050 & Overview of ACI EUROPE – Airport Carbon Accreditation update on Net Zero resolution

Blandine Ferrier - Regional Officer Environment, ICAO EUR/NAT

Olivier Jankovec - Director General, ACI Europe

Evgenia Votanopoulou, President of Mozarteum Hellas and Hermes member performed at the gala dinner.





### 56th AFRAA Annual General Assembly

The African Airlines Association (AFRAA) and concluded its 56th Annual General Assembly (AGA) in Cairo – Egypt. Graciously hosted by EgyptAir, the event was held under the High Patronage of the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt and officiated the Honourable Minister of Civil Aviation of the Arab Republic of Egypt – H.E. Dr. Sameh Ahmed El Hefny, representing the Government.

The Assembly, which brought together over 600 delegates from 60 countries under the theme "Transform and Develop the Airline Industry in Africa", was a melting pot of deliberations on deliberate actions, progress on best practices for African airlines and air transport stakeholders on strategies that will transform and develop the airline industry in Africa to realise its potential.

Dr Kostas Iatrou, Director General represented Hermes.





### Hermes hosts a reception during the ICAO's 80th Anniversary

ermes – Air Transport Organisation hosted on Wednesday 4
December 2024 in Chicago a reception during the ICAO's 80th
Anniversary with the presence of the President of the Council of
ICAO, the Secretary General of ICAO, the Director General of CANSO
& Member of the Board of Hermes, the Secretary General of LACAC,
the Director Generals of Civil Aviation Authorities of Italy, Romania
and Uruguay and many members of the ICAO Council.

Dr Kostas latrou presented the published a commemorative book highlighting the most momentous milestones in air transport and entitled Air Transport Milestones. This commemorative book, written in partnership with the major aviation organizations, ICAO, ACI



World, ASA, CANSO, TIACA, EUROCONTROL, A4A, AACO, AFRAA, ALTA and ERA.

During the event was launched the Air Transport Hall of Fame and was presented a book, a partnership with Korn Ferry and Athens International Airport, of the first 50 inductees.

ICAO organized a unique event that took place on 4 and 5 December 2024 at the Hilton Chicago Hotel, formerly The Stevens Hotel, where the Convention was adopted and the birthplace of the Organization. Dr latrou participated in the event.

7 DEC

# Hermes hosts a reception to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the signing of the Convention on International Civil Aviation

December 2024 mark the 80th anniversary of the signing of the Convention on International Civil Aviation in Chicago, United States. For eight decades, this defining international agreement has served as the foundation for the development of the global civil aviation system to the benefit of all nations.

On this occasion Hermes – Air Transport Organisation hosted on Saturday 7 December 2024 in Ekali a reception with the presence of the Chairperson of Pegasus Airlines & VP of Hermes, the Director Generals of TIACA, AACO, the Director Generals of Civil Aviation Authorities of Greece, Guyana and Kazakstan, the President of Hellenic Aviation Society & Board Member of Hermes and many members of Hermes.



Dr Kostas Iatrou presented the published a commemorative book highlighting the most momentous milestones in air transport and entitled Air Transport Milestones. This commemorative book, written in partnership with the major aviation organizations, ICAO, ACI World, ASA, CANSO, TIACA, EUROCONTROL, A4A, AACO, AFRAA, ALTA and ERA.

During the event was presented the Air Transport Hall of Fame and was presented a book, a partnership with Korn Ferry and Athens International Airport, of the first 50 inductees. Hermes paid respect to the late Robert Deillon, first VP and Treasurer of Hermes. Finally, Henrik Hololei accepted the 2024 Hermes Award.



# Aviation industry unites to support global development by signing the "Aviation4All" declaration

kali, 8 December 2024: In recognition of the 80th anniversary of ICAO and the signing of the Chicago Convention, a number of international organizations and leading aviation businesses have united to commit to a vision for an even better tomorrow.



Under the **Aviation4All** Declaration, an initial group of 43 organizations and businesses, jointly assert their commitment to the International Aviation Forum (IAF) document which addresses the most critical aspects of commercial aviation to ensure sustainable and prosperous growth.

### Addressing topics such as;

- Environmental commitments to "net zero"
- Enhanced inclusivity and diversity in the workplace
- Increased global accessibility
- Enhanced safety and security to protect passengers, customers, and the workforce
- Improved customer and shipper experience
- · Adoption of seamless technology-based solutions
- Improved operational performance to minimize service disruptions
- Extended reach of aviation to a greater percentage of the global population
- Enhanced positive impact on society

A shared vision for a brighter tomorrow, ensuring the value and benefits of commercial aviation can further support and enhance the development of the global community.







"We are thrilled to launch the Aviation4All declaration that unites our industry with a vision to build a better future for aviation and our society" stated Dr Kostas latrou, co-Executive Director of IAF.

"The industry is at a cross roads and needs to unite around a common vision for the future. We are very pleased that more than 40 organizations are the first to sign and we urge many more to consider adding their support to the declaration. The louder the voice the more we will be heard" stated Mehmet Nane, Chair of the Board Pegasus Airlines and co-Executive Director of IAF.

### Co-signatories of the Declaration are:

ACI World / ASA / CANSO / Hermes – Air Transport Organisation / TIACA / Airlines for America / AACO / ACI Africa / ACI Asia Pacific & Middle East / ACI Europe / ACI Latin America Caribbean / ACI North America / AIRE / AFRAA / ALTA / ERA / ATRS / IFATSEA / EACAC / Hellenic Civil Aviation Authority / Aviation Administration of Kazakhstan/Romania Airports Association / Aegean Airlines / ASE Group / ATN / Athens International Airport / avibright / Cluj Avram Iancu International Airport / Croatia Airlines / EMBRAER / EMBROSS / Fraport Greece /GIMAS / Goldair / Hellenic Aviation Society/ Heraklion International Airport / iGA Istanbul Airport / Pegasus Airlines / Salzburg Airport / TAV Airports / Turkish Technology / Vienna Airport / YAAPA

### **About International Aviation Forum**

The International Aviation Forum (IAF) is a forum of leading organisations from across all sectors of the aviation community establishing a direct communication link among them to exchange ideas and thoughts as to positively work together on the challenges for aviation at a global level.

- IAF identifies critical challenges the industry faces and discusses collaborative ways to effectively address
- IAF enhances and supports the streamlining of member communication efforts to convey a coherent narrative with emphasis on governments, industry, academia and society.
- IAF members meet regularly to identify and address current and emerging industry issues.





What are the key short term and longer-term innovations that need to take place in the aviation industry?

In the short term, we need innovation that will allow aviation to evolve into something that is more safe, more secure, and more sustainable. That includes new materials, more fuel-efficient operations, and enhanced diagnostics for preventative maintenance.

In the long term we need revolutionary innovation that will get us to zero fatalities and zero net CO<sub>2</sub> emissions while continuing to expand connectivity and affordability.

When I refer to revolutionary innovation, that may include blended-wing body aircraft, hydrogen powered engines,

and new processes that leverage high levels of automation to assist humans in aviation operations.

However, the paths to near-term and long-term innovations are parallel, using some of the same underlying enablers.

For example, Artificial Intelli-



gence is a disruptive technology that may help improve the design of a wing in the near term, but in the long term, Al can help develop an entirely new aircraft design.

Moreover, innovation is key to the international aviation sector's ability to attain its two emissions reductions goals: the long-term global aspirational goal (LTAG) of net-zero carbon emissions by 2050 and the goal of reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in international aviation by 5 percent by 2030 through the use of Sustainable Aviation Fuels (SAF), Lower Carbon Aviation Fuels (LCAF) and other aviation cleaner energies, compared to zero cleaner energy use. That second goal was recently adopted at the Third ICAO Conference on Aviation and Alternative Fuels (CAAF/3).

The series of ICAO Stocktaking events unlocked and show-cased many novel technologies and solutions supporting these goals. ICAO is closely working with our aviation industry partners on this innovation and its safe and effective implementation, steadily working to ensure that the new Standards and Recommended Practices are embracing these new technologies so that no country is left behind.

Please allow me to focus on the particularly pressing need to scale up the development and deployment of SAF. As a drop-in fuel option, SAF enables the sector to realise significant life cycle emissions reductions, without changes existing infrastructure. Crucial innovation includes increasing the existing blend limits, approving new SAF conversion processes, and lowering SAF production costs. The development and commercialization of synthetic SAF, produced using renewable energy, is widely regarded as an important longer-term innovation as we move ahead in the global energy transition.

As far as aircraft technology is concerned, the fleet development of advanced tube and wing and other aircraft concept designs can bring about progressive improvements in carbon intensity.

In the long run, the option of non-drop-in fuels (hydrogen and battery electric) come into play, but they will require major infrastructural changes.

In the area of operations, we are considering both ground and airborne systems and technologies. Measures such as horizontal/vertical flight efficiencies and ground operations efficiencies need to be adopted in the short-term. Others, like formation flying, are largely regarded as longer-term innovations.

Having given some concrete examples here, I would nonetheless like to affirm that the aviation community's focus at this time needs to be on fostering and developing an innovation ecosystem rather than trying to predict the single winning ticket!

How can these innovations be developed? Specifically, what projects, programs and initiatives should be undertaken to develop these key initiatives?

The key driver to innovation is quite basic. It relies on a simple premise that the more people there are who are trying to solve a problem, the sooner and better it will be solved.

Accordingly, a key element is to try to engage as many creative minds as we can to focus on the evolution and the revolution that we need.

The innovation revolution has taken care of much of the "enabling" part. With more and more people having access to computing power, they are able to develop affordable prototypes and access innovation in financial investments mechanisms to crowdfund their ideas.

That is why ICAO has initiatives that are focused on the "engagement" aspect. We have delivered events in multiple formats, from gathering hundreds of people at our innovation fairs to holding dozens of online webinars.

These fora go beyond the traditional attendance at ICAO and reach out to the youth



(including through competitions), the non aviation sectors, and they touch on social acceptance and governance issues that are key to making sure we innovate in a responsible manner.

ICAO continuously consults with industry stakeholders, monitoring and promoting their latest developments and innovations. For example, an ASTM task force has been convened to facilitate the evaluation and approvals needed for 100% drop-in SAF. Boeing's ecoDemonstrator program applies promising technologies in an operational environment, involving projects such as the use of sustainable wall panels in the cargo hold, as well as fuel quality sensors compatible with 100% SAF. Airbus' ZEROe project aims to bring to market the world's first hydrogen commercial aircraft by 2035, together with the ecosystem required to support it.

On the topic of specific innovations, I would like to highlight that ICAO has also adopted new methodologies to ensure that regulations do not lag behind and delay their use. This includes the recent process approved by the Air Navigation Commission on "Direct Submission," which allows for more efficient development of global Standards in some specific instances.

Finally, let me stress that the future of the air transport sector will rely, more than ever, on data-driven policy and decision-making.

In fact, direct access to reliable, accurate and comprehensive data is one of the key components for authorities worldwide to design flexible, scalable and forward-looking national and regional aviation strategies.

ICAO has been embracing data innovations through various projects and collaborations and has also developed advanced dashboards leveraging big data to monitor the evolution of aviation data in the post-COVID-19 pandemic era.

How can these key innovations be funded? How can the capital be generated to fund the development of the innovations?

Funding in innovation is contextual. It depends on a variety







of factors ranging from the organisational mandates to prioritization of needs, resources and the dynamics of an everchanging future world.

Funding mechanisms for innovation are diverse and the taxonomy of funding for innovation draws on a variety of motivating factors. These motivating factors range from the intrinsic satisfaction of innovation to the pursuit of economic development.

Thus, one needs to undertake a thorough analysis of the need, the feasibility, the future utility to identify projects that are deemed sustainable and beneficial to stakeholders. In this regard, ICAO plays an important role in advocacy and outreach.

Following the adoption of LTAG, several ICAO Council high-level dialogues on the challenges and opportunities of aviation decarbonization were held.

These dialogues involved financial institutions, banks and investors, and energy companies and aimed to highlight the sector's net-zero ambitions and the role of financing critical to its decarbonization efforts.

Plans are also underway to operationalize the 'ICAO Finvest Hub', which intends to match aviation decarbonization projects with public funding and private investors, including for the scale-up in development

and deployment of SAF, LCAF and other aviation cleaner energies.

This can be supported by the ongoing ICAO Assistance, Capacity-Building, and Training for SAF (ACT-SAF) programme, where the implementation of SAF feasibility studies and business implementation reports can lead to the development of SAF project proposals, facilitating financing and investment decisions. As the work in ACT-SAF extends to an ACT-LTAG programme, we also expect implementation support across technological and operational measures.

These are just some of the judicious ways of generating and sustaining interest in the continuous supply of supporting funds for innovation.

How can these innovations best be implemented?
What is the role that your organization can take in enhancing the implementation of these innovations?

The implementation of innovation is a fully-fledged discipline. The optimum means of innovation implementation is specific to typical requirements.

ICAO is deeply invested in programs that enhance the implementation of innovation in the aviation ecosystem.

As a result of our mandate, ICAO's role covers a wide

range of responsibilities as enablers, practitioners and enhancers of innovation implementation in aviation. To fulfil these multiple roles, we undertake a systematic and scientific approach that draws on foresight analysis, an ICAO Secretariat strategy on innovation, and an implementation mechanism.

It should be emphasized that our implementation is open, participative and collaborative. We work closely with all interested parties to share information, identify synergies, coordinate efforts and facilitate the implementation of innovation activities to achieve our objectives.

The aviation industry stands at an inflection point, urgently needing to embrace transformative innovations that will propel it towards unparalleled safety, sustainability, and connectivity. By cultivating an ecosystem that engages diverse minds, harnesses disruptive technologies like Al and sustainable aviation fuels, and aligns stakeholders through investment and supportive regulations, we can catalyze a renaissance - redefining boundaries with revolutionary designs, decarbonizing operations, and embodying a bold vision of environmental stewardship and operational excellence. We must be audacious and turn these concepts into reality, crafting a legacy that will echo through generations.







### DIRECTORS GENERAL AT ECAC'S 42ND PLENARY SESSION IN STRASBOURG

STRASBOURG, 9-10 JULY 2024 — The Directors General of ECAC Member States, along with high-level representatives from ICAO Member States and various international and regional organisations, including ICAO, the European Commission, EASA and EUROCONTROL, convened for ECAC's 42nd Plenary (Triennial) Session at the European Parliament in Strasbourg. This significant gathering brought together over 150 delegates from 47 States, organisations as well as industry representatives.

Chaired by ECAC President, Alessio Quaranta, the Plenary Session began with opening addresses from ICAO Council President, Salvatore Sciacchitano, and European Commission Director General for Transport and Mobility, Magda Kopczynska.

The afternoon on the first day featured a debate session titled "Aviation at the heart of sustainable growth" consisting of two panels with senior figures from the European aviation sector and beyond. The first panel, moderated by Maksim Et'Hemaj, DGCA of Albania, focused on the attractiveness of aviation as an industry sector, covering challenges in attracting new talent post-COVID-19, the industry's image from environmental, political, and social perspectives,

and strategies to make the sector more appealing to current and future workers.

Ana Mata, DGCA of Portugal, led the second panel debate, which addressed connectivity, liberalisation, and fair competition in the aviation sector. Key topics discussed included the complexities and variances in global aviation markets, external threats to connectivity such as geopolitical situations, and the need for international and regional efforts to encourage liberalisation and fair competition to sustain and enhance connectivity.

The Triennial Session also included statements from ECAC's sister regional organisations (ACAO, AFCAC, LACAC), ICAO States (Japan, Malaysia, Republic of Korea, Singapore, and the United States), and EUROCONTROL. The presenters emphasised the importance of global cooperation among States and regional civil aviation organisations in implementing international aviation policies, tackling global challenges, and supporting States in need.

During the meeting, delegates reviewed reports on ECAC's activities since the previous triennial session in July 2021. The ECAC work programme and budget for the next three years (2025-2027) were approved.



Alessio Quaranta (Italy) was re-elected as ECAC president, with Damien Cazé (France) and Rannia Leontaridi (United Kingdom) re-elected as vice-presidents. Kemal Yüksel (Türkiye) was elected as vice-president for his first mandate. The Plenary Session elected new members on the Coordinating Committee: Koen Milis (Belgium), Jelínek Zdeněk (Czechia), and Jari Pön-

tinen (Finland). The full membership of ECAC's Coordinating Committee is available on the ECAC website.

For more information on ECAC's 42nd Plenary Session, please visit the ECAC website: https://www.ecac-ceac.org/events-and-meetings/past-events/ecac-42

Source: ECAC



# ERA'S GENERAL ASSEMBLY UNDERSCORES REGIONAL AVIATION'S VALUE IN EUROPE

- Hundreds of aviation professionals gathered for the annual ERA General Assembly, this year taking place in Seville, Spain.
- Held from 8–10 October, the event welcomed more than 170 companies, including airline senior executives and industry suppliers from across Europe, as well as policymakers.

RA has concluded its highly successful 2024 General Assembly in the vibrant city of Seville, bringing together leaders and key stakeholders from the regional aviation sector for insightful discussions, fruitful networking and engaging exhibitions. In the first conference session, ERA airline CEOs highlighted their key challenges, including supply chain issues, rising costs and the economic and operational impacts of environmental regulations. All speakers stressed the importance of maintaining essential connectivity while balancing decarbonisation with financial sustainability. Additionally, the panel discussed recruitment and retention challenges, with a focus on the changing expectations of younger employees and a general shift in values since COVID19.

Industry leaders also discussed the progress toward decarbonisation and the challenges as 2030 and 2050 targets approach. Efforts in air traffic management and operations, while the need for fleet renewal and new technologies were emphasised. Discussions on sustainable aviation fuel noted challenges like scarcity and rising costs, as well as the need for airport infrastructure to support many of these innovative solutions. An audience poll underscored the important role regional aviation plays in achieving net zero by 2050, with 80 per cent of the audience in agreement that ERA members will be the leaders of decarbonising short haul.

Montserrat Barriga, Director General, ERA, said: "This year's ERA General Assembly marked another pivotal moment in the association's ongoing mission to advocate for the vital role of regional aviation in connecting Europe's communities and economies. Showcasing the resilience and forward-thinking nature of the regional aviation sector is impressive. Here in Seville, we created the perfect environment for essential conversations, helping us drive progress towards a more sustainable and efficient future.



As one speaker said, there is great optimism for our sector because we serve communities and that will never change"

Andrew Kelly, Director, ASL Airlines Ireland said: "The ERA General Assembly is a unique event, bringing together experts from airlines, OEMs and service providers to work together on the major challenges the industry faces. As an event, the General Assembly is inimitable and exceptional service that matches the requirements of airlines and businesses committed to Europe's regional aviation sector."

Jóhanna á Bergi, CEO, Atlantic Airways said: "Attending the ERA General Assembly is a fantastic opportunity to connect with industry leaders and peers, fostering valuable relationships and collaborations. Engaging in discussions on key issues, such as supply chain, sustainability and innovation in regional aviation offers a platform for sharing insights and gaining inspiration. By addressing these critical topics, we can collectively shape the future of the airline industry and drive meaningful change."

Maarten Koopmans, Managing Director, KLM Cityhopper said: "It was great to moderate the panel on the road to sustainable aviation. It is encouraging to see which steps our community has taken already and also that the regional airline community is really leading the transition. We are not there yet and it will be tough, but the leadership within our community is taking re-

sponsibility and is moving the needle. It is gives me confidence that we can and will create sustainable aviation."

Jasmin Bajić, President and CEO, Croatia Airlines said: "At Croatia Airlines, we firmly believe that one of the key challenges in sustainable airline development is managing the dynamic growth of the industry and its impact on global climate change through CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. That's why I was pleased to participate in the senior leadership panel focused on achieving our industry's sustainability targets.

Whilst the session highlighted there is much work to be done and many regulatory challenges ahead, it also underscored the clear commitment of regional aviation to sustainably serve Europe's regions."

Faye Malarkey Black, President and CEO, Regional Airline Association said: "Our lively talk with ERA's airline and airport CEOs demonstrated the essential collaboration between ERA and our US association RAA and its benefit to our respective membership. Workforce development, fleet trends and capacity partnerships are important topics where we can learn from one another. Despite different regulators, competitive landscapes and even business models, our organisations share important supply company partners. Most importantly, we share a resolute commitment to connecting the world with safe, reliable regional air service."

You can read more about the event on the ERA website, see key takeaways on LinkedIn and download event images here. For more information, please contact Becky Warburton, Editor Corporate Communications, on +44 (0)1276 485582 or by email at becky.warburton@eraa.org

Source: ERA







### **ALTA AGM & AIRLINE LEADERS FORUM 2024**

ASSAU, OCTOBER 30, 2024 - The ALTA AGM & Airline Leaders Forum 2024 featured the panel "CEO Vision," providing a strategic analysis of the rapid transformations shaping the aviation sector. Moderated by Gabriela Frias, anchor of CNN, the discussion explored the main challenges and trends influencing aviation in Latin America and the Caribbean, with an emphasis on innovation and sustainability.

Tracy Cooper, CEO of Bahamasair, highlighted the importance of expanding connections between Latin America and the Bahamas: "In the Bahamas, 80% of our tourists come from North America, while Latin America, with a larger population, represents only 5 to 7% of our visitors. We need to rethink this dynamic to strengthen connections with LAC."

Pedro Heilbron, CEO of Copa Airlines, commented on the trends that will impact the sector in the coming years: "Regions with policies that attract investments and reduce taxes will perform better. An example is Cartagena, where the reduction of fees has led to rapid growth in traffic. This flexibility is essential for the sector, especially during recovery periods."

Roberto Alvo, CEO of LATAM Airlines Group, emphasized the need to consider regional particularities: "We cannot align ourselves with the policies of more developed countries. We need to analyze our own reality and foster a specific

path that values the characteristics of Latin America and the Caribbean."

Regarding litigation, John Rodgerson, CEO of Azul, shared a company strategy to reduce litigation: "We decided to expand dialogue with the regions where we operate. In a single state in Brazil, 120,000 people sued us, so we brought flights there and invited everyone to the discussion table, creating a more direct connection with the community and highlighting the economic importance of air operations for the local GDP."

Connectivity also is a priority for Avianca. "After the pandemic, the industry has done an incredible job of becoming more efficient and also transporting more people with better fares. In our case, this year we opened more than 20 new routes, returned to four destinations, and resumed operations to five others for the first time. Now, one of the challenges that persists in deepening access is the high cost of tasks and taxes in the region, which can account for up to 50% of the total ticket price," stated Frederico Pedreira, CEO of Avianca.

The panel provided a comprehensive view of the decisions being made to tackle the sector's challenges and promote sustainable growth aligned with regional needs, positioning Latin America and the Caribbean's aviation sector as resilient and innovative in a global landscape.



### **RESULTS OF AACO 57TH AGM**

DEAD SEA ON THE EVENING OF 30 OCTOBER 2024 - AACO 57TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) was held at the Dead Sea, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

The AGM working sessions were chaired by Eng. Samer Majali - Vice Chairman / Board Designee CEO of Royal Jordanian, and featured a report by Mr. Abdul Wahab Teffaha - Secretary General of AACO on the "State of the Industry"; a Tribute to H.E. Akbar Al-Baker - Advisor to H.E. the Prime Minister and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar; a speech by Mr. Mohamad Rahma - Director of ICAO's Air Transport Bureau commemorating the 80th Anniversary of Chicago Convention; a high level discussion during the "Arab Aviation Summit"; the launch of "Eco-Mission" solution; and a closed session for AACO member airlines where they agreed on administrative and strategic issues including the adoption of the AACO Environmental Sustainability Strategy that mandated AACO to advocate for the following:

With regards to general policies on aviation's environmental sustainability, the AGM called upon ICAO to work on bringing varying environmental regulations into a framework that ensures mutual recognition of environmental benefits, particularly in terms of emission reduction, and avoids double counting of obligations and credits. The AGM also called upon states to take into consideration, when formulating policies on sustainability, the long-term impact on air transport activities and their contribution to economic growth and job creation. The AGM as well called for the exploration of potential production of aviation cleaner energies in the Arab world; for reforming and modernizing the infrastructure around the world and prioritizing technology advancements in engine and airframe manufacturing; and all states around the world to refrain from including non-CO<sub>2</sub> emis-



sions in aviation policies until there's enough scientific certaintyon their impact and ways to monitor and mitigate them.

2 With regards to CORSIA, AACO AGM called upon states to register their local sustainability projects to be certified by ICAO Council to issue carbon certificates that airlines can use to offset their emissions under CORSIA, and to allocate credits of their sustainability projects considering the airlines' need for those certificates to fulfill their international and national environmental obligations.

AACO AGM called upon ICAO to recognize, under CORSIA or any other ICAO emission reduction program, reduction in emissions resulting from the use of SAF and LCAF that are mandated or required by regional or national regulations, without prejudice to ICAO's standards under CORSIA. The AGM also called upon states to adopt incentive-based policies for the production and uptake of SAF/LCAF and aviation cleaner energies, and suggested principles for any mandate or target that states opt to adopt, while also calling upon them to include their plans for such policies in the "State Action Plans" they submit to ICAO.

Source: AACO





# THE 56TH AFRAA ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY PACES ON TO TRANSFORM AND DEVELOP AFRICAN AVIATION INDUSTRY

OVEMBER 17-19 2024, CAIRO – EGYPT: The African Airlines Association (AFRAA) and concluded its 56th Annual General Assembly (AGA) in Cairo – Egypt. Graciously hosted by EgyptAir, the event was held under the High Patronage of the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt and officiated the Honourable Minister of Civil Aviation of the Arab Republic of Egypt – H.E. Dr. Sameh Ahmed El Hefny, representing the Government.

The Assembly, which brought together over 600 delegates from 60 countries under the theme "Transform and Develop the Airline Industry in Africa", was a melting pot of deliberations on deliberate actions, progress on best practices for African airlines and air transport stakeholders on strategies that will transform and develop the airline industry in Africa to realise its potential. Among others, the Assembly recommendations were made on the following key areas:

- 1. Aircraft Financing in Africa.
- 2. What does a sustainable African airline look like? How do we get there?
- 3. How to transform African hubs through investment, innovation and enhanced connectivity.
- 4. Revenue management industry trends and best practices.
- 5. What the pathway to Net-Zero by 2050 look like for African airlines.
- How the aviation industry can accelerate the journey to SAF adoption and meet growing demand to be on track for 2050 targets.
- 7. Progress, milestones and engagement strategies for gender diversity for the aviation industry.
- 8. How African airlines can transform and develop in an era of industry shifts, geopolitical changes, sustainability demands, techno-

logical advancements, artificial intelligence and new innovations.

In his welcome address, Eng. Yehia Zakaria - Chairman of EgyptAir Holding Company and 2024 President of AFRAA, noted that today, the aviation industry finds itself at a crossroads. He stated: "The challenges we have faced in recent years—whether due to global economic shifts, the impact of the pandemic, or rising fuel costs—have tested our resilience. Yet, these challenges have also provided us with unique opportunities to innovate, collaborate, and grow."

He further elaborated on Egypt's strategic alignment to support the development of aviation. "Our country has made significant investments in infrastructure, modernizing airports and expanding air traffic management systems. In 2023 alone, Cairo International Airport experienced a 31% increase in passenger traffic, reflecting the growing demand for air travel in the region." he added.

Eng. Zakaria urged African airlines to focus on collaboration and prioritise sustainability. "Strengthening our partnerships is essential. By working together, sharing resources, and aligning our strategies, we can enhance operational efficiency, reduce costs, and expand our networks. Moreover, we must prioritize sustainability. The aviation industry plays a vital role in addressing climate change. Together, we can set an example for future generations, ensuring that air travel remains viable for years to come." he said.

Mr. Abdérahmane Berthé, AFRAA Secretary General noted that in 2024, African aviation continued its journey of recovery and growth, demonstrating remarkable resilience amid global challenges. He stated that the industry has not only recovered from the disruptions caused by the pandemic but has also shown

EVENTS /



significant growth, with many African airlines surpassing pre-pandemic operating levels. This resilience is evidence of our industry's strength and adaptability and should reassure us all about its future.

He highlighted progress and AFRAA's contribution to actions on the following pillars:

- Enhancing Connectivity Regional Integration and SAATM
- Sustainability Africa's Commitment to a Greener Future
- Infrastructure Development Building for the Future
- Collaboration Strengthening Partnerships for Progress

Looking forward on the road ahead filled with opportunities and challenges, Mr Berthé stated: "In the coming years, we will need to focus on critical areas such as increasing the efficiency of our operations, developing a more resilient and diversified aviation ecosystem, and continuing our work toward a more sustainable industry."

"Our vision, leadership, and collaboration will make Africa's air transport successful. Together, we will overcome challenges and lay a solid foundation for remarkable future achievements." Mr. Berthé concluded.

### **Appointment of officers**

The 56th AFRAA AGA elected Kenya Airways as the Chairman of the Executive Committee while LAM Mozambique was elected as first Vice Chairman and Tunisair as second Vice Chairman. The AFRAA Executive Committee has oversight responsibility for the Association.

### Host of the 57th AGA

The 56th AFRAA AGA elected TAAG Angola as the President of the Association. TAAG Angola will host the 57th AGA in Luanda - Angola from 30 November - 02 December 2025.

### **AFRAA CEOs retreat**

As part of the pre-AGA activities, AFRAA staged the second edition of the AFRAA CEOs retreat on 17 November 2024. The CEOs retreat is an initiative by the AFRAA Executive Committee to bring together member airline Leadership Teams to brainstorm on the Association's priorities, work plan, projects and specific dynamics of the air transport industry that will enhance the Association to play its critical role in the industry. The CEOs retreat made recommendations for AFRAA's 2026-2030 Strategic plan for a stronger Association to champion the development of the airline industry in Africa.

### **New Members and Partners**

The Association welcomed the following new Members that joined in 2024:

### **NEW MEMBERS**

- Z. Boskovic Air Charters Ltd Associate Membership
- Berniq Airways May Associate Membership
- Skyward Express Associate Membership
- ECAir Associate Membership

### **NEW PARTNERS**

- Aviation Co-ordination Services (Pty) Ltd (ACS) - Associate Partnership
- VISA Full Partnership
- Knighthood Global Limited Full Partnership
- Al12 DMCC Full Partnership

### **AFRAA Annual Awards**

The 56th Annual General Assembly & Summit recognized by way of awards the outstanding performance of airlines, excellence in service delivery, innovation and competitiveness in airlines, individuals and service providers in the African aviation industry. The following awards were conferred:





"Service Provider of the Year Award" to the Government of Angola and the Government of Egypt. The "Service Provider of the Year Awards" category recognized the 2 African Governments for the tremendous support to the air transport sector in infrastructure development, support to air transport sector and market liberalisation.

"Service Provider of the Year Award" as follows:

- Airline of the Year Global Operations: Ethiopian Airlines (highest net profit for 2023)
- Airline of the Year Best improved results in terms of profit ratio: Kenya Airways (highest improvement in profit ratio for 2023)
- Airline of the Year Best improved in intra-Africa connectivity: Eswatini Air (most number of new intra-Africa routes launched in 2023)

AFRAA congratulates the various awardees.

### AFRAA priorities for 2025

- Safety first
- 2. Connectivity and route development
- 3. Air Transport sustainability
- 4. AFRAA 2026-2030 Strategic Plan

### Launch of AFRAA Route Intelligence Portal

In cooperation with the leading African marketing intelligence provider - Milanamos, AFRAA launched a dedicated Aviation Route Intelligence Portal to provide its members key aviation data and analytical reports. The AFRAA

Route Intelligence Portal is a gateway to gain successful market insights to airlines to expand their networks globally and compete efficiently. The key insights gained through the portal include:

- Traffic demand analysis on routes
- Revenue forecast analysis per route
- Airlines' opportunities for beyond connections
- Potential route partnership analysis
- Insights on new partnership opportunities
- Insights on underserved markets

## CSR Youth outreach event on 20 November

AFRAA, the African Section of the Ninety-Nines International Organisation of Women Pilots and EgyptAir proudly collaborated to stage a youth outreach programme on 20th November 2024 in Cairo – Egypt. Held under the high patronage of the Ministry of Civil Aviation of Egypt and hosted at EgyptAir, this exciting event was organized as an initiative to promote aviation to youth, offer exposure to aviation and inspire them to various careers in aviation.

The event was staged under the theme: "Transforming Skies, Developing Leaders". Fifty students benefited from the aviation career talks and have the unique opportunity to visit EgyptAir's facilities, where they explored various departments, including EgyptAir Museum, maintenance, and the academy. The students also experienced flying first hand, saw flight simulators, and took part in an emergency course on essential first aid

Source: AFRAA







CHICAGO & MONTRÉAL, 10 DECEMBER 2024

THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION
ORGANIZATION (ICAO) COMMEMORATED ITS
80TH ANNIVERSARY with an Extraordinary Session of the Governing Council, highlighting the continued impact of the Convention on International Civil Aviation (Chicago Convention).

The Chicago Convention, a key international agreement signed on 7 December 1944, has shaped global civil aviation to the benefit of all peoples and nations of the world.

The meeting of the 36 members of the ICAO Council took place on 5 December in the same room of the Chicago Hilton (formerly Stevens Hotel) where the 1944 diplomatic conference was held.

The Council adopted a resolution which recognizes the significant contributions that ICAO has made over the eight decades since the 1944 meeting and looks to the future, to shape an aviation sector that is safe, sustainable and more accessible to all. The Council resolution also celebrates the significant contributions of civil aviation to global cooperation, peace, and economic development. It also urges Member States to continue promoting innovation, inclusivity, and environmental sustainability, including achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.

### The full resolution is available here.

In a written message to the Council, United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres commended ICAO's leadership in environmental sustainability. He praised ICAO's new Long-Term Strategic Plan for its alignment with the UN's 2030 Agenda, particularly highlighting its focus on concrete emissions reduction, environmental protection, and capacity building through the "No Country Left Behind" initiative. The Secretary-General expressed strong support for ICAO's commitment to achieve net-zero carbon dioxide emissions by 2050.

The commemorative events began on 4 December with a welcome reception featuring remarks from Mr. Pete Buttigieg, United States Secretary of Transportation. The event brought together representatives from the ICAO Council and high-level delegates from ICAO Member States, including 10 Ministers and 50 Directors General of Civil Aviation.

On 5 December, the ICAO Council held its historic Extraordinary Council session, where ICAO President Salvatore Sciacchitano told delegates that the 1944 Chicago conference was a remarkable moment in human history.

"Eighty years ago, as the Second World War still raged, 54 States came together in this very city to imagine a different future – one where avia-







tion would serve as a bridge between nations rather than an instrument of conflict," he expressed.

"Those delegates in 1944 could not have imagined the scale and complexity of today's aviation system. Yet they created a framework flexible enough to accommodate technologies they could never have dreamed of, and robust enough to guide aviation's development through decades of unprecedented change."

ICAO Secretary General Juan Carlos Salazar remarked that the theme of the anniversary - "Safe Skies. Sustainable Future" - reflected ICAO's long-standing aspirations and dedication to achieving zero fatalities and net zero carbon emissions.

"We commit to ensuring every flight is safe and secure – building on our remarkable safety and security record while adapting to new technologies and emerging risks and threats. We pledge to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2050 – evolving aviation from a contributor to climate change into a leader in sustainable transport."

"Like the visionaries who gathered in this room 80 years ago, we face many challenges and opportunities. Today, we must transform aviation again – making it efficient and accessible, sustainable and inclusive."

Industry stakeholders concluded the Extraordinary Council session by presenting a joint declaration celebrating eighty years of collaboration, progress and innovation since the establishment of ICAO and pledging the sector's ongoing support to ICAO's long term strategic vision.

The afternoon of 5 December featured three high-level roundtables addressing key themes in aviation: "Economic growth, social development and environmental sustainability – how aviation can propel the UN Sustainable Development Goals," "The role of innovation in unlocking a sustainable future," and "Building the future of aviation: overcoming challenges, securing investment, and achieving sustainability." These discussions further emphasized the importance of cross-sector cooperation to drive change and ensure a sustainable future for aviation.

Source: ICAO





JAN 2024: Air Transport Monthly Monitor

World Results and Analyses. Total scheduled services (Domestic and international)

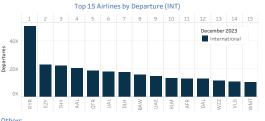


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CURIE 3. ERPK and FTK data are estimated using A1 and machine learning algorithm for November 2023 to April 2024.
- Actual RPK and FTK data will replace the estimate after a lag of 2 months.
- Route groups are defined by the CLAO Aviation Data and Analysis Panel (GADP) and used for the ICAO Long-Term Traffic Forecasts (40 international and 10 domestic route groups).
- For further information and customization needs, contact the Aviation Data and Analysis section at <u>adamics in the Audition of the Audition Section</u> 2.

- (\*) Used codes: Country code: ISO 3166-1 alpha-2 Airline code: ICAO airline code, ICAO Doc 8585 Airport code: IATA airport code, IATA Resolution 763

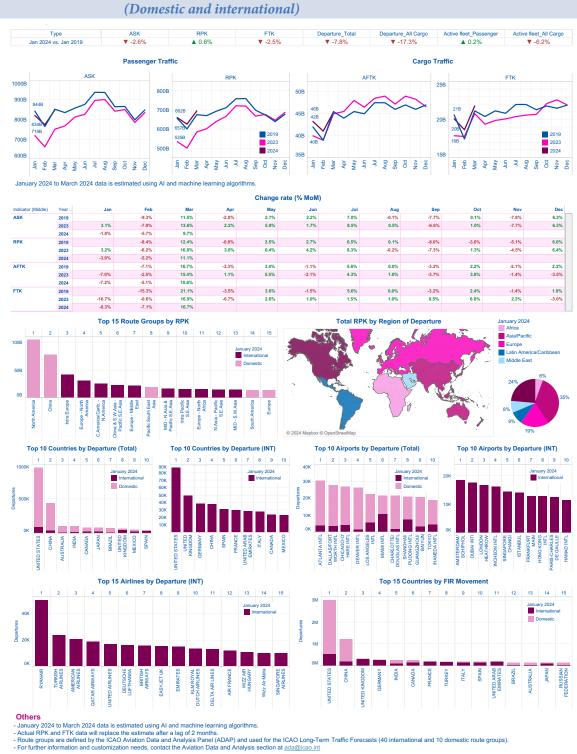
- ASK: Available Seat Kilometres
- ASK: Available Seat Kilometres
   AFK: Revenue Passenger Kilometres
   AFTK: Available Freighter Tonne Kilometres
   FTK: Freighter Tonne Kilometres
   KTK: Instructional
   FIR: Flight Information Region





## FEB 2024: Air Transport Monthly Monitor

World Results and Analyses. Total scheduled services

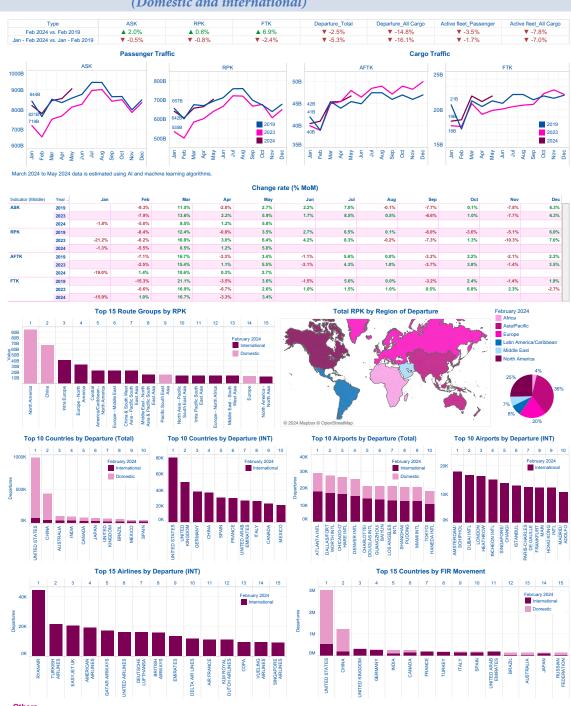


- FTK: Freighter Tonne Kilometres INT: International FIR: Flight Information Region





### MAR 2024: Air Transport Monthly Monitor



- March 2024 to May 2024 data is estimated using AI and machine learning algorithms.

   Actual RPK and FTK data will replace the estimate after a lag of 2 months.

  Route groups are defined by the ICAO Avaidan Data and Analysis Panel (ADAP) and used for the ICAO Long-Term Traffic Forecasts (40 international and 10 domestic route groups).

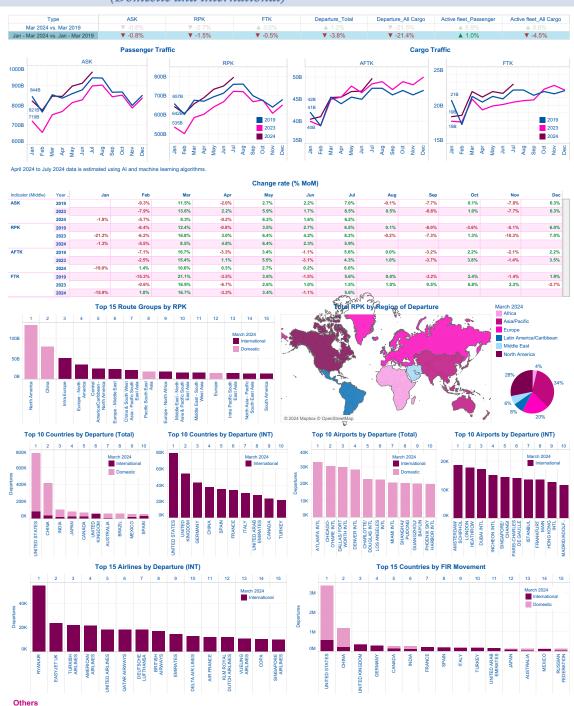
   For further information and customization needs, contact the Aviation Data and Analysis section at <a href="mailto:ada@icao.int">ada@icao.int</a>

- FTK: Freighter Tonne Kilometres INT: International FIR: Flight Information Region





## APR 2024: Air Transport Monthly Monitor



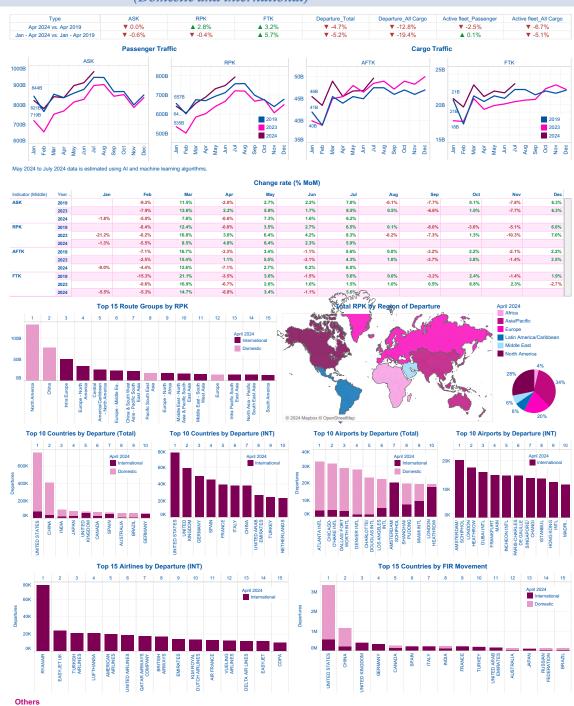
- April 2024 to July 2024 data is estimated using AI and machine learning algorithms.
   Actual RPK and FTK data will replace the estimate after a lag of 2 months.
   Route groups are defined by the ICAO Aution Data and Analysis Panel (ADAP) and used for the ICAO Long-Term Traffic Forecasts (40 international and 10 domestic route groups).
   For further information and customization needs, contact the Aviation Data and Analysis section at <a href="mailto:ada@icao.int">ada@icao.int</a>

- FTK: Freighter Tonne Kilometres INT: International FIR: Flight Information Region





### MAY 2024: Air Transport Monthly Monitor



- May 2024 to July 2024 data is estimated using Al and machine learning algorithms.

   Actual RPK and FTK data will replace the estimate after a lag of 2 months.

  Route groups are defined by the ICAO Aviation Data and Analysis Panel (ADAP) and used for the ICAO Long-Term Traffic Forecasts (40 international and 10 domestic route groups).

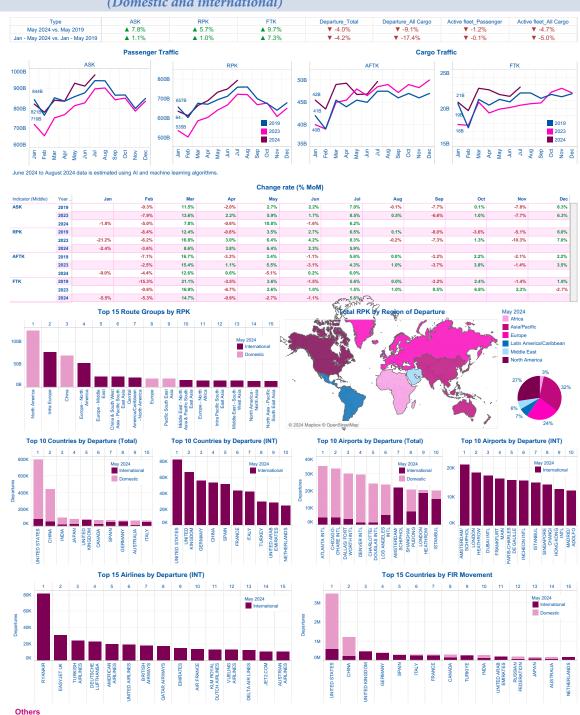
   For further information and customization needs, contact the Aviation Data and Analysis section at <a href="mailto:ada@cicao.int">ada@cicao.int</a>

- FTK: Freighter Tonne Kilometres INT: International FIR: Flight Information Region





## JUN 2024: Air Transport Monthly Monitor



- June 2024 to August 2024 data is estimated using AI and machine learning algorithms.

   Actual RPK and FTK data will replace the estimate after a lag of 2 months.

   Route groups are defined by the ICAO Aviation Data and Analysis Panel (ADAP) and used for the ICAO Long-Term Traffic Forecasts (40 international and 10 domestic route groups).

   For further information and customization needs, contact the Aviation Data and Analysis section at <a href="mailto:ada@icao.int">ada@icao.int</a>

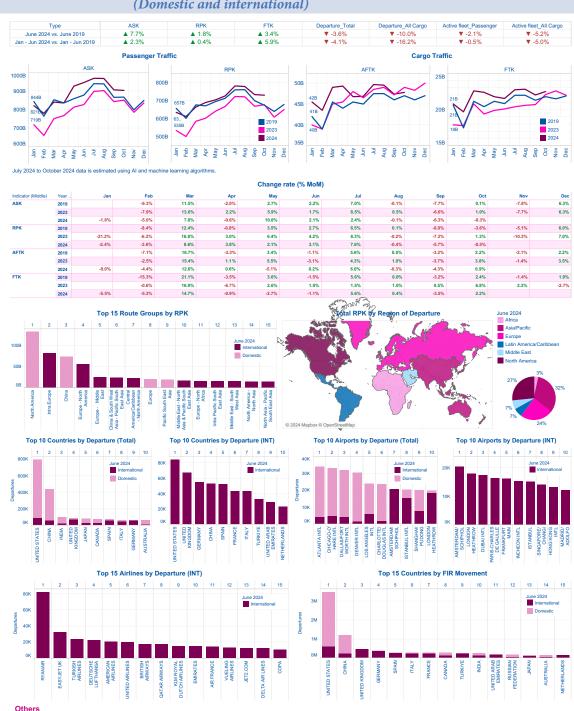
- (\*) Used acronyms:
   ASK: Available Seat Kilometres
   RPK: Revenue Passenger Kilometres
   AFTK: Available Freighter Tonne Kilometres

- FTK: Freighter Tonne Kilometres INT: International FIR: Flight Information Region





### JUL 2024: Air Transport Monthly Monitor



- July 2024 to October 2024 data is estimated using Al and machine learning algorithms.

  -Actual RPK and FTK data will replace the estimate after a lag of 2 months.

  Route groups are defined by the ICAO Aviation Data and Analysis Panel (ADAP) and used for the ICAO Long-Term Traffic Forecasts (40 international and 10 domestic route groups).

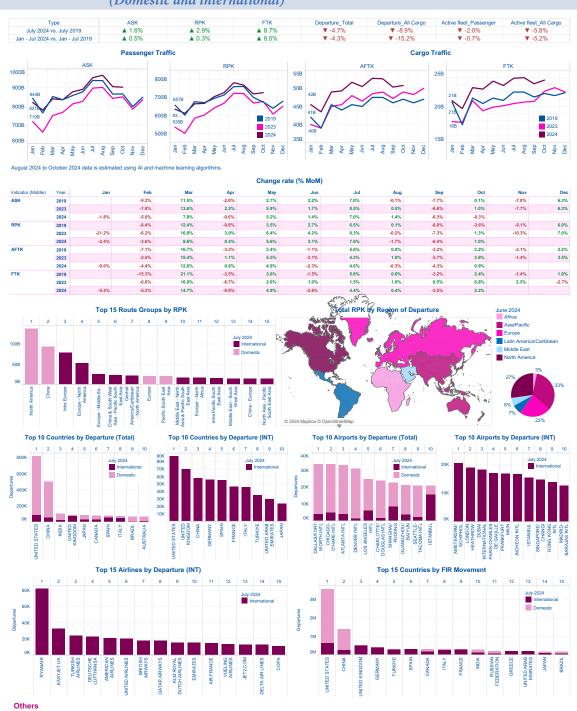
  -For further information and customization needs, contact the Aviation Data and Analysis section at <a href="mailto:ada@cicao.int">ada@cicao.int</a>

- FTK: Freighter Tonne Kilometres INT: International FIR: Flight Information Region





## AUG 2024: Air Transport Monthly Monitor



- August 2024 to October 2024 data is estimated using AI and machine learning algorithms.

   Actual RPK and FTK data will replace the estimate after a lag of 2 months.

   Route groups are defined by the ICAO Aviation Data and Analysis Panel (ADAP) and used for the ICAO Long-Term Traffic Forecasts (40 international and 10 domestic route groups).

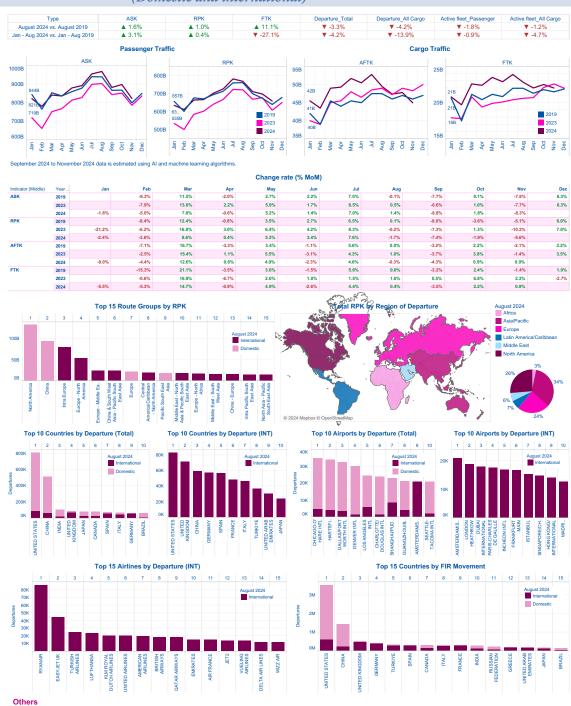
   For further information and customization needs, contact the Aviation Data and Analysis section at <a href="mailto:ada@aco.int">ada@aco.int</a>
- (\*) Used acronyms:
   ASK: Available Seat Kilometres
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   AFTK: Available Freighter Tonne Kilometres

- FTK: Freighter Tonne Kilometres INT: International FIR: Flight Information Region





### SEP 2024: Air Transport Monthly Monitor



- September 2024 to November 2024 data is estimated using AI and machine learning algorithms.

   Actual RPK and FTK data will replace the estimate after a lag of 2 months.

  Route groups are defined by the ICAO Aviation Data and Analysis Panel (ADAP) and used for the ICAO Long-Term Traffic Forecasts (40 international and 10 domestic route groups).

   For further information and customization needs, contact the Aviation Data and Analysis section at <a href="mailto:ada@@icao.int">ada@@icao.int</a>

- FTK: Freighter Tonne Kilometres INT: International FIR: Flight Information Region