



## REPORT

ICAO Regional Air Transport Conference  
Montego Bay, Jamaica  
7 to 9 October 2014



### Site and duration of the event

1. The ICAO Regional Air Transport Conference, organized by ICAO in partnership with the Jamaica Civil Aviation Authority (JCAA), was opened at the Convention Center in Montego Bay, Jamaica at 0930 hours on 7 October 2014. The Conference was hosted by the Government of Jamaica and the JCAA. The Acting Director General of (JCAA, Mr. Nari Williams-Singh, welcomed the participants on behalf of the host. The opening address was delivered by Dr. Olumuyiwa Benard Aliu, President of the Council of ICAO. His Excellency Mr. Omar Davis, Minister of Public Works and Transport of Jamaica officially opened the Conference. The event completed its business on 9 October 2014.

### Attendance

2. The event was attended 190 participants from 26 States and Territories, as indicated in Appendix B (Argentina, Aruba, Barbados, Bermuda, Brazil, Cayman Islands, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Curacao, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Sint Maarten, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United States, Uruguay and Venezuela), ten regional and international organizations, namely, Airlines For America (A4A), Airport Council International - Latin American & Caribbean (ACI-LAC), Association Of Caribbean States (ACS), Caribbean Community (CARICOM), Caribbean Aviation Safety and Security Oversight System (CASSOS), Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), International Air Transport Association (IATA), International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), Latin American & Caribbean Air Transport Association (ALTA), National Airlines Council of Canada (NACC) and other aviation stakeholders from North America, Central America, the Caribbean and South America, as well as other parts of the world.

### Officers and Secretariat

3. Mr. Nari Williams-Singh, Acting Director General, JCAA was elected as Chairman of the Conference. Mrs. Narjess Abdennebi, Chief of the Economic Analysis and Policy Section (EAP) of ICAO, served as Secretary of the Conference, assisted by Mr. Yuan-Zheng Wang, Air Transport Officer from EAP and Mrs. Claudia Lopez from ICAO NACC Regional Office. The conference was conducted in English and Spanish.

4. Mrs. Loretta Martin, ICAO Regional Director for the North American, Central America and Caribbean Regional Office, and Mr. Franklin Foyer, ICAO Regional Director for the South American Regional Office, delivered the introductory and closing remarks for the two days of discussions respectively.



## REPORT

ICAO Regional Air Transport Conference  
Montego Bay, Jamaica  
7 to 9 October 2014



---

### Summary of the discussions

5. Session 1 on “Setting the Scene” (presentations) was moderated by Mrs. Narjess Abdennebi, Chief of the EA P Section of ICAO.
6. The Conference had an overview of the state of the air transport industry and regulatory developments at both the global and regional levels. The contribution of civil aviation, as an enabler, a driver and engine, to the development of national, regional and global economy, trade, and tourism, was recognized.
7. The session also identified challenges and impediments to the sustainable development of air transport, such as fragmentation of regulatory rules, practices and approaches, and the proliferation of taxes or levies imposed on air transport. There was broad agreement on the need for governments, airlines, airports, service providers, tourism, and local communities, to work together as a community to address the challenges, issues and impediments, in order to create better conditions for the sustainable development of air transport.
8. Session 2 on “Air Transport and Tourism: How to Maximize Synergies” (panel discussion) was moderated by Mrs. Loretta Martin, ICAO Regional Director for the North American, Central America and Caribbean Regional Office.
9. During the discussion, panelists identified many synergies and common interests between air transport and tourism. They exchanged views and experiences on the ways and means by which to foster the common development of the two sectors, such as through collaboration, coordination and communication. The Conference recognized the value and benefits of cooperation established at the global level between ICAO and the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) to work together on common issues, such as facilitation and liberalization. The Conference agreed that air transport and tourism, all concerned partners and stakeholders should engage in collaborative efforts to develop these sectors, including using tools such as the ICAO Air Services Negotiation Conferences (ICAN), at global and/or regional levels.
10. Session 3 on “Fostering Regulatory Harmonization and Compatibility” (panel discussion) was moderated by Mr. Herald Wilson, Chairperson of the Air Transport Licensing Board of Saint Lucia.
11. The Conference highlighted the importance of and the need to foster harmonization and compatibility in regulatory rules, regulations, and procedures in civil aviation, especially with respect to safety, security and economic regulations.
12. Panelists identified areas where a harmonized or compatible approach could contribute to the sound and orderly development of air transport. Some discussion took place about the differences between harmonization and compatibility, recognizing that achieving harmonization of different rules or regulations could sometimes take a long time. Also recognized are clear benefits for common efforts to foster compatibility of regulatory approaches.



## REPORT

ICAO Regional Air Transport Conference  
Montego Bay, Jamaica  
7 to 9 October 2014



13. Some examples and success stories were shared in harmonizing rules and regulatory approaches, such as in safety regulation, procedures and legislations. It was agreed that different agencies working together can bring about great benefits, saving cost and time, particularly for smaller countries. Collaboration between States, industry and stakeholders could contribute to overcoming fragmentation in air transport regulation.
14. Session 4 on “International Agreements: Securing the Foundation for Balanced Liberalization” was moderated by Mr. Rolando I. Mercado, General Director, Directorate General of Civil Aviation, Chile.
15. The Conference noted the current work being undertaken by ICAO in facilitating and assisting regulatory liberalization, including the development of international agreements for liberalization of market access, air carrier ownership and control and air cargo service. Support was expressed for ICAO to continue to play a leadership role in developing policy guidance, such as the long term vision for air transport liberalization and core principles on consumer protection.
16. The Conference also learnt about the views and regulatory practices of some States in the regions regarding air transport liberalization. An industry representative provided the perspective of the express air cargo airlines regarding the distinct features of their businesses, and the value of their services to customers, as well as the need for regulators to create conditions to facilitate the industry operation and growth.
17. There was recognition that while liberalization can bring many benefits, due to different stages of development, States may choose different approaches in liberalization according to their local circumstances, and that safeguards are often needed to ensure effective participation of all States in the air transport system. The Conference noted an interesting study by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) regarding the utilization of existing air service agreements, and the value of such studies in facilitating decision-making and liberalization efforts. It was suggested that States and ICAO should carry out research and studies on economic liberalization in order to understand better its impact on the development of air transport and the wider economy.
18. Session 5 on “Regulatory Responses to Consumer Concerns” (panel discussion) was moderated by Mrs. Marva Gordon, General Counsel, JCAA.
19. The Conference learnt about the regulatory practices on consumer protection of some States in the region. Airline representatives also provided their views and experience in addressing consumer protection issues. The discussion highlighted the need and value of consumer education, and the need for airlines and regulators to work together in formulating policies and rules.
20. The Conference noted the useful work being done by ICAO in this respect, and expressed support to the continuation of its work in developing guidance for States and stakeholders. It was



## REPORT

ICAO Regional Air Transport Conference  
Montego Bay, Jamaica  
7 to 9 October 2014



recognized that ICAO's work will help foster harmonization and compatibility of regulatory rules and practices. States in the regions are encouraged to ratify the Montreal Convention of 1999 if they have not yet done so.

21. Session 6 on "The Impact of Taxation on Air Transport's Development" (presentations) was moderated by Mr. Ramesh Lutchmedial, Director General of Civil Aviation and Chief Executive Officer, Trinidad And Tobago Civil Aviation Authority.

22. The Conference noted that taxation on air transport continue to proliferate, and that there was confusion between taxes and charges, surcharges, and fees. Also noted were the practices in some States in the regions that were not in line with the policies and guidance of ICAO on charges and taxation. It was pointed out that imposition of taxes such as Air Passenger Duty, Solidarity tax, VAT on sales of tickets, and jet fuel tax could have counterproductive effects that impede or slow down the air transport development. There was strong call for States and relevant authorities to refrain from imposing such taxes and levies on civil aviation, and for ICAO to explore possible solutions, including a new Annex to the Chicago Convention to strengthen the implementation of its policies on taxation.

23. The Conference agreed that ICAO policies on taxation and charges continue to be valid, and that there is a need to better communicate, promote and raise the awareness of States and relevant authorities on these policies and guidance to improve the situation.

24. Session 7 on "Aircraft Leasing" (presentations) was moderated by Mr. Eduardo Iglesias, Executive Director, Latin American and Caribbean air Transport Association (ALTA).

25. ICAO speaker briefed the Conference about the purpose and the usefulness of Article 83 *bis* of the Chicago Convention and the importance for States to implement this Article in their regulatory practices, particularly in their safety oversight functions.

26. The Conference noted the growing and widespread use of leased aircraft in various forms by operators in international air transport, and the potential problems and confusions on the use of bilateral agreements or arrangements in transferring safety oversight functions or responsibilities involving leased aircraft from one State to another.

27. The experience of some aviation authorities in handling aircraft leasing and implementation of Article 83 *bis* was shared which was considered useful by the Conference. Participants were also reminded of the importance and value of ratifying the Cape Town Convention of 2001 in aircraft financing arrangements.



## REPORT

ICAO Regional Air Transport Conference  
Montego Bay, Jamaica  
7 to 9 October 2014



---

### Outcome of the Conference

28. To reflect the results of the discussions, the Conference considered and adopted a Statement on the Development of Air Transport in North America, Central America, the Caribbean and South America, which is reproduced in Appendix A.

29. During the closing ceremony, the President of the ICAO Council, Dr. Aliu, and all participants expressed sincere gratitude to the Government of Jamaica, the leadership and all staff of the JCAA for the excellent work in organizing and supporting the Conference, which contributed to its success.

30. Closing remarks were delivered by Mr. Nari Williams-Singh, Chairman of the Conference and Acting Director General of JCAA, and by Mrs. Loretta Martin, ICAO NACC Regional Director.

### *Appendices:*

- **Appendix A:** Statement on the Development of Air Transport in North America, Central America, the Caribbean and South America
- **Appendix B:** List of Delegates



## APPENDIX A

### STATEMENT ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF AIR TRANSPORT IN NORTH AMERICA, CENTRAL AMERICA, THE CARIBBEAN AND SOUTH AMERICA

(Montego Bay, Jamaica, 9 October 2014)

The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) convened a Regional Air Transport Conference for States in North America, Central America, the Caribbean and South America, in Montego Bay, Jamaica, from 7 to 9 October 2014, to review the current air transport situation and to discuss issues and solutions pertaining to the future of the sustainable development of international air transport. The Conference was hosted by the Government of Jamaica and the Jamaica Civil Aviation Authority and attended by 190 participants from 26 States/Territories, ten international organizations and other aviation stakeholders from the regions and other parts of the world.

The Conference:

Recognizes the essential role of international air transport and its contribution to national, regional and global economic and social development, and to the expansion of trade and tourism;

Urges the promotion of sustainable development of air transport in the region;

Acknowledges the need to adapt to the changes in the air transport regulatory and operating environment in the region and the world;

Emphasizes the need of all stakeholders working together to address the challenges in the development of air transport facing States and the industry in the region;

Reaffirms the leadership role of ICAO in developing policy guidance on international air transport regulation and liberalization, and facilitating and assisting those States that desire assistance with the liberalization process;

STATES that:

ICAO and its Member States, national and regional aeronautical authorities of the respective regions, air transport industry and other aviation stakeholders, will seek to work together to foster the development of a sound and economically viable civil aviation system in the regions and the world as a whole, and to ensure that international air transport is developed in accordance with the following principles:



## APPENDIX A-2

Aviation safety and security must remain of paramount importance in the operation and development of international air transport. All necessary measures should be taken to ensure the highest levels of safety and security of air transport.

Effective and sustained participation in and benefit from international air transportation is a fundamental objective shared by all States. While liberalization could bring about benefits to national and regional development and to the travelling public, regulatory change should be pursued by States by choice and at their own pace in accordance with specific needs and situations.

ICAO should continue to play a leadership role in developing policies and guidance on air transport regulation and liberalization to take into account States' changes and needs including those of other interested stakeholders, in the development of new regulatory arrangements. ICAO should ensure that policies, guidance and other material related to economic regulation remain relevant, current and responsive to changing situations and requirements of States.

As recommended by the ICAO Sixth Worldwide Air Transport Conference (ATConf/6), States in the regions should continue to pursue liberalization of market access at a pace and in a manner appropriate to needs and circumstances, giving due regard to the interests of all stakeholders, the changing business environment and infrastructure requirements. States in the regions should also support ICAO's efforts in developing new multilateral regulatory arrangements.

States should give due consideration to the distinct features of air cargo services when developing service(s) arrangements and continue to liberalize air cargo services.

States and air transport regulatory authorities in the respective regions should enhance intra and inter regional cooperation, dialogue and exchange of information to foster harmonized or compatible approaches in dealing with international air transport services, including competition policies and practices, and consumer protection, as well as air transport facilitation, giving due regard to the applicable ICAO policy guidance and Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs), respectively.

States in the regions that have not yet become parties to the International Air Services Transit Agreement and the Montréal Convention of 1999 for the Unification of Certain Rules for International Carriage by Air should give urgent consideration to so doing.

States should endeavour to provide necessary infrastructure of airports and air navigation services to meet the needs of traffic growth and the technical requirements of ICAO, and that the recovery of the costs in providing these services be based on ICAO's policies on charges.

States and relevant authorities are strongly urged to follow the ICAO policies on taxation in the air transport field and avoid imposition of discriminatory taxes and levies on air transport.

Aviation and tourism sectors in the regions should strengthen cooperation to maximize the synergies between the two sectors and promote the common development of both air transport and tourism.



### APPENDIX A-3



States, that have not yet done so and desire to do so, are encouraged to ratify the Cape Town Convention of 2001.

ICAO should, as recommended by the ATConf/6 and endorsed by the Assembly, urgently explore the value of adding a new Annex to the Chicago Convention, or other possible mechanisms on economic regulation in order to strengthen implementation of ICAO air transport policies.

A need was identified to perform research and studies by States and ICAO on taxation and liberalization in order to have better understanding of their impact on the development of air transport.

-----





## APPENDIX B

### STATES

<b>Argentina</b>	Gregorio Borda Maria Florencia Dovichi Agustin Rodriguez Grellet Sebastian Venturini
<b>Aruba</b>	Edwin Kelly
<b>Barbados</b>	Angela Brandon-Hall Arlene Daniel
<b>Bermuda</b>	Thomas Dunstan
<b>Brazil</b>	Fernando Feitosa Andrea Macera
<b>Cayman Islands</b>	Albert Anderson Nicoela Mccoy Richard Smith
<b>Chile</b>	Rolando Mercado Duncan Silva
<b>Costa Rica</b>	Mario Argüello Matamoros Ana Patricia Gamboa Venegas
<b>Cuba</b>	Juan Enrique Corales Sanchez
<b>Curacao</b>	Earl Balborda Oscar Derby Giselle Hollander Gijs Winters Ruviana Zimmermann
<b>Dominican Republic</b>	Luciano Juberkis Paola Pla
<b>Grenada</b>	Donald McPhail
<b>Guatemala</b>	Marco Pinto
<b>Guyana</b>	Saheed Sulaman Amanza Walton Desir
<b>Haiti</b>	Arnold Franck Leopold Roumer
<b>Jamaica</b>	Aleksandra Balyasnikova-Smith Arlene Benjamin Lisa Kaye Brian Ramon Brooks Monique Brown Stephanie Clarke



## APPENDIX B-2

Janice Davidson  
Hon. Dr. Omar Davies  
Janine Dawkins  
Victor Derby  
Eveline Ellis-Brown  
Jacqueline Fairlough  
Mara Fernandez  
Sean Fuller  
Monique Gabbidon  
Beverly Gibbs  
Marva Gordon  
Amber-Gail Grandison  
Karen Green  
Herbert Haylett  
Arvette Henry  
Michael Hepburn  
Michael Hylton  
Ava Marie Ingram  
Fitzroy Jackson  
Kavelle Martin  
Jennifer McDonald  
Tamara McGann  
Allison McIntosh  
Jason McPherson  
Dionne Miller  
Mikhail Myers  
Claudine Patterson  
Gillian Richards  
Althea Roper  
Jacqueline Rutter  
Keith Senior  
Orville Shaw  
Valerie Simpson  
Donald Shaw  
Deidre Shaw  
Nicole Smith  
Khari Stewart  
Karen Thomsson  
Ann-Marie Toomer Gayle  
Leon Whitely  
Nari Williams-Singh

**Nicaragua** Carlos Bonilla

**Paraguay** Maria Liz Viveros

**Peru** Armando Baraybar

**St-Lucia** Lynden Leonce

Herald Wilson

**St-Maarten** Shaka Lake

**Suriname** Estrea Noordree



### APPENDIX B-3

<b>Trinidad and Tobago</b>	Hema Dass Ricardo Henry Ramesh Lutchmedial
<b>United States</b>	Mark O. Hatfield John Elvin Esta Rosenberg
<b>Uruguay</b>	José Cabrera Luis Giorello-Sancho Sergio Perez Lauro
<b>Venezuela</b>	David Blanco Carrero



## APPENDIX B-4

### INTERNATIONAL & REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

<b>Airport Council International - Latin America &amp; Caribbean (ACI-LAC)</b>	Javier Martinez
<b>Airlines For America (A4A)</b>	Keith Glatz
<b>Latin American &amp; Caribbean Air Transport Association (ALTA)</b>	Eduardo Iglesias
<b>Association of Caribbean States (ACS)</b>	George Nicholson
<b>Caribbean Community and Common Market (CARICOM)</b>	Colin Granderson
<b>Caribbean Aviation Safety and Security Oversight System (CASSOS (RASOS))</b>	Cleonie Williams
<b>International Air Transport Association (IATA)</b>	Peter Cerda Oracio Marquez Filipe Reis Alicia Lines
<b>International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)</b>	Olumuyiwa Bernard Aliu Loretta Martin Franklin Hoyer Narjess Abdennebi Yuan-Zheng Wang Claudia Lopez Allisun Dalzell
<b>Inter-American Development Bank</b>	Gianfranco Carassale Christian Mirabella Christopher Persaud Andy Ricover
<b>National Airlines Council Of Canada</b>	Marc-Andre O'Rourke

— END —