

## **Executive Board Report to Regional Meetings 2004**

AFM: 20-22 October, 2004, Kampala, Uganda  
AMA: 15-17 October, 2004, Buenos Aires, Argentina  
ASP: postponed, Kathmandu, Nepal  
EUR: 22-24 October, Bucharest, Romania

### **1. Introduction**

Since conference, the Executive Board (EB) has met twice: in June in Moscow and in October in Montreal. All the members of the EB have been very busy since Annual Conference. This report retraces the attendance and the points to be highlighted during the 4 regional meetings. Since January 2004 the EB Members have been on the road for **286** days.

### **2. Report from the different Executive Vice-Presidents**

#### **2.1. Administration**

Starting from the last Annual Conference till September 15, it has been an extremely busy period with lots of activities for the Deputy President.

- Gabriela Logatto has been in contact with the office. Together with Bernhard R uth, they have updated the IFATCA Manual, which is now available for download on the IFATCA web-site. Electronic copies of the IFATCA Manual as well as the Conference Report have been sent to all MAs by the office.
- Together with EVPF, DP has attended the meeting with MacMillan Scott and IFATCA Subscription Manager regarding the enhancing design and distribution of "The Controller" in London, on June 18, 2004.
- The regional meetings are invited to submit reports, photos and updates for the Circular and the Controller Magazine. These reports should be submitted to the Regional Executive Vice-President.
- DP has attended to a Workshop on ATC liability held in St. Lucia on August 31, 2004 as facilitator. This became an IFATCA sub regional event, since controllers from neighbour countries attended as well.
- MAs are invited to use more IFATCA web-site ([www.ifatca.org](http://www.ifatca.org)) and ATC Forum as a communication tool.
- CAC meeting was held in Washington DC, on September 28 and attended by DP.

#### **2.2. The Office**

- The office has been performing all usual every-day tasks: scanning and distribution ICAO documents, replying different e-mail requests, keeping IFATCA documentation library, proceeding claim forms, etc.
- The Circular has been published and distributed to all MAs on time, as well as the Conference Report and IFATCA Manual on CD.
- The Office continues to assist EVPF with the Travel Claim forms, which are processed scanned and filed in the office and then forwarded to EVPF.
- The Office sends TVQ Claim Applications to the Quebec Government for the reimbursement on a regular basis.
- The Office assisted EVPF to prepare and sent out financial files for the audit

- MAs that require validation stickers should send their requests to the Office.
- The Office asks MAs to check and empty e-mail boxes on a regular basis.

### **2.3. Finances**

- Dale Wright, the EVP Finance, has continued to assist the EB in having more financial information in a timely manner. By having this information the EB is able to make decisions based on the priorities of the Federation.
- As mentioned in last year's report bank charges remain an issue. There has been no discussion since last year concerning consolidating the accounts to one bank.
- In Moscow the EB discussed the approval process and the need for more oversight by the EVPF. EVP Europe has been forwarding all his approvals to the EVPF in order to provide information that can be used to plan the Federation's activities.
- The accounts for the year 03 / 04 were sent to the auditor and should be back well in advance of the Melbourne Conference.
- The budget categories for IFATCA have been expanded to a more detailed format. Rather than group all expenses in one general account each project will track travel, hotel, per diem and taxes.
- The EVPF continues to work on having a budget for each Regional Executive Vice President. This topic will be discussed at the October EB.
- If you are filing claims for the first time and want the funds transferred into your bank account the following information shall be provided for Credit Suisse to the EVPF:
  - Bank Name
  - Bank Address
  - Account Number
  - IBAN (Internet Banking Account Number)
  - Your Name on the account
  - Your address
- Please remember if you change your banking information do not delay in advising the EVPF.

### **2.4. Technical**

- Since conference our representatives in the technical field have attended several meetings at ICAO level. OPLINK, SASP and OPSP just name but a few. Andrew Beadle, EVP, has been working in the 3 sub-groups of ATMCP as corresponding member and will attend further meetings planned for the end of the year.
- Some technical input was given to the draft mandate of the European Union on SES with regard to Interoperability.
- A restructure for all the air-ground communication issues has been created at Eurocontrol level and the European Region will have to adapt to this.
- Work on ACAS and ASAS continue to be carried out through participation of our representatives at various working groups (SCRSP, ASAS-TN).
- The Technical and Operational Committee (TOC) has started its work and will meet in November to discuss the working items for conference. A combined TOC – IFALPA ATS meeting will be held at the same occasion in Amsterdam.
- Various R&D issues are currently being monitored by IFATCA especially in Europe.
- The Future ATM Task Force has been set up and the work is currently being initiated and the leadership of the rapporteur John Levesley (UK GATCO).

## 2.5. Professional

- Workload in the professional domain since Conference remains high. In particular the months of September and October have been very busy. As expected the main area of focus is the “industrial” arena and IFATCA has been actively involved in several high-profile situations. Authorities in Costa Rica resorted to violating legitimate, legal contracts signed and ratified with air traffic controllers of Costa Rica, resulting in, licensed air traffic controllers being removed from control positions and replaced with unqualified personnel, including pilots, as part of a government contingency plan to deal with an industrial matter. IFATCA published a press release condemning these actions, and co-authored a formal letter of protest to the President of Costa Rica under the signatures of the president of IFALPA, IFATSEA, ITF and IFATCA. In August, the impasse was reported resolved to the benefit of CR ATCOs.
- In Belarus the courts have “disbanded” the controllers union, and controller contracts have been issued for one year only. One controller (a union leader) has been told, without explanation that his contract will not be renewed. The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions has submitted an application to the ILO on behalf of Belarus, asking for a review of trade union activities. We have maintained contact with the ILO through our LOIG and have written to the Office of Security and Co-operation in Europe expressing our concern for our colleagues in Belarus. A decision is expected in November. We continue to monitor developments
- IFATCA had drafted a letter of support for MAs to send to Japan, a press release and had offered outside expert assistance to those involved in the JAL incident. It now appears apparent that two air traffic controllers involved will likely be charged by prosecutors.
- IFATCA has written to the Italian Minister of Justice on behalf of our colleague in Milan who has been convicted on negligence and manslaughter charges resulting from the collision involving a Scandinavian Airlines System aircraft and a business jet at Milan’s Linate airport more than two years ago. IFATCA has a meeting planned with the Italian association.
- Dominican Republic ATCOs have been trying to negotiate a new contract. The government resorted to using foreign ATCOs to replace ATC staff. After a heated labour dispute between ATCOs and their DCA, little progress has been seen in negotiations. Authorities have not fulfilled their promise to reach an agreement; instead have walked away from the negotiating table. ATCOs hope is left to reach an agreement with the new government, which took over in August. ADCA stressed attention shall be placed upon human factors, legal matters and most of all a long term plans to ensure the growth and performance of the DCA.
- The EVPP and Office Manager attended the ICAO 35th Assembly in Montreal in September/October. IFATCA submitted a working paper entitled *Developments in Aviation Safety Since the 33<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Assembly, as well as a statement highlighting our concerns for an apparent lack of commitment to safety by some States. While in Montreal, EVPP also attended the 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference of the Global Aviation Information Network group.*
- IFATCA PRICE SG rep. Bob Trott attended the ICAO Aviation Language Symposium in September. Bob’s presentation outlining our views on language requirements was very well received, with requests for copies by many in attendance.
- EVPP attended the Americas regional meeting in Buenos Aires and following this a HF seminar in Santiago at the invitation of the Chile association. EVPP made a presentation to each group titled “Just Culture In ATM”.
- The PLC is on target to completing their agenda of 11 items for Conference. Next meeting prior to Conference will take place in Amsterdam in November.

## 2.6. Africa / Middle East

- The implementation of RVSM in the AFM region continues to be a major concern to industry partners.
- In the Middle East, United Arab Emirates has indicated its inability to continue hosting and financing the Regional Monitoring Agency RVSM.
- In Africa most ATM Providers are far behind the planning activities that are geared to towards RVSM implementation in Africa by 20<sup>th</sup> January 2005.
- The Executive Board wishes to caution against any hasty implementation of RVSM in Africa and call on States, ICAO and all stakeholder to ensure that a thorough assessment should be done to ensure that safety is not compromised.
- IFATCA is working with IFALPA to identify areas of common understanding on the subject and will submit a working to the GO-DELAY meeting during the last quarter of 2004.

## 2.7. Americas

Americas Region arranged itself to the changes that demand not combined efforts and dedications, but also excellence and efficiency. In the Basic Operational Requirements and Planning Criteria agreed by the ICAO Air Navigation Plan Commission (ANP) for the CAR/SAM Region, controllers are the cornerstone of the process:

1. RVSM Implementation CAR/SAM Region,
2. Quality Assurance ATS Program Implementation,
3. Minims of longitudinal separation of RNAV Application in main ATS routes of air traffic high density,
4. Air-to-Ground Speech Communications VHF Extension cover,
5. Navigation Area of equipped aircraft RNAV Application and to satisfy the performance with required navigation (RNP) Certification,
6. English Language Program Implementation.

Here are of the most important action of the EVP AMA:

- Visit to **Costa Rica** for the inspection to evaluate the circumstances of the situation.
- Cedric Murrell from BATCA, **Barbados**, has been doing an excellent work with a monthly e-newsletter distributed to the MAs of the Americas Region starting from the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference in HKG.
- 8 countries of the SAM Region started the process to establish a new organisation **OACTAM** that will work together with the Federation.
- The important decisions must be adopted at this meeting, such as AP/ATM/9 RVSM-RNAV-RNP, (Lima, Peru November 22-26, 2004) regarding RVSM implementation in the CAR/SAM Regions. It is important to make all possible efforts to ensure the assistance of ATCOs' training. States, Territories, International Organisations and operators of both regions, are duly to contribute in the success of RVSM implementation by the scheduled date. The main goal is to verify that all states and controllers involved in RVSM implementation process have complied with the corresponding tasks assigned to the implementation of the Action Plan for RVSM Implementation in the CAR/SAM Regions.
- Mr. Víctor David Anguiano and Alfonso Cruz Flandes from ACTAM Mexico attended to PRICE (Proficiency Requirements in Common English Study Group) Symposium in Montreal, Canada, on Sept.1 to 3, 2004.
- July 15, 2004 in Panama EVP AMA had a meeting with Dr. Assad Kotaite, ICAO General Secretary. The discussion was about the problems in the AMA Region, and especially about the controllers in Costa Rica.

## 2.8. Asia / Pacific

- IFATCA has been very active participating in many ICAO APANPIRG, Sub-Groups and Task Force meetings. Individual members of various associations of this region have also continued to attend meetings as IFATCA Reps.
- The 8th North East Asia Traffic Management Meeting convened by IFATCA was held in Taipei on 13-14 September 2004.
- IFATCA plans to participate in ATS deficiency reporting together with ICAO, IFALPA and IATA, particularly in the ASP and AFM regions. Administrative procedures for the creation of a “deficiency list” are being developed. The possibility of establishing an “IFATCA Contact Person” as presented to the Directors at Conference 2004 and is being further studied by the Executive Board.
- The first trial for JAL incident will be held on 9th September. JFATC is planning to hold a rally on 8th September and assert two controller's innocence. A second trial will be held on early October. IFATCA has issues a support letter for all MAs to sign and send to JFATC on the incident JAL907.
- RVSM implementation – more changes ahead with the implementation in Naha and Tokyo domestic airspace and Incheon FIR. Single Alternate FLOS will be used. This will have an impact on South China Sea that adopts a modified Single Alternate FLOS. Harmonisation will be required.
- India, Iran and Pakistan have indicated interest in joining the Federation. A new association of Fijian ATCOs has been formed and is likely to join us in the Melbourne.

## 2.9. Europe

- European Union/Single European Sky/Social Dialogue: Various co-ordination measures are still ongoing concerning the EU, JATMWG, Social Dialogue, etc. After the decisions taken during Hong Kong European Regional Meeting, 4 dedicated teams have been initially created in order to follow up the huge work of the current implementation process established by EU on SES. Various workshops have and will be attended by our reps. The focal point of this initiative is PCX assisted by EVP EUR and LOEU. An internal IFATCA workshop on the updates of SES has taken place in London on the 5th July 2004 with great success. All dedicated teams have been able to produce comments to the draft regulations.
- EUROCONTROL's SSAP: After the recent accidents in Europe, EUROCONTROL has developed the Strategic Safety Action Plan ( SSAP ). IFATCA welcomed this action plan. The detailed recommendation of this plan will assist the European Aviation community and in particular the ATM community to enhance safely the capacity required for the coming decades.
- MAs: At Hong Kong Conference, Moldova's ATCA has become a full member of IFATCA, with the European Region having now a total of 43 MAs. As of 1st of May 2004, with the accession of another 10 countries into the family of the European Union, EU members constitute more than 60 % of the total IFATCA's European Region's MAs. IFATCA is in close contact with all European MAs and was present in an ATC meeting for the Central Eastern European Region that took place in Antalya, Turkey in May 2004. A lot of support was also given to many MAs through Press Releases and letters of support. Europe still drives in too many different gears, many MAs still suffering from lack of respect and recognition, and poor working conditions.
- Reps: EVP Europe assisted by a group of about 40 devoted representatives, are defending continuously our policies and safeguarding the interests of our profession in various forums,

meetings, workshops, seminars, organised by European and International Organisations and Institutions.

### **3. Conference**

Next Annual Conference will be held in Melbourne, Australia.

### **4. Website**

The EB invites all the Member Associations to make use of the IFATCA website [www.ifatca.org](http://www.ifatca.org) particularly the newly created ATC Forum. Valuable information is accessible and should be made use of.

### **5. 20<sup>th</sup> of October International Day of Air Traffic Controller**

The Press Release will be distributed to all MAs.

At the October Executive Board Meeting, the Board has discussed IFATCA Panel 2005. We would like to try a new format of the Panel. The Panel will be split into two parts to discuss the internal and external problems. The EB invites the IFATCA membership to give your suggestions about the subjects for the Panel.

<p><b>IFATCA has been representing air traffic controllers for more than 40 years, and has more than 50,000 members in over 125 countries.</b></p>
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