



Airports Council International / Latin America and the Caribbean
Consejo Internacional de Aeropuertos / Latinoamérica y el Caribe

Secretaría Regional ACI-LAC / ACI-LAC Regional Secretariat

DECLARATION

OF

LIMA

Adopted by the XII ACI-LAC Regional Assembly

In the city of Lima, Peru

On November 20, 2003



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Whereas:

That the Airports Council International – Latin America and The Caribbean (ACI-LAC) studies those matters affecting the airports of Latin America and The Caribbean (the Region) to establish common positions and encourage the development of the commercial airports and air transport;

That ACI-LAC defends unified positions to support commercial airports of the Region before the Regional Organizations related to civil aviation matters within the Region, according to the policies and the positions adopted by ACI World considering the particular conditions of airports of the Region;

That the “Varadero Declaration” adopted by ACI-LAC on the XI ACI-LAC Regional Assembly held on November 27, 2002 has expressly accentuated the common problems faced by airports in the Region;

That these common problems require useful and effective solutions to facilitate the development of airport activities and to protect the legitimate rights and interests of airports in the Region as infrastructure suppliers, essential for the development of aviation industry in the Region;

That in order to achieve this objective, an approach must be fostered as well as joint efforts of all governmental organizations involved in aviation activities in each country, together with the specialized international organizations (ICAO-CLAC) and airports through ACI-LAC;

That such joint efforts should be intended to foster the implementation of standards, regulations, procedures, and recommendations leading to the required development of the special airport legal framework common and uniform within the entire Region, considering the new and unique conditions of all private airport operators of the Region;

That in the same sense it is critical to alert about the inconvenient consequences that the constant and repeated call over governments, authorities and users and against the interest of airports (and, if applicable, on air traffic control in each country) of airlines all over the Region (AITAL-IATA) and particularly in connection with a reduction in airport charges (and depending on each country, air navigation charges);

That the commercial aviation sector crisis affects not only airlines but also governments and air navigation services, particularly the new infrastructure associated to the relevant safety and security requirements (airport safety and security) implemented over the last few years;



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That is of general knowledge and repeatedly proves, that airport charges (passengers and cargo) have been and still are a minor component of the airlines costs, that do not exceed 4% of their overall costs;

Furthermore the airport and air navigation charges are the essential revenues sources that make possible the investments required to maintain or increase, among other things, the security and safety operations levels, particularly in economic situations like the present ones prevailing in the Region, which prevent or make it very difficult for airports to access financing mechanisms;

That the economic conditions of airports resulting from the aviation industry status is worsened by the deficient business mechanisms applied by airlines where the competition factor in terms of airfares (tariffs war) generate in many cases, detrimental consequences for airlines, affecting adversely their own sustenance and safety operations and, therefore, also affecting the sustenance and safety of airports operations (and depending on each country, air navigation services);

That a reduction in airport and air navigation charges -only considered in terms of the airlines profitability need- it is contrary to the higher and more strict security and safety measures imposed onto the airports as well as adversely to the quality of airport and air navigation services;

For the consideration indicated above:

THE ACI-LAC XII REGIONAL ASSEMBLY DECLARES:

FIRST: To urge governments in the Region to find useful and effective solutions to facilitate the airport activities development, and with that, the development of the national and regional trade and national and regional economies, considering the particular conditions of the airport infrastructure commercial operators.

SECOND: To urge governments and international organizations (ICAO-CLAC) to intensify the joint development of new criteria, standards, rules, procedures and recommendations of airports, taking into account the particular airport legal structure, to be standardize for the whole Region and to be adopted and included in the national legislation of each country pursuant to their own sovereign decisions;

THIRD.- To urge governments to take measures in order to mitigate the negative effects that the airlines detrimental commercial practices and competition regarding tariffs (tariffs war) have over airports and flight and airport safety, considering that the current crisis faced by



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airlines and the industry in general, has not been caused by airport charges (aircraft, passengers, and cargo) corresponding to airports.

FOURTH: To urge governments of the Region to make all the necessary efforts thus airport charges (and according to each country air navigation charges) permanently guarantee to - both airports and air navigation services providers- all the revenues needed to invest in the infrastructure, security, and quality of operations, including the increment of charges when consider need it and appropriate.

In the city of Lima, Peru on November 20, 2003, the XII ACI-LAC Regional Assembly, according to the valid By Laws and with the unanimous vote of the attendant members, approves the Declaration as proposed by the Regional Board.