



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

Secretaría Regional ACI-LAC / ACI-LAC Regional Secretariat

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# DECLARATION OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

*Adopted in the city of Tobago, Trinidad and Tobago*

*On November 3, 2004*

*By the XIV ACI-LAC Regional Assembly*



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Whereas:

That the Airports Council International - Latin America and the Caribbean (ACI-LAC) represents the unified positions of the airports of Latin America and the Caribbean (the Region) in all the important matters of the civil aviation according with the ACI World policies and positions considering the particular conditions of the airports of the Region;

That the "Declaration of Varadero", approved by the XI ACI-LAC Regional Assembly on November 27, 2002 expressly emphasizes common problems faced by airports of the Region and the declarations and principles stated there, have been -and still are- disseminated and presented to the governments and civil aviation authorities of Latin America and the Caribbean;

That the "Declaration of Lima", approved by the ACI-LAC XII Regional Assembly on November 20, 2003, ratified those principles and additionally urged the governments of the Region to find useful and effective solutions to this common problematic in order to develop airport activity and to protect the legitimate rights and interests of airports of the Region, in their condition of key infrastructure suppliers, fundamental for the development of the aviation industry in the Region;

That one of the key components of the government policies is constituted by the definitions of the States air policies and especially the bilateral and multilateral negotiations of traffic rights in which definition and negotiation is essential to include the active participation of airports;

That the positive economic impact of the civil aviation and in general of the air transport in the sectors of tourism, trade -domestic as well as international- generate a positive economic impact to the revenues of the States of the Region, considerations which are not generally appreciated properly when the air commercial policies are adopted;

That in spite of the great positive impact of the aviation industry in the economy of the States of the Region, an important portion of the total of revenues generated is divert to other sectors of the economy of each State, disregarding or affecting the implementation of urgent investments in the aviation sector;

That a secure worldwide aviation system is a pre condition for the recovery and vitality of the commercial aviation industry, which is a high-priority concern for the airports of the Region;

That in spite of the important progress obtained by the combined work of ACI and their members, the International Civil Aviation Organization - ICAO, the States and airlines, the threat level remains high, having registered during 2003 and 2004, terrorists attacks against the civil aviation and other means of transport;

That the high costs of security to prevent new terrorist attacks as well as to maintain or enhance the levels of security is an indispensable function of the States and cannot be transferred to the airport and airlines;



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That the fuel is a vital input for the civil aviation and its price has a serious impact in the airlines costs, and also in trade development, tourism and therefore airports, consequently the worldwide levels reached by the price of oil due to the Persian Gulf war and other world events of notorious and public knowledge require the support and joint work of ACI and airlines;

By the considerations indicated above:

**THE XIII ACI-LAC REGIONAL ASSEMBLY DECLARES:**

**FIRST.-** To urge States of the Region to adopt the appropriate measures that will allow airports to have an active and relevant participation in the creation and discussion of the air commercial policies of the States and the negotiations on traffic rights that the States carry out in the form of bilateral as well as multilateral agreements.

**SECOND.-** To offer the States the availability of ACI-LAC and their partners in the industry to continue working, therefore the security measures become more effective and more sustainable. In this regard, it is essential to take into account the views of airports at national and international level when new measures of security are considered.

**THIRD.-** To urge the States to recognize the positive economic impact of the aviation industry in the Region and in the States, particularly in aspects such as tourism facilitation, trade and economic development. Consequently establish policies intended to make revenues generated by the aviation industry reinvested in the aviation sector, in order to sustain its development with the investments and costs of the airport infrastructure and air traffic control.

**FORTH.-** To urge the States to take the additional costs of the new airport security measures according to their particular economic conditions choosing to face those costs either from revenues coming from general incomes or from the specific setting of fees or charges to the beneficiaries passengers; since the fight against terrorism and the maintenance and/or increase of security levels is an indispensable and a nontransferable function of the States, those costs can not be transferred to airports and airlines.

**FIFTH.-** To offer IATA-AITAL the close cooperation of ACI-LAC to seek solutions and measures to reduce the end price of the aviation fuel in order to promote and facilitate tourism, trade and economic development.

In the city of Tobago, Trinidad and Tobago on November 3, 2004, the XIII ACI-LAC Regional Assembly, according to the valid By Laws and with the unanimous vote of the attendant members, approves this Declaration as proposed by the Regional Board.