



# IFATCA CIRCULAR

INTERNAL PUBLICATION OF THE IFATCA SECRETARIAT

[WWW.IFATCA.ORG](http://WWW.IFATCA.ORG)

March 2009

## ***A few words from Conference Executive***

The dates of our 2009 Annual Conference are approaching. About one month to go and many of you will gather in Cavtat, a small and picturesque village close to Dubrovnik in Croatia.

As Secretary/Conference Executive and being asked to write the foreword for this Circular, I would like to focus a bit on the Annual Conference.

Also in Dubrovnik there will be many delegates who will have attended one or more previous Conferences. But each year there are also several who come for the first time to IFATCA's major annual event.

Personally, I do remember that I, being a young Dutch controller, went to Reykjavik in Iceland, to attend the Committee B sessions at conference for the first time. And I know that I was overwhelmed by what was happening. Overwhelmed because I did not know anybody except my own colleagues, had no clue of many of the topics which were up for discussion and was puzzled about the procedures which were followed during the meetings. And I am pretty sure that many of you will recognize these feelings from your first Conference.

For those who will come to Dubrovnik for their first IFATCA Conference, it is important that you overcome such an overwhelmed feeling as soon as possible. Important for yourself but also for the federation. For yourself, because it is much more pleasant when you feel good during the event. And

for IFATCA because it is not in the interest of the federation when delegates are not sufficiently familiar with the topics which will be discussed and/or do not understand the procedures which, according our internal rulings, have to be followed.

The best way to achieve that is to study the different Conference Working Papers timely before your departure for Dubrovnik, to discuss the topics within (the board of) your association and to decide what the position of your association will be.

For those who will attend the Committee A sessions it is important to read the Administrative Manual to become familiar with the internal procedures.

But also for those who will participate in committee B or C, some basic procedural knowledge will be good.

Our Annual Conference is the only opportunity during a full year that controllers from all over the world can meet, to discuss issues which are of common interest and to decide on our common IFATCA-view with regard to different topics, be it administrative, technical or professional.

Of course, the conference is a good opportunity to meet each other and to have a good time. But let's not forget that the main purpose of our Annual Conference is to decide on what should be IFATCA's positions with regard to the work ahead.

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With a still increasing participation to the work of different international organizations like ICAO and Eurocontrol by members of the Executive Board and several IFATCA-representatives during the rest of the year, it is important that the discussions in the three Conference Committees are well prepared and thorough.

And that is only possible after a good preparation which should start at home. Hope to see you in Dubrovnik. Have a good conference !

**Jack van Delft**  
**Secretary/Conference Executive**

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## **REPORT on the EXECUTIVE BOARD Meeting 13-16 February, 2009, Montreal, Canada**

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All members of the EB attended the meeting, although regrettably EVPASP had to return to Hong Kong on the second day due to personal circumstances. Also the Office Manager was present.

The meeting in this period of the year is, to a large extent, used to prepare the next Annual Conference. Logistic issues like appointment of conference officers, registration details, time schedule etc. are set. But also the first drafts of those WPs which will be presented by the several individual board members are discussed and amended where necessary. The proposed budget for the next financial year was finalized and also the State of the Federation (SoF). In the SoF, which will be presented during the opening of the Dubrovnik Conference, the Board will outline its priorities for the next year. Once Directors have agreed with it we will prepare an EB Action Plan with specific actions for the year ahead.

The EB had an extensive discussion on the future composition of the Board. As you all know there has been no EVPT for two years now, which forced PCX to act as a substitute.

After having had an extensive discussion on the continuity of and the possibilities to improve our work, an analysis of the

performance and considering the availability and readiness of individual members of the EB and the (non-)availability of sufficient resources, the following outcome was agreed:

- PCX will complete his regular term of two years (until 2010)
- DP will stand for re-election as DP
- EVPAFM is available for a new term
- EVPASP is not available for a new term
- Andrew Beadle will be invited to stand for the position of EVPT
- SEC/CE is available for re-appointment

The EB is happy to announce that shortly after the EB meeting Andrew Beadle, who was in Montreal for the ANC and ATMRPP sessions and with whom we had a short meeting on Friday afternoon, has agreed with a nomination by the Australian association Civil Air.

During the meeting the EB also decided to re-appoint undersigned for a new term of two years as Secretary and Conference Executive.

With a re-eligible DP, a candidate for the vacant EVPT position, two candidates for the EVPASP position (one from Hong Kong and one from India), three candidates for the EVPAFM position (the

current EVPAFM, a candidate from Egypt and a candidate from Morocco), it looks as if we will have a full EB again after the Dubrovnik Conference.

**PCX** gave an update on SESAR. The validation exercise will now start and we will not have an IFATCA representative there, although Walter Eggert, who was the IFATCA consultant in the first SESAR phase, is involved as individual.

A new SESAR contract might be possible, although it is not yet clear who could do the work on behalf of IFATCA. Once the concept will become available, in March, we will discuss this, to see how to proceed.

Anthony Smoker will be the IFATCA-member of the EASA Advisory Board.

**EVPF** reported on the actual financial situation. The draft budget for the next financial year 2009/2010 was amended where necessary, taking into account the priorities as set for the coming financial year. This budget proposal will be discussed at conference.

There were five requests for support from the Conference Attendance Fund. One was refused and another one needed more clarification. The other three requests, from Djibouti, Madagascar and Mongolia, were approved.

The request which was refused came from Brazil. As you will remember from Arusha, FEBRACTA Brazil was accepted as a new member subject to the payment of the outstanding fees. As FEBRACTA did only pay the first of the agreed eight instalments of the 2008/09 subscription fee and therefore did not meet the condition on which it was accepted as a member, FEBRACTA cannot be considered to be a member of IFATCA.

For that reason they are not entitled to receive support from the CAF and the request was refused. In order to look for a solution on the pending issue of their financial capabilities to pay a

membership fee, the EB has made a proposal to FEBRACTA to re-apply for membership based on a lower number of declared members. In the mean time FEBRACTA has accepted this proposal and the EB will prepare a WP for the Dubrovnik Conference.

The issue of the membership declaration is still a worrying item as several MAs seem to have their own interpretation of the IFATCA Manual provisions on whom to declare. The board has reviewed the figures again and will present a WP to the 2009 Conference.

We expect to be able to present, apart from the re-application of FEBRACTA Brazil, three new membership applications: from Burundi, Korea and Somalia.

**DP** reported on some administrative issues. He attended the Americas Regional Meeting in Montego Bay Jamaica, made a visit to the Office in Montreal which included a visit to ICAO and attendance of the FIC meeting in Montreal. He also attended the IFALPA ADO Meeting in Tobago in December.

Issues surrounding the website were discussed with the Web manager. There are two main issues for us. First, how we will manage the site in the future and as previously indicated this will be done in conjunction with the UK Guild. As we get more information on the options available to us we will be able to determine our future web presence. The job for us is to continually assess what we want from our web presence and how best to get that done. The other matter is to determine how best we want to present our current material on the web. In the short term this mainly relates to how we place our press releases and position statements on the web, to ensure that they remain prominent and easily accessible. The final look of our website

will be dictated by our communication strategy, once finalised.

As **CE** I reported on my pre-conference inspection visits to Punta Cana, the venue for the 2010 Conference, and to Dubrovnik, together with the OM. Both visits were well prepared by the local associations.

In a rainy Dubrovnik the final arrangements were discussed. Once again visa issues may have impact on the possibilities for our MAs to attend this conference. The limited number of Croatian embassies in some parts of the world may cause participants to have to use alternative procedures to get a visa for Croatia (see the website of the OC). It is good to mention that I am convinced that the Organizing Committee has done everything they could have done to facilitate the visa processes. But nobody can expect that they can change their national laws. The EB really hopes that visa problems will not influence the attendance.

The visit to the Dominican Republic was also successful and although there are some issues which should be finalized within a short term now, it will be recommended to confirm Punta Cana as the conference venue for 2010.

The associations in Nepal, Jordan and the UAE have announced a bid for the organization of the 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of IFATCA in 2011.

The EB decided to organize in Dubrovnik once again a voluntary Workshop. The topic will be: "Stop Runway Incursions" and it will be held on Wednesday afternoon, after the regular Committee sessions.

PCX, acting as **EVPT a.i.**, is focusing on the management of the technical domain in coordination with the informal ICAO Coordinator and Chairman TOC.

He reported on the meeting he had with ICAO on the day before the board meeting and mentioned that a sound representation of IFATCA to ICAO, presently through Andrew Beadle, is very important.

The IFATCA Panel Representatives submitted their regular progress reports to the board.

The Stopbar Survey was distributed to the MAs and published via the Website. Following that, a Press Release was published.

**EVPP** reported on several industrial issues.

The two controllers prosecuted for criminal negligence in the JAL907/958 near miss incident, who were originally found not guilty, had this not guilty verdict overturned by the High Court and suspended sentences were imposed. The Japanese association, in cooperation with Japan ALPA and various other workers' unions, are appealing this conviction to the Supreme Court. This matter will be heard by the Supreme Court in April 2009. As preparation for this case, the Japanese Association funded a trip for EVPP and an IFALPA representative to visit Tokyo in late January, to present submissions to the Supreme Court, the National Police Agency, the Japan Transport Safety Board and the Ministry of Land, Transport, Infrastructure and Tourism. The presentation of these submissions was well received at a higher level in each organization, than has previously been achieved. Additionally, a public 'street demonstration' was held, along with a Symposium attended by many Japanese controllers and the media. A separate media conference was held. The Japanese association and Japan APLA were pleased with the conduct and outcome of these events (see trip report for further details). The prime IFATCA focus during all these activities was Just Culture.

The implementation of ICAO English Language Level 4 compliance – the level of compliance, and the plans to comply by those States who have not yet done so - is being monitored on an on going basis by PLC and a working paper will be provided to conference to give MAs and update on the situation.

Briefly, 25% of States have not posted any implementation plan yet, 11% have not stated a clear implementation date, 27% have been compliant since 2008, 4% will be compliant by 2009, 19% will be compliant by 2010, and 14% will be compliant by 2011.

**EVPAFM** reported on industrial issues in Djibouti, Morocco and Sierra Leone.

The Djibouti MA has complained to IFATCA over the Airport Director's decision to reduce their percentage income accrued from overflight fees following the failure to reach a collective bargain agreement with the controllers. Furthermore, the little payment given is applied in a discriminatory manner. There is also an acute shortage of controllers. Some have been forced to work beyond the retirement age because the employer has failed to honour their pension entitlements.

IFATCA has written a letter of complaint to the Djibouti Minister of Transport regarding the issue. So far there has not been any feedback from the MA.

The MA in Sierra Leone has failed to provide an update (despite repeated messages of inquiry) on the fate of the three controllers who were still being detained for alleged violation of landing/overflight permission regulations.

The dispute between ASECNA and the controllers has not been resolved yet. There is no evidence of any positive outcome of the strike action taken by the controllers in July last year, although

there are no reports of continued detentions.

A seminar of ATCOs was organised by the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) in Ouagadougou in late October 2008 to discuss, among other issues, the fate of ATC trade unions. The event, however, was of an educational nature and there were no concrete recommendations regarding the dispute with ASECNA, except for the admission that the "Radio Silence" action had not been very well planned.

IFATCA has launched a new initiative trying to break the deadlock and open a channel of communication between ASECNA, the Federation and the affected controllers. The ASECNA Director of Operations has agreed in principle to open a dialogue trying to resolve the conflict. The ASECNA MAs have been asked to provide an updated list of their grievances in preparation for negotiations. Unfortunately, only Cote d'Ivoire has responded so far. Plans for any formal meeting with ASECNA are yet to be worked out.

Following the successful implementation of RVSM in the ICAO AFI Region on 25 September 2008, IFATCA has been incorporated into the Tactical Action Group established by the recently held Special AFI RAN Meeting to replace the RVSM Project Management Team (PMT) to oversee the post RVSM implementation phase.

In his report **EVPAFA** gave information on what is going on within the associations in the different American countries. Striking in his report is that there are (too) many associations who do not communicate towards EVPAFA, despite his efforts to get contact with them. Many MAs simply do not respond to e-mails sent to them and also do not take any initiative to inform EVPAFA on what is going on in the country.

Antigua & Barbuda, Aruba, Barbados, Bermuda, Chile, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Netherlands Antilles and Surinam - they all have an IFATCA Liaison Officer. But when these LOs do not answer mails and do not contact the regional EB member, it is difficult for the EB to get a clear picture of what is going on.

The association in Argentina is trying to get involved in the demilitarization process of the ANS.

In Bolivia the association has been facing a lot of troubles; they are still divided. They are trying to get rid off the guild (AASANA, which gathers all the airports workers) they belong. Social and political troubles are affecting this MA.

Controllers in the United States have experienced more disciplinary actions against them by their employer for operational errors and workplace issues. Due to the increase in these disciplinary actions more controllers are choosing to retire, even though some have up to 7 – 9 years of eligibility left before mandatory retirement.

Controller retirement is creating a major staffing issue for many facilities. Additionally, facilities have to deal with a big influx of new trainees. In many places it is difficult to train these people because of the staffing shortage. At other facilities where they have been able to train and certify these new controllers, situations are arising where there are work shifts where the entire team on duty consists of newly certified controllers with less than 2 years of experience.

**EVPASP** gave information on several countries in the region. In Australia Civil Air is involved in very protracted and difficult negotiations with Air Services Australia on the terms of contract renewal.

In Fiji the new Air Traffic Management Association Fiji (ATMAF) reported on the poor standard of equipment and facilities due to the lack of investment by the former service provider. The new ANSP, Airports Fiji, is trying to renegotiate contracts with adjacent units.

Indonesia gave details of a new Government plan for the reorganization of aviation authorities which would result in ANSP and Regulator coming under the same Chief Officer. At the request of ATCI EVPASP has written to the Minister, giving advice on ICAO procedures.

Mongolia will be installing 3 approach radars in the next months and there are plans for the implementation of RVSM using metric levels, but there was no timing as yet. They also indicated that the eastern Russian states will be implementing RVSM using the old metric levels by 2010 – this will not be compatible with the Chinese RVSM metric levels (Mongolia use old metric CVSM levels).

With the implementation of the revised RVSM Flight Level Alignment System in the South China Sea area in October 2008, the number of co-ordination and transition problems has significantly reduced. However the incidence of missed or incorrect ATC transfer messages still remains a problem with the Target Level of Safety being exceeded in many areas. The ICAO Regional Scrutiny Group will be addressing this problem in the coming year.

#### **EVPEUR**

In Romania, following the runway incursion on 30<sup>th</sup> December 2007, where a TAROM Boeing 737 collided during take-off with a lighting-inspection vehicle, four controllers involved have been the focus of investigations. One of those

ATCOs has been indicted and is possibly facing a trial.

The Romanian member association has asked for support from IFATCA. A team of human factors specialists under the coordination of EVP EUR is assisting our MA. Bert Ruitenbergh, IFATCA Human Factor Specialist, paid a visit to Bucharest and had a chance to talk to all controllers involved, the designated lawyer and representatives of our MA. Following the discussions and in coordination with the IFATCA EB, an IFATCA position paper has been drafted to assist in the defense of our colleagues.

EVPEUR is still looking for participants for the RSG. He has vacancies for the

following areas of interest: APDSG, AWOOG, CMIC, PRC, SRC, ANT & RNDSG, SAFREP, OCG and SISG.

The next Board meetings will be the Pre- and Post Conference meetings in Dubrovnik on 17, 18 and on 25 April 2009.

We are pleased with the invitation from the association in Norway to have the June EB meeting in Oslo on 26, 27 and 28 June 2009.

***Jack van Delft***  
***Secretary/Conference Executive***

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## **IFATCA REPRESENTATIVE TO ICAO/ANC IN MONTREAL**

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During the February EB meeting in Montreal, the EB discussed, not for the first time, the possibility to appoint an official IFATCA Representative to ICAO/ANC in Montreal with ATC knowledge.

As you all know, presently our OM maintains the contacts with ICAO in her role as LOIM. However, due to the fact that our OM has no ATC background, it will be clear that this is mainly an administrative liaison. For a long time already the EB has been of the opinion that it would be preferable that the

LOIM-position should be held by a person who has an ATC background.

In January 2008, IFATCA received a letter from the President of the ANC, formalising our permanent observer status at the ANC.

In the EB meetings held in June and October of that year, the EB has discussed the best way for IFATCA to maintain the contacts with ICAO.

The EB is of the opinion that time has come to take a next important step to improve our cooperation with ICAO on the long term, by appointing an IFATCA Representative to ICAO/ANC and has therefore developed a plan, including a financial proposal, to achieve that aim.

In this plan our MA in the USA, NATCA, will play an important role.

The EB has prepared a WP for the Dubrovnik Conference and will send an additional covering letter to all Category 1 MAs.

***Jack van Delft,***  
***EB Secretary***

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## 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference and Technical Exhibition – Dubrovnik, Croatia, 20-24 April 2009

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### TRANSPORT

Star Alliance™ Conventions Plus

**Registered participants plus one accompanying person travelling to the IFATCA 2009 Conference are automatically granted a discount of up to 20%, depending on fare and class of travel booked.** To obtain the Star Alliance™

Conventions Plus discounts, please call the reservation office of a participating Star Alliance Member Airline and quote the following Convention Code **LH22S09**.

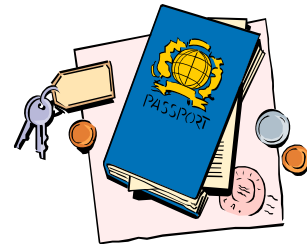
**The participating airlines:** ANA, Adria Airways, Air Canada, Air China, Asiana Airlines, Austrian Airlines, Croatia Airlines, Lufthansa, SWISS International Air Lines, Scandinavian Airlines, South African Airways, Spanair, TAP Portugal, Turkish Airlines, US Airways, United.

### VISA

When applying for visa, foreign citizens **have to submit a legal person's invitation letter (letter of guarantee)** as a **proof of the purpose of their visit**, filled out by the inviting legal person from Croatia (in this case, CROATCA - the organizer of the IFATCA 2009 Conference).

**The following information is required for the individual invitation Letter (Letter of Guarantee):**

- A/ Name
- B/ Surname
- C/ Date of birth
- D/ Place of birth
- E/ Passport number
- F/ Country of issuance
- G/ Date of issuance
- H/ Passport valid until
- I/ Home address
- J/ Occupation/profession



**PLEASE BE AWARE THAT ACCORDING TO CROATIAN IMMIGRATION LAWS  
VISA CANNOT BE ISSUED "ON-SITE"!  
SEND YOUR VISA REQUESTS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO AVOID LATE SUBMISSIONS**

Member Association's Director should compile the list of Conference attendees with all above mentioned details and send it to our Organizing Committee member dealing with visa issues, Mr. Darko Dugalic on his e-mail address: [finance@ifatca2009.com](mailto:finance@ifatca2009.com)

**INVITATION LETTERS WILL BE URGENTLY SENT VIA FAST POSTAL SERVICE (DHL, UPS, ETC) TO MA'S POSTAL ADDRESS (MA DIRECTOR TO SUPPLY).**

## ARRIVING AT THE CONFERENCE - QUICK INFO LIST

Book your flight to Dubrovnik on time to avoid possible "last-minute" problems due to limited seat availability for inbound and outbound flights.

Register for the Conference via web-site form before the Conference. If you prefer to register on-site, we would not know that you are coming and it might cause some organizational problems to us.

When registering, please register all attendees separately, including accompanying persons.

When you are already registered for the Conference, use your submitted e-mail and received registration number to change your flight info details and to make a room reservation.

If you state on your accommodation reservation form that you are sharing a room with one of the previously registered persons, that person does not need to reserve a room separately.

## GENERAL INFO - DUBROVNIK/CROATIA

Climate: warm Mediterranean

Temperature - April: 13 - 18°C morning,  
15 - 22°C afternoon

Weather - April: sunny with possible  
short-term rain showers

Currency: Kuna (Kn)

Exchange rate: 5,5 Kn = 1 USD; 7,4 Kn =  
1EUR

Water: potable in all parts of Croatia

Time zone: GMT +2 (summer time)

Shops working hours: 0800 - 2000h, 0800 - 1400 weekends (shopping centers)

Public services: 0800 - 1600h, 0800 - 1200 weekends (banks, etc.)

Health services:

Foreign visitors are not obliged to pay for medical services if a convention on Social Security has been signed between Croatia and visitors' country of origin, i.e. if they have in their possession a certificate stipulated by such a convention confirming their right to health care. Health care (including transport) is used for emergency cases in the manner and according to regulations valid for Croatian citizens covered by Social Security, with the costs of health care being participated in, in the same way (participation and administrative duty). Persons coming from countries with which no such convention has been signed bear the costs of health services rendered personally.



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## IFATCA REGIONS' CORNER

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### European Region

Europe is getting ready to host once more the annual IFATCA Conference. The Organising Committee of the host association CROATCA is looking forward to greet us in Dubrovnik for the 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on the 20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> April 2009. All information can be found at [www.ifatca2009.com](http://www.ifatca2009.com)

The European newsletter turns ONE! Set-up after the Arusha 2008 conference to enhance communication between your EVP and the associations, the European newsletter turns now 1! In 2008 a total of six editions were published. With the current one - No.7, I would like you to think about how we can improve the content and whether you, as MAs, would like to contribute to this publication. Distribute it to your members and make them aware of the work done by the members of IFATCA.

Plenty of vacancies in the European Region  
The EUR region needs more volunteers willing to dedicate a part of their spare time to the Federation. Current posts available are:

- LO Eurocontrol (Liaison Officer to Eurocontrol)
- APDSG - ATM Procedures Development Subgroup
- CMIC - Civil-Military Interface Standing Committee
- PRC - Performance Review Commission
- SRC - Safety Regulatory Commission
- ANT & RNDSG - Air Navigation Team, Route Network Development Subgroup

- SAFREP - Safety Data Reporting & Data Flow Task Force
- OCG - Operations Coordination Group
- SISG - Safety Improvement Subgroup
- AWOGICAO - All Weather Operation Group

### **CISM workshop on Implementation Guidance**

On March 6<sup>th</sup> IFATCA held one day workshop on Implementation Guidance in Langen/Germany at the DFS headquarters. This WS was organized in cooperation with the ICISF (International Critical Incident Stress Foundation) and featured presentations on CISM networking, the peer model and Dr. Jeff Mitchell's example of a successful CISM implementation at the United Nations. Almost thirty participants representing a wide cross section of European IFATCA member associations discussed in a relaxed and productive atmosphere their difficulties in CISM implementation. Many associations reported lack of or at least insufficient information about the benefits of CISM on the ANSP side. Wrong perceptions about costs and return of investment paired with current economical constraints lead many service providers to a negative or rejective attitude to what is proven to be a fundamental step towards staff care and proactive planning. IFATCA & ICISF strongly recommend the set-up of CISM in a coordinated, structured and transparent way.

All documentation material is available through EVP Europe Patrik Peters: [evpeur@ifatca.org](mailto:evpeur@ifatca.org)

## Africa Middle East Region

One year after hosting the 47<sup>th</sup> IFATCA Annual Conference in their own region (Arusha, Tanzania, March 2008), MAs from Africa and Middle East Region (AFM) are now focusing their attention to traveling to Europe for the annual ritual.

The 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in Dubrovnik, Croatia (20 to 24 April 2009), promises to provide a mix of challenges, opportunities, pleasant and unpleasant outcomes, in a unique way for AFM member associations: the affiliation of an unprecedented 33.3% of the AFM MAs is up for suspension if they do pay their 2008/09 subscription fees by the beginning of Conference. The threat hangs over them even as the Special Circumstances Fund has been at their disposal, but which these MAs did not choose to apply for.

With just over a month before the conference, reports indicate that members are having an uphill task to obtain entry visas to Croatia, despite excellent cooperation and good will by the Organizing Committee. A number of MAs are also reported to experience financial difficulties

hampering their efforts to travel to Croatia for the conference. Very few have applied for the Conference Attendance Fund (CAF).

### **On the positive side:**

Two new prospective Member Associations (Burundi and Somalia) are to join the Federation.

The Conference is expected to offer the opportunity for ASECNA, its controllers and IFATCA to have a face-to-face meeting aimed at resolving the long-running industrial dispute in the ASECNA countries.

It should also be remembered that at Conference there will be, among others, elections for the post of Executive Vice-President, Africa and Middle East. And in spite of the problems outlined above, MAs from the region have, in the past, overcome travel and logistical problems even to more challenging venues than Dubrovnik. It is hoped therefore, that with the usual last-minute extra efforts, they may still be able to turn up for Conference in large numbers.

SEE YOU IN DUBROVNIK!

## Asia Pacific Region

Following the regrettable decision by the Appeals Court in April 2008 to over-rule the previous verdict and find the two controllers who were on duty at the time of the airmiss guilty of neglect, IFATCA has been working with the Member Association, the Japan Federation of Air Traffic Controllers, and IFALPA to campaign for a review of the guilty verdict.

On 30 and 31 January 2009, there were a number of high profile publicity events and a press conference in support of Ms Yasuko Momii, the instructor controller and Hideki Haditena, the trainee controller at the time of the incident. The event was led by

representatives from IFATCA (Scott Shallies, EVP Professional), IFALPA (Stu Julian, EVP Asia Pacific) and a number of Japanese Unions.

On the first day the group visited with all the principal parties in the legal proceedings: the Supreme Courthouse where a number of petitions were handed in and a presentation made to the Clerk of the Court; the Assistant Director to the Investigative Planning Division of the National Police Agency; the Japan Transport Safety Board, and the Director General of the Japan Aviation Bureau. There was then a press conference for the local media who were all

surprised at the involvement of 'international' groups in a domestic event.

ICAO recommended procedures were not being followed by the Japanese authorities.

On the second day a public symposium was well attended by the local media along with many controllers and pilots. IFATCA and IFALPA both gave presentations on the established safety benefits of a just culture system and voiced their concerns that the

In April a further appeal from the defence lawyers will be heard by the High Court and it is hoped that the campaign and the information provided by IFATCA and IFALPA will be seriously considered by the court and the original not guilty verdict reinstated.

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## **EB – POSITIONS**

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Earlier it was announced that at Conference 2009 in Dubrovnik, PCX, Marc Baumgartner would step down mid-term.

As you can read in the Report on the February EB meeting, in this Circular, the EB discussed the future composition of the board. As a result of this discussion, Marc decided to continue as PCX for another year, thus completing his regular term of two years which will end at Conference 2010 in Punta Cana.

The following positions will now fall vacant at the Dubrovnik Conference:

**DEPUTY PRESIDENT  
EXECUTIVE VICE - PRESIDENT TECHNICAL  
EXECUTIVE VICE - PRESIDENT AFRICA MIDDLE EAST  
EXECUTIVE VICE - PRESIDENT ASIA PACIFIC**

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## **NEWS FROM THE OFFICE – MONTREAL**

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### **CONFERENCE PROXY**

The office has again forwarded you Proxy forms for the Conference 2009, which you also got at the Regional meetings. The proxy form includes space for the name of the Associations (first and second choices) to whom the proxy is given.

The form shall be signed by the President or Secretary of the association and, if possible, have the Association's stamp. Please forward the Proxy to the office by fax or post and a copy to the MA(s) selected as proxy prior to the conference. If, in the future, circumstances change and your association will attend the conference, the Proxy becomes invalid with your presence at Conference.

## **PAYMENT of MEMBERSHIP FEE AT CONFERENCE**

Dear Member Associations, please note that there will be time allocated for you to meet EVP Finance to make your annual subscription fee payment:

A three hour period on Sunday, April 19 2009, for MAs to pay their fees at the IFATCA Secretariat, in the hotel Croatia between 14:00 and 17:00.

- On Monday morning, April 20, fees will be accepted from 8:30 to 9:30 in the Secretariat.  
**THE CUT-OFF TIME IS 09:30**
- and Tuesday, April 21, morning fees will be accepted from 8:00 to 8:30 in the Secretariat.  
**THE CUT-OFF TIME IS 08:30.**

Subscription fee is accepted only in cash or checks.

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR CONFERENCE ATTENDEES**

The Executive Board would like to remind all Member Associations that, according to the IFATCA Constitution and Bye-Laws, Directors and Deputy Directors are only allowed to vote at Conference when the **Credential Form** has been signed by the President or Secretary of the association and the Director.

We refer you to the IFATCA Administrative Manual, page 2452, para 5.6 and 5.7.

This Credential Form has recently been sent to you by the IFATCA Office and can be returned to the Conference Secretariat in Dubrovnik before the start of the Conference.

In case you did not receive the form, you can contact the Office Manager for a new one.

Jack van Delft  
Secretary/Conference Executive