



12 DECEMBER 2019



*Season's Greetings from new Director  
General Stefano Baronci and the  
Regional Office team*

# Regional Office Updates

## Get to know our leaders

This week marked the start of a new season for the Asia-Pacific Regional Office, with the arrival of Stefano Baronci into the office in Hong Kong to begin transition and handover with outgoing Regional Director Patti Chau.

After the announcement of his appointment, Stefano arrived in Hong Kong with his family in early November and started his role as Director General on Monday, 9 December. To give a pause to the countless meetings on the first couple of days to meet team members and familiarize with all that's happening in the Regional Office, Jeannie Wong (JW), Head, External Affairs, sat down with Stefano (SB) and Patti (PC) for a more light-hearted chat.

### INTERVIEW WITH STEFANO BARONCI

JW: Are you and your family all settled in your new home?

SB: Not yet but we already feel comfortable in the environment and are intrigued by the vibe of the city, which is great motivation for my role.

JW: What surprised you the most since arriving in the city?

SB: The seafood! Seriously, we are amazed by the efficiency of the transportation system in the city.

JW: What are you most excited to do in the Regional Office?

SB: To nurture the culture of thinking strategically.

JW: What do you foresee to be your biggest challenges?

SB: The challenge will be speaking to the interests and serving the needs of our very diverse membership across Asia-Pacific and the Middle East.

JW: Coming from ACI World, what will you miss most in Montréal, besides the people?

SB: Not the winter! But I still miss Rome more.

JW: What languages do you speak? What language do you think in?

SB: English, Italian, French, Spanish and Portuguese. And I think in Italian. But I want to learn Putonghua too!

JW: What makes you tick?

SB: Learning about new cultures!

JW: What three words would you use to describe yourself?

SB: Empathetic, inclusive, and fair.



JW: Ok, let's wrap up with some rapid-fire questions. Your answers will help us know what not to give you in the future! :D What do you like - coffee or tea?

SB: Espresso.

JW: Rice or pasta?

SB: Pasta, of course!

JW: Chocolate or fruit?

SB: Depends on the fruit!

JW: Walk or take taxi?

SB: Walk.

JW: Beach or snow mountain?

SB: Beach!

JW: Weights in gym or jog outdoors?

SB: Swim outdoors!

JW: Book or TV?

SB: Book.

## INTERVIEW WITH PATTI CHAU

JW: Patti, just because you're leaving soon doesn't mean you're off the hook! You've been interviewed and asked by many already, but we want to ask you too! After around 15 years with the Regional Office here, what will you miss most in Hong Kong?

PC: Milk tea and Peking Duck! But seriously though, besides the staff and friends, I'll miss the vibe and energy of the city and the beautiful skyline.

JW: What was the most memorable achievement during your time as Regional Director?

PC: We've been able to advance the interests for airports with ICAO and now we're recognized as

a reputable partner, and being sought after for technical advice.

JW: What was the most unique place you've travelled to during your tenure as RD?

PC: One of the more memorable destinations would be Jordan, I remember floating in the Dead Sea and visiting Petra.

JW: Where do you wish you had travelled to but haven't had the chance yet?

PC: Egypt!

JW: What's the first thing you will do when you return to Vancouver?

PC: Learn how to cook! The Belgium cookbook gifted from @ACI Europe colleagues came very timely!

We wish Patti all the best with her family in this new chapter of her life and we look forward to working with Stefano as he leads the team in serving our Asia-Pacific and Middle East members.

**Connect with Stefano** on LinkedIn!



## ACI joins ICAO to help Nepal improve aviation security

At ICAO's invitation and with the agreement of the State, the Regional Office participated in an ICAO Combined Action Team (CAT) mission to Nepal that ran from 18 to 22 November in Kathmandu, hosted by the Civil Aviation Authority of Nepal (CAAN).

Under the No Country Left Behind Initiative, the 1-week CAT mission in security is an ICAO APAC Regional Office mission to provide technical assistance to States in Asia-Pacific that aims to help them improve aviation security standards towards the targets set out in the Global Aviation Security Plan (GASeP). This particular mission also carried particular significance for the Region

as it became the first and only industry association to have attended the CAT missions, normally restricted to ICAO experts.

Over the week long mission, Mr. **Gary Leung**, Manager, Technical & Industry Affairs, along with colleagues from the ICAO APAC Office, worked with CAAN in the development of corrective action plans to address findings identified in a recent ICAO security audit. The team also visited Gautam Buddha Airport (BWA) and provided inputs on security related subjects to be incorporated into the design of its new terminal.



*ACI joins ICAO security mission in Nepal*

*Site visit to the new terminal of Gautam Buddha Airport (BWA) under construction*

## Vanuatu hosts APEX in Security, the first amongst Pacific Islands nations

An APEX in Security review was successfully conducted at Bauerfield International Airport (VLI), recently renamed as Port Vila Airport, in Vanuatu from 2 to 6 December, hosted by Airports Vanuatu Limited. Not only was this the first APEX in Security in the country, but it was also the first amongst the Pacific Islands nations. The review team comprised of security experts from Cairns Airport, Tahiti Airport, PT Angkasa Pura II of Indonesia, ACI World and ACI Asia-Pacific.

Over the one-week review, the team set forth recommendations for best practice in security.

Launched in October 2017, APEX in Security is a peer-to-peer review programme that aims to help airports enhance security performance by improving compliance with ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) and adopting industry best practices.



APEX team members with the CEO of Airports Vanuatu Limited, Mr. Jason Rakau

If you would like to host an APEX in Security review at your airport or would like to be a voluntary security assessor, please contact

Mr. Gary Leung (Manager, Technical & Industry Affairs) at [gary@aci-asiapac.aero](mailto:gary@aci-asiapac.aero).

## Artificial Intelligence, Smart Data Hub, and Blockchain applications amongst topics discussed at the 15th World AITSC Meeting

The 15th ACI World Annual Information Technology Standing Committee (AITSC) took place in Hong Kong on 4 – 6 December, graciously hosted by Airport Authority Hong Kong (AAHK), with Members of the regional Airport IT Liaison Group in attendance.

Mrs. Vivian Cheung, Executive Director, Airport Operations of AAHK kicked off the meeting with a key note speech emphasizing the accelerated trends in Airport IT which enable airports to become ever smarter

and more efficient. The Regional Office, represented by Mr. **Ken Lau**, Senior Manager, Technical Affairs, provided recent updates from the regional Airport IT Liaison Group and promoted ACI Asia-Pacific's "**Guidance Document on Cybersecurity for Airport Security Managers**" which was well received.

The Committee reviewed and approved the upcoming focus of various working groups and task forces. In the year ahead, anticipated deliverables include white papers





in Airport Digital Transformation and Digital twins (virtual model of process enabling analysis of data).

Some of the innovative presentations delivered in the meeting include topics on Artificial Intelligence, Smart Data Hub (tool to support collection, integration and application of big data), Baggage tracking through Blockchain, and Digital Twin application for airports. To wrap up,

AAHK arranged a visit to its Innovation Lab which showcases the latest and wildest technologies such as autonomous baggage handling vehicle and 3D Digital twin.

The next meeting is being planned for October 2020 in Europe.

## LinkedIn account hits 1,000 Followers



Earlier this month, **ACI Asia-Pacific's LinkedIn account** crossed the threshold of 1,000 followers. Launched in February 2019, the company page reached this milestone in just ten months.

"We launched the LinkedIn page earlier this year in an effort to engage with our members and aviation professionals beyond the legacy

channels. Through social channels, we can celebrate the many achievements of airports around the region as well as the progress we're making as ACI Asia-Pacific advances the interests of our members," said Jeannie Wong, Head, External Affairs. "We are very grateful to all our followers for joining our LinkedIn channel and making this milestone happen."

In addition to the LinkedIn page, interested parties can also follow ACI Asia-Pacific on Twitter under the handle **@ACIAPAC**.





## Other ACI Updates

### Global Carbon Accreditation Programme reports solid growth in Airport Climate Action for 10th year

The *Airport Carbon Accreditation* programme has released annual results stemming from collective carbon management delivered by accredited airports for the 10th consecutive year.

The past reporting year, running from May 2018 to May 2019, marked a round decade since the programme's inception. The year ended with 274 accredited airports worldwide, an increase of +16% over the previous year, proving a stronger than ever drive of the airport industry to deliver on commitments to lower CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

54 airports in Asia-Pacific are now actively engaged in addressing their impact on climate change.

A dedicated section on carbon offsetting has been added to this year's *Airport Carbon Accreditation* Annual Report in a bid to offer more detailed information on the particular projects supported by the accredited airports. It is important to note that prior to any CO<sub>2</sub> offsetting, airport operators need to pursue every possible path of reducing

emissions under their operational control.

Investment in renewable energy, more energy efficient lighting & heating, switching to hybrid or electric ground vehicles and support equipment as well as spurring employee behavioural change are some examples of initiatives put in place by the certified airports.

The *Airport Carbon Accreditation Annual Report 2018-2019* is available for download. For the latest key figures, including details of the accredited airports in each world region, their actions and the difference the programme is making, visit [www.airportco2.org](http://www.airportco2.org).



**ANNUAL REPORT**  
2018-2019

### ICAO awards ACI Global Training for second year in a row

Last week's opening ceremony of ICAO's 6th Global Aviation Training and TRAINAIR PLUS Symposium recognized ACI Global Training with an award for delivering the highest number of partnership training packages during the year.

The symposium, held 4 - 6 December in New

Delhi, India and hosted by GMR Airports, brought together over 400 delegates from the civil aviation training field to exchange ideas and insights on the importance of innovation for the training of civil aviation professionals worldwide.

"Thanks to the hard work and dedication of

ACI regions, Global Training team, our ACI colleagues, committees and faculty in serving the members, ACI has received this training award from ICAO, for the second year in a row. This serves as proof that ACI continually innovates to meet our members' current and future training needs with key partners like ICAO," said Kevin Caron, Director, Capacity Building Programmes, ACI World.

Leaders, experts and professionals from the civil aviation training field met to discuss how the unprecedented rate of technological innovation in aviation is posing both challenges and opportunities for the sector. The Internet of Things, digitalization, and

new frontier technologies are transforming economies, governments, and societies in complex and often unpredictable ways. These innovations can accelerate the rate at which all countries and peoples can benefit from the significant socio-economic impacts and sustainability of international air transport.



## Four more airports pledge to join fight against illegal wildlife trafficking

Executive representatives from Hong Kong International Airport, Munich International Airport, Sydney Airport, and Toronto Pearson International Airport have pledged their commitment to join the fight against illegal wildlife trafficking by signing the United for Wildlife (UFW) Transport Taskforce Buckingham Palace Declaration.

The critical need for a strong global effort is demonstrated by the fact that the illegal wildlife trade is one of the most lucrative transnational crimes and estimated by the United Nations to be worth up to US\$23 billion annually.

Airport Authority Hong Kong Executive Director, Airport Operations Vivian Cheung said: "Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA) adopts zero tolerance policy regarding illegal wildlife trafficking and we are honoured to be a signing party of the Buckingham Palace Declaration. At HKIA, we work closely with

the whole airport community to fight illegal wildlife trade, while efforts to raise public awareness continue through publicity means such as posters and model displays."

Sydney Airport Chief Operating Officer Hugh Wehby said: "Australia's unique wildlife is often a target of illegal wildlife trafficking, which makes Sydney Airport especially proud to support this important initiative."

In addition to supporting airport membership to share their commitment by joining the United for Wildlife Transport Taskforce, ACI is a key industry partner working with the Reducing Opportunities for Unlawful Transport of Endangered Species (ROUTES) Partnership to engage and support industry, improve data analytics, increase collaboration with enforcement, provide training and raise awareness on the issue.

Read the full [PRESS RELEASE](#).





## Industry Updates

# Capt. Nabil Naoumi appointed new president of the ICAO Air Navigation Commission



The Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) has appointed Capt. Nabil Naoumi to a one-year renewable term as President of the ICAO Air Navigation Commission (ANC), the UN Civil Aviation Organization's main technical review body.

Capt. Naoumi was nominated for the appointment by the Government of Germany, and his mandate begins on 1 January 2020. He has served as an ANC Commissioner at ICAO since February 2016, and was appointed its First Vice-President in January 2019.

As an Air Navigation Commissioner at ICAO, Capt. Naoumi has served as Chair of the Working Group of the Whole for Air Navigation Work Programme Deliverables Productions, and Chairman of Commission Group 1: Licensing, Operations, Airworthiness, Dangerous Goods and Aviation Medicine.

Read the full [PRESS RELEASE](#).



# Traffic Monitor

## Sep 2019: Passengers up 2.0% in Asia-Pacific and 2.2% in the Middle East

SEP 2019 ACI Asia-Pacific Monthly Traffic Report	TOP 3 AIRPORTS BY SIZE CATEGORY <sup>(2)</sup>									
	PASSENGER				FREIGHT					
	> 40M	25M - 40M	15M - 25M	5M - 15M						
<small>Preliminary year-on-year traffic growth rates for Airports reporting highest traffic volume in the respective size category in September 2019<sup>(1)</sup></small>  <small>Note:</small>  <small><sup>(1)</sup> ACI preliminary passenger and freight statistics are based on a significant sample of airports that provide regular monthly reports to ACI. They represent approximately 60% of total passenger traffic and 70% of total freight traffic worldwide. Commentary, tables and charts are based on preliminary data submitted by participating airports and are therefore subject to change.</small>  <small><sup>(2)</sup> Airports are categorized based on the rolling passenger traffic in the last 12 months.</small>	<b>PEK</b> Beijing	<b>-0.9%</b>	<b>HGH</b> Hangzhou	<b>+5.5%</b>	<b>CTS</b> Sapporo Chitose	<b>+32.9%</b>	<b>NGO</b> Nagoya	<b>+4.4%</b>	<b>HKG</b> Hong Kong	<b>-6.2%</b>
	<b>HND</b> Tokyo Haneda	<b>+1.1%</b>	<b>DOH</b> Doha	<b>+11.9%</b>	<b>GMP</b> Seoul Gimpo	<b>-2.5%</b>	<b>KHN</b> Nanchang	<b>+3.8%</b>	<b>PVG</b> Shanghai Pudong	<b>+0.1%</b>
	<b>DXB</b> Dubai	<b>-2.8%</b>	<b>MEL</b> Melbourne	<b>+0.3%</b>	<b>TSN</b> Tianjin	<b>+0.6%</b>	<b>SHJ</b> Sharjah	<b>+7.4%</b>	<b>ICN</b> Seoul Incheon	<b>-10.0%</b>

Passenger traffic in Asia-Pacific and the Middle East recorded growth in September at +2.0% and +2.2% respectively.

In China, both the international and domestic sectors showed signs of improvements, likely benefiting from an increase in vacation travels during public holidays. Passenger traffic at Hong Kong (HKG) suffered a decline of -12.7% and continued to be adversely affected by civil unrest and softening in demand. Among major airports in China, Shenzhen (SZX) and Guangzhou (CAN) generated the highest growth at +13.4% and +8.5% respectively.

The overall passenger traffic growth in India was stagnant and demand in both international and domestic segments showed signs of slowing. The three airports with the most passenger volume increase from last year were: Delhi (DEL) +1.1%, Kolkata (CCU) +2.5% and Cochin (COK) +4.4%.

Elsewhere in Asia-Pacific, Osaka Kansai (KIX) and Sapporo New Chitose (CTS) experienced substantial growth of +102.8% and +32.9% respectively. The airports benefited from a lower base last year, when both were impacted by typhoons and earthquakes. The recovery was driven mainly by passengers from China but partially offset by lower demand due to diplomatic tensions between Japan and South Korea.

In the Middle East, passenger traffic grew at +2.2% amid ongoing geopolitical tensions. Nonetheless, mixed results were recorded among major airports: Dubai (DXB) -2.8%, Doha (DOH) +11.9% and Jeddah (JED) +2.8%.

Overall, year to date, passenger traffic in Asia-Pacific and the Middle East grew +1.7% and +2.4% respectively. Although passenger traffic of major markets such as China, India and the United Arab Emirates improved in the second quarter, the pace of growth eased in the third quarter. Uncertain global economic environment and geopolitical tensions have negatively affected passenger traffic in both regions.

Air freight remained weak, impacted by the continued slowdown across Asian export markets. Asia-Pacific and the Middle East declined at -3.9% and -6.7% respectively. Hong Kong (HKG), the largest air freight hub in the world, declined at -6.2%, showing a narrower decline from last month. Among major air freight hubs, Shenzhen (SZX) and Guangzhou (CAN) managed to generate positive growth at +12.0% and +4.6%.

Overall air freight traffic declined in the first nine months, with Asia-Pacific at -5.8% and the Middle East at -3.0%, amid ongoing trade tensions between the United States and China, which weakened manufacturing activities and exports in both regions.

## Members at a Glance

### Airport Members Spotlight

**Airports Vanuatu Limited (AVL)** is the proud owner and operator of the three major airports in Vanuatu located in Port Vila and on the islands of Tanna and Espiritu Santo. Together the three airports account for 87% of all scheduled aircraft seats flown in Vanuatu. AVL recently launched a new brand to embrace its vision: “Developing a sustainable hub in the South Pacific, to be the pride of Vanuatu, enabling people to connect”.

#### RENAMING OF AVL'S THREE AIRPORTS

As part of the rebranding process, the three airports have been renamed as AVL embraces the future and its role in growing the country, the new names also align with the destinations they serve. Bauerfield International Airport will be renamed Port Vila Airport and Pekoa Airport will be known as Santo Airport. Whitegrass Airport will be renamed Tanna Airport.

Port Vila Airport, located in the capital of the country, operates domestic flights and direct international flights to and from

Australia, New Zealand, New Caledonia, Fiji and Salomon Islands. Port Vila Airport can accommodate for code C and Code E aircraft with a runway of 2700m. Its international terminal offers a free Wi-Fi hotspot, shops, duty free, money exchange and telecom services.

Santo Airport welcomes all types of aircraft up to the Boeing 737-300 and can receive all series of Boeing 737-800 and other military aircrafts on load restrictions. It operates domestic flights and direct international flight to Brisbane.

Tanna Airport welcomes all types of aircraft up to the ATR 42 series and can receive all series of ATR 72 and other military aircrafts on load restrictions.





## Did You Know

### Happy 75th Birthday, ICAO!

#Didyouknow how Montréal was selected as the permanent seat of **ICAO**?

In 1944, the “Convention on International Civil Aviation”, more commonly known as “Chicago Convention”, was drafted by 54 nations to create ICAO as the global forum where countries come together to build the basis for the modern civil aviation network. This landmark agreement laid the foundation for a peaceful, safe and orderly global air navigation.

Two years later, Montréal, Canada was selected as the permanent headquarters of the Organization following the first Provisional ICAO Interim Assembly in this Canadian city. The delegates to this Assembly recognized Montréal as a strategic centre with formidable economic, scientific, technical and aeronautical expansion potential, with excellent hospitality by the local federal, provincial and municipal authorities. In particular, one delegate noted that the vast space in the Canadian territory would offer unlimited possibilities for research and development in the field of aviation.

After seventy-five years of evolution, 193 countries from every corner of the world

agreed on a consensus-basis to be ICAO Member States to form this global air transport network. Today, the air transport sector supports 65.5 million jobs and USD2.7 trillion economic activity globally. Over 10 million people are now working in this gigantic industry to ensure the 120,000 flights and 12 million passengers per day are commuting safely to their destinations.

On this special occasion of ICAO’s 75th anniversary, please join us in celebrating this important milestone by sharing your favourite flying or travel memories with us and tagging **#ICAO75** and **#ACIAPAC** on your favourite social media channels!



# ICAO



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## REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

### ACI 12th Annual Airport Economics & Finance Conference & Exhibition

Exploring best practices in airport investment, financial management and economic sustainability, this year's conference will take place in **Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia** from **24 - 26 March**.

[Register Now!](#)



KANSAI 2020

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### 15th ACI ASIA-PACIFIC REGIONAL ASSEMBLY, CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION NARA, JAPAN 21-23 APRIL 2020

### 15<sup>th</sup> ACI Asia-Pacific Regional Assembly, Conference & Exhibition

Our annual flagship event will take place in **Nara, Japan** from **21 - 23 April** to bring all aviation leaders, regulators and industry partners together in sharing the latest industry insights and promoting airport excellence.

[Register Now!](#)



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