

Report on the Information Handbook (IHB) – 2026

Presented by JF Lepage, Deputy President

SUMMARY

Article I, paragraph 3, Objects, of the IFATCA Constitution specifies that the Federation shall "collect and distribute information on professional problems and developments". To this end, the IFATCA Information Handbook (IHB) was created and contains the most up-to-date information provided to the Federation on all aspects relating to environmental and human factors in ATC.

The IFATCA Technical and Professional Manual (TPM) contains policy on the collection and dissemination of information required by the IHB (Section INFO *refers*). This working paper will present an overview of the status of the IHB for the year 2025-26, an overview of the changes since the last in-person Conference in 2025, and an updated version of the Purple Book.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. Since the last in-person Conference in 2025, 9 associations sent an updated version of their information to be included in the IHB, compared to 44 last year. The number might appear low, but as the next pages will show, we remain fairly up to date in terms of data recency. There are still a small number of MAs for which the Federation doesn't have any information or has not received an update in more than 20 years.

2. DISCUSSION

- 2.1. Even today, with the profusion of information available online, there is no equivalent to the IHB produced by IFATCA. Indeed, no document offers the same level of granularity when it comes to air traffic controllers' work conditions and environment, all condensed in one document. The IHB is an invaluable tool for IFATCA members, and the Federation urges its Member Associations to provide updates on a regular basis to guarantee the information remains as current as possible. With the new Purple Book launched last year, 88 metrics are now analysed and made available to MAs who wish to benchmark what is being done at the global level.

2.2. The following table presents the status of the last update to the IHB received by the Federation as of February 2026. Information that is ten years old or less (2016-2026) is considered “current”, information between 10 and 20 years old (2006-2016) is considered “old” and information dating more than 20 years (<2005) shall be considered “obsolete”.

Total (122)	Status	Member Associations
AFM (43)	Current (31)	Algeria, Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Comoros, Congo DRC, Côte D’Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gambia, Kenya, Lebanon, Malawi, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, São Tomé, Senegal, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.
	Old (2)	Ghana, Madagascar.
	Obsolete (10)	Angola, Benin, Cabo Verde, Congo Brazzaville, Gabon, Guinea Bissau, Jordan, Mali, Namibia, Rwanda.
AMA (20)	Current (19)	Argentina, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Canada, Chile, Curaçao, Dominican Republic, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad & Tobago, United States, Uruguay.
	Old (0)	
	Obsolete (1)	Bermuda.
ASP (18)	Current (18)	Australia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, India, Iran, Japan, Kazakhstan, Republic of Korea, Macau, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan ROC.
	Old (0)	
	Obsolete (0)	
EUR (41)	Current (31)	Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, EGATS, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kosovo, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom.
	Old (10)	Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Hungary, Latvia, Montenegro, Serbia, Spain, Türkiye, Ukraine.
	Obsolete (0)	

2.3. In order for IFATCA to maintain the most up-to-date database possible, Member Associations are urged to submit the most up-to-date version of their information, as required by the IHB, as soon as possible. The electronic form can be accessed following [this link](#); The forms can also be found on the IFATCA website, under the “[Online IHB](#)” and the “[Documents and Manuals](#)” sections of IFATCA-NET.

2.4. Below is a table depicting the latest statistics regarding the IHB. In each cell, the first line represents the number of MAs, the second line represents the percentage in the region, and finally the last line is the variation when compared to 2025.

Regions	0-10 yrs.	10-20 yrs.	20+ yrs.	TOTAL
AFM	31 (72%) -1	2 (5%)	10 (23%)	43 (35%)
AMA	19 (95%) +1	0 (0%) -1	1 (5%) -1	20 (16%)
ASP	18 (100%) +1	0 (0%) -1	0 (0%)	18 (15%)
EUR	31 (76%) +2	10 (24%) -3	0 (0%) -1	41 (34%)
TOTAL	99 (81%) +3	12 (10%) -5	11 (9%) -2	122 (100%)

2.5. The IHB still lacks information on active MAs that should be in the document already (8). The following table indicates which MAs are missing. To note that nothing requires deletion this year (tbc):

Regions	To be added
AFM	Burkina Faso, ROBATCA, Morocco, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Tunisia (6).
AMA	Grenada (1).
ASP	Maldives (1).

2.6. With the new questionnaire launched in 2024, the IHB offers completely new data and presents novel, unparalleled information. The ability to derive metrics from the different (old and new) KPIs measured by the IHB is something unprecedented for IFATCA. Previously, the IHB offered a very exhaustive database, but presented only raw data to the reader. Furthermore, the IHB was only available in PDF format. The IHB is now available in its traditional PDF format, but also online. It is foreseen that with the new website, the PDF version will be discontinued and the IHB will go fully electronic.

3. CONCLUSION

- 3.1. As shown in 2.4, compared to last year, the number of MAs having recent (less than ten years old) information has increased by 3. Conversely, information ten and twenty or more years old decreased by 5 and 2 respectively. Once again, this year, things are moving in the right direction. Thanks to our four regional EVPs, who engaged their member associations in updating their information.
- 3.2. The new and improved IHB questionnaire, which led to the creation of the Purple Book, offers stunning, unparalleled possibilities in terms of trend analysis, at the regional and global levels, for a large number of KPIs. This undoubtedly offers new ways of exploiting this rich mine of information, to the benefit of IFATCA's member associations.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1. It is recommended that this working paper is accepted as information.
- 4.2. It is recommended that the Directors note the updated version of the Purple Book, which will be made available on the website shortly after this Conference.

5. REFERENCES

- 5.1. International Federation of Air Traffic Controllers' Associations. (2024). *Information Handbook (IHB)* (May 2024 Ed.) Montréal, Canada: IFATCA.

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