



**INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF
AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS' ASSOCIATIONS**

64th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

28 April – 02 May 2025, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Agenda Item: A.15.1

INFORMATION PAPER

**LWP No: 61
IFATCA'25**

Nomination for IFATCA Award of Merit
Presented by Switzerland

1. Introduction

The Swiss Air Traffic Controllers Association HelvetiCA wishes to nominate Mr. Akos Van Der Plaat (the Netherlands) for an IFATCA Award of Merit for his outstanding service to the Federation.

2. Discussion

It has been more than 20 years since Mr. Akos Van Der Plaat first started his work for the Federation. He has always been very active and dedicated throughout these years, most notably during his long tenure as elected member of TOC and chair of committee B.

Mr. Akos Van Der Plaat represented the Dutch MA, VNLG, in SC1 (now known as TOC) in 2001 and 2002. He was subsequently elected to chair TOC in 2003 at conference in Buenos Aires (Argentina) and continued to serve in this role until he stepped down in Dubrovnik (Croatia) in 2009.

Without missing a beat, he started chairing committee B in 2009 and held this position for 5 years, until conference in Bali (Indonesia) in 2013. In 2014 and 2015, he went on to represent VNLG on CAC. After a hiatus he returned, once more, as chair of committee B in 2018, in Accra (Ghana).

In recent years, Mr. Akos Van Der Plaat has taken a step back from the main tables. However, he keeps representing VNLG as a Deputy Director in committee B where his contributions to the discussions remain highly relevant and valuable. It's quite the CV, as we would say in French: *Impréssionnant et chapeau!*

Mr. Akos Van Der Plaat fulfilled all these roles with a great sense of dedication, a clear-eyed vision of what needed to be done all the while maintaining an analytical and strategic overall view. Driven by curiosity, passion and attention to detail, his contributions to IFATCA are proving to be lasting and of immense quality. As can be attested by the new Orange Book, who's content is the result of Mr. Akos Van Der Plaat's initiative.

To recognize Mr. Akos Van Der Plaat invaluable work and dedication to the Federation,

the Swiss Air Traffic Controllers Association HelvetiCA believes that he deserves to be awarded the Award of Merit.

3. Recommendation

In recognition of his long-standing dedication and work for Federation for so many years, the Swiss Air Traffic Controllers Association HelvetiCA hereby proposes to award Mr. Akos Van Der Plaat with the Award of Merit.

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