

**Report of the Professional and Legal Committee (PLC) Chair**

Presented by Adam Exley

**SUMMARY**

Report on the activities of the Professional and Legal Committee.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1. The following is a review of the activities and membership of the IFATCA professional and Legal Committee for the years 2023 – 2024.

**2. MEMBERSHIP**

- 2.1. The following member associations (Mas) were elected to the IFATCA professional and Legal committee (PLC) in 2023 at the IFATCA Annual Conference in Jamaica: Italy, Netherlands, Israel, Romania, Japan, Australia, Kenya, Slovenia, Greece, USA, Jamaica and Bulgaria.
- 2.2. Several Mas also supported the PLC by funding attendance of Corresponding Members at our meetings. These comprised: EGATS, Poland, Dominican Republic and Belgium.
- 2.3. We had multiple topics that spanned the technical and the professional side and as such we work a lot with the TOC to produce joint papers for this years conference.

**3. MEETINGS**

- 3.1. The PLC conducted the following meetings during 2023 and 2024:
- Melbourne, Australia – 3 – 5 Oct 2023;
  - Sofia, Bulgaria – 17 – 19 Jan 2024.
- 3.2. We also arranged monthly online meetings to discuss the working papers utilising Google Meet functionality.
- 3.3. I would like to express our gratitude to the Member Associations and Industry partners for hosting the Standing Committee meetings. The generous support and

assistance greatly assist the work of IFATCA and we could not do this work without you.

- Airservices Australia;
- Thales;
- The Bulgarian Air Traffic Controllers' Association (BULATCA) and
- Bulgarian Air Traffic Services Authority (BULATSA)

#### **4. COMPLETED PAPERS TO BE PRESENTED AT CONFERENCE IN 2024**

- 4.1. The following topics will be presented at the annual conference in Singapore:
- Review of the IFATCA Training (TRNG) Policy
  - Deactivation of Safety Nets
  - Review of the Work & Rest Scheme (WC 10.3.2)
  - Definition of an Air Traffic Controller
  - Confusion of Leased Aircraft Markings and Callsigns
  - Review of the IFATCA Unsafe Airspace/Aerodrome Policy (LM 7.5)
  - Study into interactions between Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems and ATC\*
  - Study into System Based ATC Licensing\*
  - VFR Traffic Workload and Capacity Study\*\*
  - Review of the IFATCA Automation Policies\*

*\* Indicates joint study with TOC*

*\*\* Began as a combined paper with the production of two separate papers*

#### **5. DISCUSSION**

- 5.1. This will be the culmination of my first year as PLC chair and I am grateful for being given the opportunity. I have been a member of PLC for a long time however the majority of that time was during the COVID-19 pandemic and so I saw only a glimpse of the work required to be a Standing Committee Chair.
- 5.2. While the workload can be high at times, I have found the work fulfilling and insightful. I would like to thank each and every member of PLC for all the hard work and dedication in producing and assisting the team throughout the year. I would also like to thank Eugenio Diotalevi, Jean-Francois LePage and Peter Van Rooyen for all the support and assistance through this year.
- 5.3. One other person I would like to thank is David Perks, the outgoing Chair. David agreed to work with PLC for one extra year as a special advisor to myself. David was immensely helpful and always willing to provide guidance and support when it was needed. Thank you, David.
- 5.4. We introduced an 'online' Job Card system at conference 2023 in Jamaica which worked well at conference. The idea was to allow members to send Job Cards into the Standing Committees leading up to conferences in the future but the uptake has not been as high as expected.

- 5.5. I would like to reiterate that I could not have done this without the hard work and knowledge of all the members of the PLC. Their dedication, knowledge and attention to detail is incredible and I am sure you will agree when you read the Working Papers and listen to the reports at Conference.
- 5.6. The work of both Committees contributes a great deal to the agenda of Conference and the output of IFATCA as a whole. Without the inquisitive nature of these committees, IFATCA would have nothing to stand for, or stand by. That is why it is important that these Committees continue to pursue the best ideals for ATC and for everybody to be involved.
- 5.7. I would like to thank all the MAs that support the PLC and TOC through the nomination of members. They provide financial support for Members to attend the meetings through airfares and time away from duty.
- 5.8. Also, each and every member on PLC and TOC, whether elected or corresponding sacrifices their own time to assist with the creating of working papers, travel around the world, spending their own time at meetings to engage in thought provoking discussion. This is something that should be commended. Time away from friends or family to dedicate their time to pushing IFATCA forward is something that makes me really proud to be a Standing Committee Chair. We must be doing something right.

## **6. CONCLUSIONS**

- 6.1. The PLC has successfully completed the working programme for 2023 – 2024 and we are looking forward to commencing the next years working programme.
- 6.2. Please don't forget to send in your job cards with areas of work you would like to see focused on over the next year using our 'online' Job Card.
- 6.3. One last thing. Get involved. Please come and find me, or any member of PLC and we can explain what it is like to be involved with the PLC family, and work to make a difference for the future.

## **7. DRAFT RECOMMENDATION**

- 7.1. This paper be accepted as information.

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