

## Press Release

25 January 2019

### ERA hosts 2019 global Heads of Airline Associations day

- ERA (European Regions Airline Association) has hosted heads of airline associations from across the globe this week in an effort to share industry knowledge and best practice.
- Key industry issues were explored to promote a healthy, safe and growing aviation market.

At a meeting hosted by ERA at Eurocontrol Headquarters in Brussels, airline associations from all over the globe met to exchange information and discuss key issues affecting the aviation industry.

With only two months ahead of the UK leaving the EU, the event began with a discussion on Brexit, led by ERA and Airlines for America (A4A). Developments have continued to be slow, without full clarity of policy for the aviation industry and with a growing likelihood of a ‘no-deal’ outcome, which could have disastrous consequences. The objective of the session was therefore to highlight the implications of a hard Brexit versus a comprehensive aviation agreement and a transition period with regards to UK exclusion from EASA, and certifications. The session also provided an update on US–UK Aviation Agreement and discussed how the US envisages UK–EU aviation relations to operate post Brexit.

Another session addressed industry skills shortage, aimed to collaborate on how we can jointly propose actions to attract, recruit and retain more pilots and technicians and how to encourage more women into the industry. Participants also discussed the differences amongst the international regimes in terms of consumer protection rules, safety and security regulatory oversight, CORSIA and infrastructure.

ERA Director General, Montserrat Barriga, said: “This event was an important step towards further growing the close relationship between ERA and other key airline associations for the great benefit of the airline industry. This highly-productive meeting has reaffirmed the importance of working closely with our partners and contributes to the valuable strategic work by all associations in representing the global aviation community.”

In addition, attendees heard from industry guest speakers Eamonn Brennan, Director General, Eurocontrol and Henrik Hololei, Director General, DG MOVE, European Commission.

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The associations included: European Regions Airlines Association (ERA), African Airlines Association (AFRAA), Airlines Association of Southern Africa (AASA), Airlines for America (A4A), Airlines for Europe (A4E), Airlines International Representation in Europe (AIRE), Association of Asia Pacific Airlines (AAPA), International Air Transport (IATA), Latin America and Caribbean Air Transport Association (ALTA) and Regional Airline Association (RAA) Input was also provided from Arab Air Carriers’ Organisation (AACO) and Airlines for Austria and New Zealand (A4ANZ).

\* Founded in 1980, ERA is a non-profit trade association representing 49 airlines and 145 companies involved in European air transport and is the only association representing the entire spectrum of companies involved in European aviation. The association promotes the interests of European airlines by lobbying the European Commission and other European regulatory bodies on policy matters, promoting the social and economic importance of air transport and its environmental commitments.

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