



# Bi-weekly Newsletter



10 March 2020



**Director General Meets with  
Middle East Members**



# Regional Office Updates

## Director General Meets with Middle East Members

Over the course of February, Director General of ACI Asia-Pacific Stefano Baronci toured a few Middle East countries, to visit with airport members and familiarize himself with the region, its innovations and challenges.

Mr. Baronci met with senior representatives of the Airport International Group, Bahrain Airport Company, Dubai Airports, General Authority of Civil Aviation in Saudi Arabia and Oman Airports Management Company. The meetings

focused on aligning efforts between member's strategies and ACI Asia-Pacific activities and closer cooperation to ensure the ICAO MID Region Air Transport Strategic Plan accounts for the efforts of airports to sustainably boost the sector's social and economic growth.

Here is a photo impression of his visit.



*Following meetings with Mr. Sulieman Albassam, Executive Vice President of Operations and Acting Vice President of Airports of the General Authority of Civil Aviation in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, Mr. Baronci toured the King Abdul Aziz International Airport.*



*Newly-appointed CEO Nicholas Claude of the Airport International Group and former CEO and 2nd Vice President of ACI Asia-Pacific Board member Kjeld Binger hosted Mr. Baronci for meetings and a tour of Queen Alia International Airport in Amman, Jordan.*



*Meeting with Sheikh Aimen bin Ahmed Al Hosni, CEO of Oman Airports and Secretary Treasurer of ACI Asia-Pacific Board.*

# Airport Revenue Under Pressure Following Moderate Growth in 2019 and COVID-19 Challenges

Asia-Pacific and Middle East airport revenues are under tremendous pressure two months into 2020 amidst the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak, despite moderate growth in 2019, ACI Asia-Pacific said in a press release.

Preliminary January 2020 airport traffic results reveal divergent performance among major aviation hubs in the region with some airports generating positive growth leading up to the Lunar New Year. However, with the outbreak of COVID-19 occurring in late January, contraction is anticipated.

A severe drop in passenger traffic is expected as many countries have imposed travel bans and direct flight cancellations in response to the outbreak, substantially decreasing air connectivity. Scheduled capacity within Asia-Pacific has dropped drastically, in excess of -15% [1], in February. According to the China Ministry of Transportation, the Chinese civil aviation sector handled 38.4 million passengers [2] during the 40-day Lunar New Year travel period [3], representing a decline of 47.5% from the same 40-day period in the previous year.

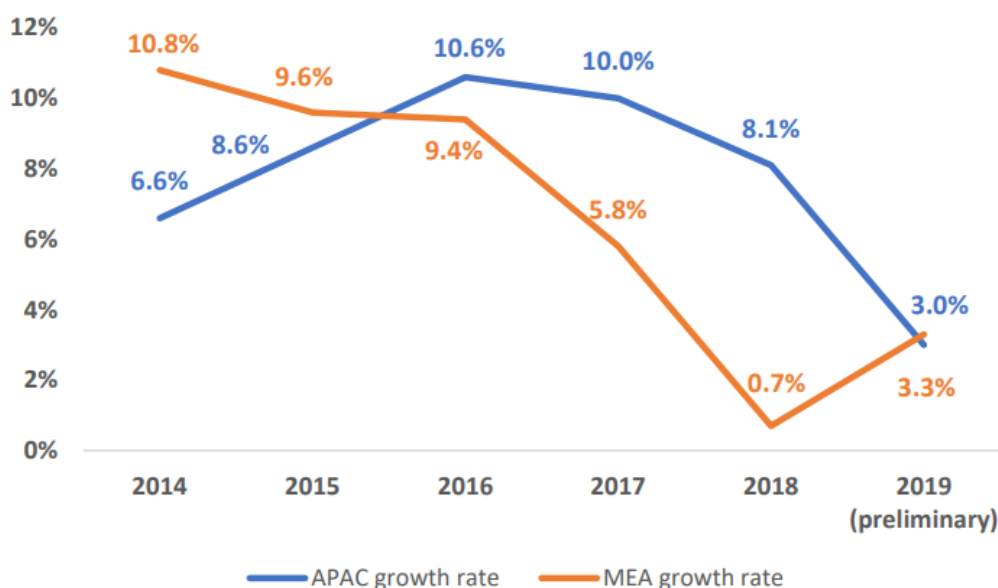
“The impact of the travel bans and restrictions in response to the outbreak is having a drastic impact on scheduled capacity. It is concerning that China, which contributed close to 60% of the 2019 traffic increase, will no longer be able to

fuel growth in this first part of 2020,” said Stefano Baronci, Director General of ACI Asia-Pacific. “Airport revenue generation and growth are directly linked to traffic levels. We can therefore expect declines of significant proportion for airports in affected markets in the first quarter. However, the ripple effect will be felt across many airports beyond our region.”

“Many of the hub airports in the Asia-Pacific region are heavily reliant on non-aeronautical revenues, sometimes referred to as commercial revenues. On average, Asia-Pacific airports derive as much as 45% of their revenues from non-aeronautical sources. For some hub airports in the region, non-aeronautical revenues are the principal revenue source.

[1] OAG schedules data as at 20 Feb 2020, considering Scheduled Seats and Scheduled Frequency  
 [2] China Ministry of Transport (Chinese only)  
 [3] Lunar New Year 40-day travel period (2019 vs 2020): 2019 -- Jan 21 to Mar 1; 2020 --- Jan 10 to Feb 18

**Asia-Pacific and the Middle East Passenger Growth Rate (2014-2019)**



# Assembly, Conference and Exhibition Postponed



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

Postponed

Last week, it was announced that the **15th ACI Asia-Pacific Regional Assembly, Conference & Exhibition**, scheduled for 21-23 April 2020 in Nara, Japan, has been postponed. The Regional Office will announce the new dates for the event shortly; the new dates will likely be after Summer of this year.

ACI Asia-Pacific, together with the host Kansai Airports, have been closely monitoring the COVID-19 outbreak as it has unfolded noting that growing public concern and the severity of circumstances surrounding the outbreak have not eased off.

As the health and well-being of all participants and workers of the event is the foremost priority, ACI Asia-Pacific, together with Kansai Airports, made the difficult decision to postpone the event. Postponing the event will also enable airport members and partners to focus on the priorities at hand as a result of this outbreak.

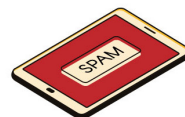
The Regional Office expressed its appreciation for attendees understanding and patience as it works towards the announcement of the new dates for the event.

Questions regarding registration and other arrangements can be addressed to the ACI Asia-Pacific Events Team at [events@aci-asiapac.aero](mailto:events@aci-asiapac.aero).

## Spam Alert

The Regional Office has been alerted that some members and industry partners are receiving phishing emails with malicious intent in the name of individual Regional Office team members. There have also been instances in the past of phishing emails imitating the Regional Office's Events email account.

The Regional Office is encouraging members to be alert, make sure not to click on any links or attachments and report malicious messages as junk. If in doubt, please **contact the Regional Office**.



Caution





# ATM and Airports Join Forces to Reduce Aviation Noise and Emissions



**TRANSFORMING**  
GLOBAL ATM PERFORMANCE

The Civil Air Navigation Services Organisation (CANSO) and ACI World have partnered to launch new guidance material for reducing aviation noise and emissions. CANSO and ACI, in collaboration with aviation industry partners, have worked to identify opportunities to enhance operational efficiency and capacity while maintaining the highest level of safety.

**New guidance material** developed by CANSO's Performance Based Navigation Workgroup and international contributors from ACI brings together extensive expertise and experience from across the industry and explores the role of operational improvements like performance-based navigation in reducing aircraft noise and emissions.

Performance Based Navigation (PBN) is a concept that enhances aircraft routing and procedures using an advanced, satellite-enabled form of air navigation to enable aircraft to fly a precise vertical and lateral flight path.

This offers a number of operational benefits including enhanced safety, increased efficiency and reduced cost. The CANSO/ACI best practice also demonstrates how it can contribute to the reduction of aircraft emissions and concentration of aircraft noise, making it vital for managing aviation's potential impact on communities.

The new CANSO/ACI guidance material, Use of Performance Based Navigation (PBN) For Noise Management, provides the aviation industry and States with insight into how PBN can boost

the sustainability of aviation, strategies for implementation and recent case studies on it being used as an effective noise mitigation technique. The guidance is also applicable to non-PBN influenced flight path changes and highlights the important role of stakeholder consultation and collaboration in improving aviation.

Read the full [press release](#).

# Investment in Infrastructure and Customer Experience Vital for Airport Industry

ACI World emphasized the need for infrastructure financing, revenue generation and customer experience excellence in sustaining a vibrant airport industry.

Moderating the Director's Panel at the 2020 Airport Experience Conference in Denver, Colorado, ACI World Director General Angela Gittens highlighted the infrastructure and financing challenges that airports in the US face as well as their possible solutions.

"A key consideration is whether value is created for passengers and airlines relative to overall airport costs," she said. "With growth in traffic, increasing globalization and heightened competition for tomorrow's travelers, catering to the needs of our passengers will be pivotal to airports' success."

ACI's Airports Service Quality suite of solutions provides airports with a 360-degree view of customer experience management. ACI helps close to 400 airports worldwide to manage and deliver the best experience for their customers.

"The bottom line is that aviation plays a vital role in the economic and social well-being of

communities, providing jobs, contributing to GDPs and providing health and humanitarian aid, educational opportunities and improving overall quality of life," Ms. Gittens said.

Read the full [press release](#).





## Industry Updates

### ICAO Calls for Innovative Solutions for Drone Airspace Management

Drone deliveries, drone inspections and even flying taxis are now near-term realities for societies all over the world. As the development of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) and UAS traffic management (UTM) continues to advance, governments and operators need to focus on how the next evolution of aircraft, both manned and unmanned, can safely integrate into finite airspace.

Recognizing that an agreed global approach will greatly assist businesses and others in launching their UAS services without negatively impacting the safety of manned aviation operations, or the safety of persons and property on the ground,



ICAO will be exploring these issues in depth at its fourth annual DRONE ENABLE event taking place this 9-11 September in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

For more information, please read [here](#).

### Salvatore Sciacchitano Inaugurates 219th Session of the ICAO Council as its New President

Mr. Salvatore Sciacchitano opened the 219th ICAO Council session on 2 March, his first as the new President of the UN aviation agency's Governing Body.

He expressed his gratitude for the support and trust that States had placed in him as Council President, and stressed his full commitment "to honoring this trust by ensuring that ICAO leadership effectively supports the safe, secure and sustainable development of international civil aviation, in a spirit of cooperation and consensus-building among all stakeholders."

The Council will be sitting through 20 March in order to review an ambitious agenda, a major highlight of which will be its discussions and expected agreement on the eligible emission units to be included under the ICAO CORSIA offsetting framework for international flights. In addition to extensive topics regarding its oversight of the work programme and budgeting of the ICAO Secretariat, as assigned to ICAO by its Triennial Assembly, the Council will also be



making use of its 219th sitting to review response measures taken by the aviation industry to deal with public health emergencies of international concern, and an update on ICAO coordination activities related to COVID-19 and its economic impact on civil aviation.

Sixteen amendments to existing standards to improve the safety, capacity and efficiency, and environmental performance of civil aviation will also be reviewed, as well as several developments relating to the actions to be undertaken in the aftermath of the accident involving Ukraine International Airlines flight 752 on 8 January of this year.

## Full Year 2019 Preliminary Results

# 2019

### ACI Asia-Pacific Annual Traffic Report

Preliminary year-on-year traffic growth rates for Airports reporting highest traffic volume in the respective size category in 2019<sup>(1)</sup>

Note :

<sup>(1)</sup> ACI preliminary passenger and air 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 80% of total air freight traffic in Asia-Pacific and the Middle East. Commentary, tables and charts are based on preliminary data submitted by participating airports and are therefore subject to change.

<sup>(2)</sup> Size categories refer to the annual passenger traffic (in the last 12 months).

### TOP 3 AIRPORTS BY SIZE CATEGORY <sup>(2)</sup>

#### PASSENGER

> 40M	25M - 40M	15M - 25M	5M - 15M	< 5M
<b>PEK</b> -1.0% Beijing	<b>DOH</b> +12.4% Doha	<b>FUK</b> +0.1% Fukuoka	<b>KHN</b> +0.8% Nanchang	<b>CNS</b> -4.4% Cairns
<b>DXB</b> -3.1% Dubai	<b>MEL</b> +0.5% Melbourne	<b>CTS</b> +5.5% Sapporo-Chitose	<b>SHJ</b> +13.0% Sharjah	<b>TAE</b> +15.1% Daegu
<b>HND</b> -1.7% Tokyo Haneda	<b>BLR</b> +4.1% Bangalore	<b>MAA</b> +1.5% Chennai	<b>CEB</b> +10.9% Mactan-Cebu	<b>TAS</b> +22.7% Tashkent

Full-year 2019 passenger traffic in the Middle East grew by +3.3%, an improvement of +0.7% over 2018. Asia-Pacific traffic grew by +3.0%, less than half the region's +8.1% growth in 2018. December 2019 figures showed a +4.6% in the Middle East and +6% passenger traffic growth in Asia-Pacific.

"Both Asia-Pacific and the Middle East have experienced significant growth over the past five years. The 2019 traffic results indicate a contraction in terms of growth and confirm the concerns related to the negative impact of the trade war boosted by short-term commercial measures that frustrated the economic and social progress of the region," said Stefano Baronci, Director General, ACI Asia-Pacific.





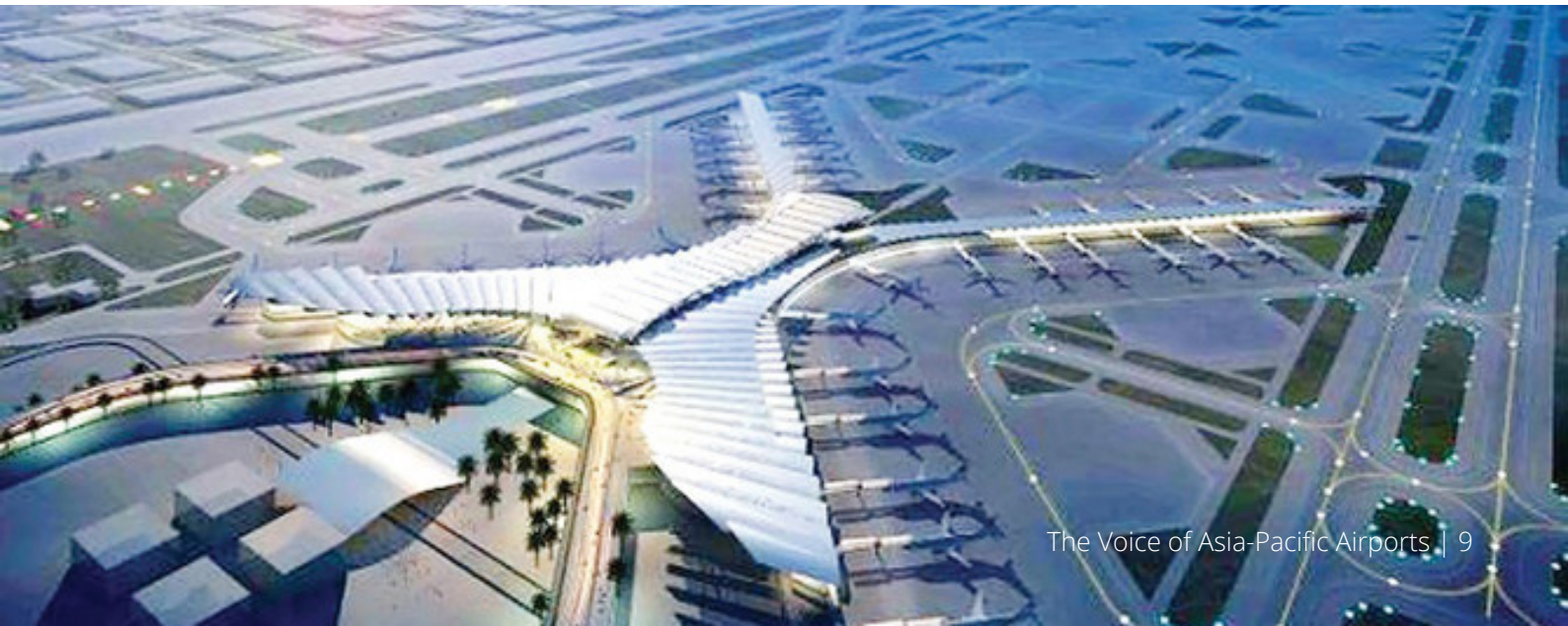
## Members at a Glance

# General Authority of Civil Aviation of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

The **General Authority of Civil Aviation (GACA)** of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia oversees economic and safety regulation, air navigation services and the operations of Saudi Arabia's 27 airports, comprising 13 international and 14 domestic airports, which served a collective passenger throughput of 99.8 million since 2018.

Over the years, the Kingdom achieved unprecedented growth and made qualitative leaps in civil aviation. This growth has helped drive development at airports across Saudi Arabia, covering major developments in passenger transportation, air cargo, airport construction and equipment, air navigation and control.

The new King Abdul Aziz International Airport consists of four passenger terminals: the new Terminal 1, which can accommodate 30 million passengers annually in its first phase, and the southern terminal and the northern terminal. It is also home to the world's fourth largest terminal in the world, the Hajj terminal, a staggering 510,000 square meters in size. King Abdul Aziz International Airport is considered the most important airport in the Kingdom, as it is the gateway for Hajj and Umrah pilgrims to the Holy Mosque in Mecca, Saudi Arabia.





## Did You Know

# #Didyouknow Brisbane Airport is building a runway and community relations at the same time?

**Brisbane Airport Corporation (BAC)** has revealed its second parallel runway. The largest aviation construction project in Australian history will commence operations on Sunday 12 July.

The new runway has taken eight years of physical construction. It includes a new 3.3km long runway, over 12km of taxiways, inclusive of navigational aids, airfield infrastructure and hundreds of hectares of airfield landscape.

Gert-Jan de Graaff, CEO of BAC said “the new runway is so much more than asphalt; it is an enabler for growth across all facets, with an estimated 7,800 new jobs created by 2035 and an additional five billion in annual economic benefit to the region.”

BAC is highly conscious of the Brisbane local community and the potential impacts of more flights overhead and new flight paths. In addition to proactive engagement with the community to open conversations of the new flight paths, a

dedicated **Flight Path Tool** has been developed to allow everyone residing in Brisbane to search any address to find out specific information in relation to aircraft volume forecasts and the expected noise footprint.

To further strengthen community engagement, before the runway becomes operational, the airport is going to host special events for community members on the runway site.

**Watch** the Brisbane’s New Runway overview.

The screenshot shows the 'BRISBANE'S NEW RUNWAY' website interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs: 'FLIGHT PATHS', 'KNOWLEDGE CENTRE', 'NEW RUNWAY', 'BNE WEBSITE', and 'CONTACT'. Below the navigation is a search bar with the placeholder text 'Type your address to begin'. The main content area is a map of Brisbane showing flight paths. The map includes a legend for 'Flight paths' with 'Departure flight paths' in green and 'Arrival flight paths' in blue. The map also shows 'NEW RUNWAY' and 'EXISTING RUNWAY' labels. The left sidebar contains several filter sections: 'Flight path and noise data' with 'SHOW FLIGHT PATHS' and 'SHOW NOISE MAPPING' buttons; 'Runway operations' with 'CURRENT ONLY' and 'WITH NEW RUNWAY' buttons; 'Weather impacts' with 'NORTHERLY WINDS' and 'SOUTHERLY WINDS' buttons; and 'Timing' with 'BRISBANE SUMMER', 'BRISBANE WINTER', 'WEEKDAY', 'WEEKEND', 'DAY', 'EVENING', and 'OVERNIGHT' buttons. The bottom of the map shows the 'mapbox' logo and a scale bar.



# Event Invitations for You...



## 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 **22 - 24 September**.

[Register Now!](#)



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REGIONAL ASSEMBLY,  
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NARA, JAPAN 21-23 APRIL 2020**

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

The new date for the event will be announced soon.



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