

RESOLUTION 820d

OFFICE OF TRAVEL AGENCY COMMISSIONER

△ PAC(58)820d(except USA) Expiry: Indefinite
Type: B

RESOLVED that,

1. the Office of Travel Agency Commissioner, ('the Commissioner') is hereby established and shall be funded as provided below.

2. Commissioner(s) shall be appointed to conduct reviews in accordance to the provisions in [Resolution 820e](#).

△ 3. any person may submit names of candidates for vacant Commissioner positions to the Director General of IATA. Industry representatives, including the Chair/CEO of UFTAA and the Chair of WTAAA, will evaluate each candidate and make appropriate recommendations to the Director General. The Commissioner will thereafter be appointed on the joint authority of the Director General and the Chair/CEO of UFTAA and/or the Chair of WTAAA, such appointment to be for a period of not less than two years, renewable by mutual agreement. A serving Commissioner shall not leave office before a successor has been appointed.

4. Deputy and Substitute Travel Agency Commissioners may be appointed, to meet the demands of the office, in which event the appointment process shall be as for the Commissioner described above. In this Resolution, the term 'Commissioner' shall be deemed to include the Travel Agency Commissioner, Substitute Travel Agency Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioner.

5. in the discharge of their duties the Commissioners shall be impartial and shall not be subject to the direction or supervision of IATA, any Member, Accredited Agent or association of travel agents, or any of their employees or officers.

△ 6. the term of office of a Commissioner may be curtailed by the Director General the Chair/CEO of UFTAA and the Chair of WTAAA acting jointly, upon the recommendation, for cause, of the appropriate body of industry representatives.

7. the costs of the Office of the Travel Agency Commissioner shall be borne in equal proportions by Members and by Accredited Agents.

7.1 each IATA Accredited Agent shall be called upon to contribute towards the Commissioner fund in an amount determined by the Conference, such amount being not less than USD 5.00 nor more than USD 10.00, or acceptable equivalent per Approved Location, per year as a regular contribution. The total amount of contributions paid by Members collectively in a given year shall be equal to the total amount of contributions paid by IATA Accredited Agents collectively in the same year. All such contributions shall be paid into the Travel Agency Commissioner Programme Fund, held by the Agency Administrator and expended in accordance with the

present Resolution. Such regular contribution shall not be deemed to include any payment of fee or monetary penalty decided by the Commissioner in the execution of his mandate. The purpose of the Fund is to cover the cost of running the Travel Agency Commissioners' office, however the Fund may be used to reimburse the travel expenses incurred by PAPGJC Travel Agency representatives attending PAPGJC meetings as determined in [Resolution 860a](#).

△ **7.2** Any travel required in the pursuit of Commissioner duties is pre-authorised by the Agency Administrator, the Chair of the WTAAA, the Secretary General of ECTAA and the Secretary General of UFTAA. Every effort shall be made by the Commissioner to use telecommunications to conduct review proceedings.

7.3 The Commissioner may be requested to perform an exceptional review of a matter outside of the parameters of jurisdiction set forth in Resolution 820e Sections [1.4](#) and [1.6](#). Such an exceptional review shall be on the agreement of the parties involved and the consent of the Commissioner. In accordance with Resolution 820e Section 3.4.2, expenses that arise from such review must be borne by the parties involved in the dispute by each contributing USD 500 to the Travel Agency Commissioner Programme fund.

△ **7.4** The Conference, the PAPGJC, the UFTAA Chair and the Chair of WTAAA shall each receive the annual written statement of accounts.

8. each Commissioner shall conduct reviews in accordance with [Resolution 820e](#) which provides for the Conduct of Review by Travel Agency Commissioner.

△ **9.** a Commissioner may be assigned in writing by the joint appointing authorities such further duties and functions as may be agreed between them, with a view to ensuring continuing openness, information flow and clarity in the ongoing relationship between IATA and the global community of IATA Accredited Agents. Reasonable expenses incurred in pursuing these goals may be defrayed from the Travel Agency Commissioner Programme Fund, subject to prior approval in writing of the Director General the Chair/CEO of UFTAA and the Chair of WTAAA.

10. the Commissioner(s) shall be called upon to provide a consolidated written report of all Commissioner activities to the Passenger Agency Conference and to the Passenger Agency Programme Global Joint Council.

11. The Commissioner(s) shall maintain an information website, funding for which will be provided from the established budget.

12. applicants for the role of Commissioner shall be assessed based on the job description and profile requirements listed in [Attachment 'A'](#) to this resolution.

13. each Commissioner shall be furnished in a timely manner with all the publications provided by the Agency Administrator to Accredited Agents situated in the area of the Commissioner's jurisdiction.

14. In order to preserve the integrity of the Commissioners and to safeguard the independence of each one of them in exercising their office IATA, the Members and the Accredited Agents recognize that each Commissioner shall have no liability whatsoever, whether for any action taken or omitted, in good faith in the performance of their functions under the IATA Agency Programme. The Commissioners shall be indemnified against liability (including liability for legal costs) and shall be held harmless from any and all claims which should arise in connection therewith for any action taken or omitted in good faith in the performance of their functions under the IATA Agency Programme, exclusive of acts or omissions manifestly outside of the required procedures and scope of authority of the Commissioners in [820e](#) and related Resolutions, or manifestly in contravention of the contract terms in [Resolution 824](#). Indemnification shall be funded from the Travel Agency Commissioners' Fund.

△ **15.** In order to discuss issues of mutual concern, the Commissioners shall have the ability to meet annually in locations where IATA maintains regional offices. Costs for any such annual meeting shall be pre-authorised by the Agency Administrator, the Chair of the WTAAA, the Secretary General of ECTAA and the Secretary General of UFTAA.

RESOLUTION 820d

Attachment 'A'

Travel Agency Commissioner Profile

1. The Travel Agency Commissioner is an independent arbiter appointed jointly by the International Air Transport Association (IATA), the United Federation of Travel Agency Associations (UFTAA) and the World Travel Agency Associations Alliance (WTAAA) to conduct reviews and act with respect to decisions and/or actions affecting Agents and applicants under the IATA Agency Programme.

1.1 The office of the Travel Agency Commissioner is established under the terms expressed in [Resolution 820d](#).

1.2 The procedures under which the Travel Agency Commissioner operates are contained in [IATA Resolution 820e](#).

2. IATA, UFTAA and WTAAA will assess applicants for the office of the Travel Agency Commissioner against the following profile:

The ideal candidate will meet the following criteria:

1. experience in the travel industry ideally gained from previous employment with an airline or travel agency;
2. at the time of application the applicant must not be employed or have any involvement with an airline, travel agent, agency association or IATA;
3. good knowledge of the IATA Passenger Agency Programme and the associated rules and regulations or a demonstrated ability to acquire knowledge of the Programme;
4. experience in dispute resolution and/or legal background;
5. independent contractor not associated with an airline, IATA or travel agency;
6. fluent in written and oral English with the same skills in at least one other major language;
7. ability to travel at short notice.

Travel Agency Commissioner Job Description

1. A Commissioner shall act only as described to make reviews requested under the terms of [Resolution 820e](#).
2. In the performance of his/her duties the Commissioner is not authorised to attend and/or address industry Conferences of agency associations or of IATA except as required by the terms of the relevant Passenger Sales Agency Rules.
3. In the performance of his/her duties the Commissioner is not authorised to counsel, train, coach or in any similar capacity offer guidance to individual agents, travel agencies, travel agency associations, airlines or IATA except as specifically provided under the terms of [Resolution 820d](#).

However, the Commissioner may answer punctually requests for information from individual agents, travel agencies, travel agency associations, airlines or IATA, if this request is not linked to any case of review or other dispute.

4. In the pursuit of their activities the Travel Agency Commissioner(s) shall be independent and not subject to supervision by any one party, however, the Travel Agency Commissioner(s) shall provide regular reports of activity to the Passenger Agency Programme Global Joint Council, "the Council". The Council is entitled to review the activities of the Commissioner, and is responsible for approval of the budget and monitoring of expenditure.
 5. Any travel conducted by the Travel Agency Commissioner(s) is authorized under the terms of [Resolution 820d](#).
 6. The office of the Travel Agency Commissioner(s) shall maintain records of all commissioner proceedings for a minimum of two years or as required under local law. The Travel Agency Commissioner shall ensure knowledge transfer and continuity with his/her successor. Copies of Commissioner records shall be provided by the Commissioners to the IATA Agency Administrator and to the Secretariat of WTAAA and UFTAA.
 7. The Travel Agency Commissioner(s) shall maintain an information website, funding for which will be provided from the established budget.
 8. Commissioners shall be entitled to obtain administrative support which support shall be funded from the established budget.
 9. in order to discuss issues of mutual concern, the Commissioners shall have the ability to meet annually.
-