RESOLUTION ON THE REOPENING OF INTERNATIONAL BORDERS

LAMENTING the serious public health impacts of COVID-19 and extending sympathies to those affected and their families;

REGRETTING the devastating consequences of the pandemic for travel and tourism including the loss of as many as 46 million jobs supported by air travel and a reduction of USD1.8 trillion in the economic activity supported by aviation;

EXPRESSING GRAVE CONCERN that border closures and quarantine measures have led to a 90% reduction in international air travel and threaten the huge economic and social benefits created by global air connectivity;

REINFORCING the vital role of air transport in facilitating the global response to the pandemic, including the timely distribution of medicines, testing kits, protective equipment and eventually vaccines around the world;

RESOLUTION

The 76th IATA Annual General Meeting:

- AFFIRMS the continuing commitment of member airlines to implementing globally agreed biosafety protocols to ensure that air travel is not a meaningful vector for further international spread of COVID-19 or other communicable diseases;
- ENCOURAGES governments to implement guidance developed by ICAO as the basis for a common and consistent basis for safely restoring air connectivity;
- CALLS UPON governments to put in place systematic testing of international travelers as a means to reopen international borders on a non-discriminatory basis and without quarantine restrictions; and
- CALLS UPON governments to ensure that aviation workers and international travelers are prioritized for COVID-19 vaccination once safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines become available and health care workers and vulnerable groups have been protected.