

IATA WINGS OF CHANGE AMERICAS

Santiago, Chile
8-9 April 2026

PROGRAM

Host airline



Tuesday, 7 April

10h00 – 14h00

Media Workshop

By invitation only. Deep dive on various air transport topics for regional journalists, led by IATA Subject Matter Experts.

Mandarin Oriental

13h00 – 18h00

Conference Registration

sponsored by **LATAM & Delta Air Lines**

Mandarin Oriental

13h00 – 18h00

IATA & UN Tourism Connectivity Roundtable & Bilateral Meetings

Discussion between IATA, UN Tourism, Ministers of Tourism, Transport, CAAs, Airline and Airport Executives to outline key opportunities for aviation in Latin America. Followed by private bilateral meetings.

By invitation only

Wednesday, 8 April

- 07h30 – 09h00** **Registration & Welcome Networking Coffee**
WELCOME COFFEE sponsored by **SKY**
- Masters of Ceremony:**
Barbara Briceño, Presenter, Radio El Conquistador
Enrique Perrella, Aviation Director, Business Traveler
- 09h00 – 09h45** **Opening and Welcome**
Setting the tone for the conference with insights from IATA, ICAO and the Government of Chile on regional and national aviation priorities.
Peter Cerdá, Regional Vice President, The Americas, IATA
Fabio Rabbani, Regional Director, South America, ICAO
Daniel Mas Valdés, Minister of Economy, Development & Tourism and Minister of Mining
- 09h45 – 10h15** **Keynote: Latin America on the Global Stage - Politics, Power & Possibility**
Exploring how political dynamics in Latin America shape its global influence and aviation growth.
Brian Winter, Editor-in-chief of Americas Quarterly and Vice President of Policy for Americas Society and Council of the Americas
- 10h15 – 11h00** **Ministerial Roundtable: Bridging the Americas - Unlocking Connectivity & Air Transport's Economic Contributions Beyond Capitals**
Ministers discuss strategies to enhance the region's air connectivity and economic impact, especially in underserved secondary cities.
Moderator: Mónica Zalaquett, Executive President, FEDETUR
Andrés Ehrler, Minister of Tourism, Honduras
María Luisa Hayem, Minister of Economy, El Salvador
María Paz Lagos, Undersecretary of Tourism, Chile
- 11h00 – 11h30** **NETWORKING BREAK** sponsored by **IBS Software**
- 11h30 – 12h15** **Panel: The Global State of the Airline Industry & Opportunities for Latin America**
This panel will examine global airline industry trends and explore how global policy impacts the region and how Latin America can capture new opportunities for growth, competitiveness, and connectivity.
Moderator: Gabriela Frias, Anchor, CNN,
Serge Bijimine, Assistant Deputy Minister, Transport Canada
Alex de Gunten, Senior Vice President, Government & Industry Affairs, HEICO
Thomas Reynaert, Senior Vice President, External Affairs, IATA
Heather Wingate, Senior Vice President, Government Affairs, Delta Air Lines

Wednesday, 8 April

- 12h15 – 13h00** **Panel: Air Cargo & Logistics - Unlocking Trade Potential in the Americas**
Leaders discuss how air cargo can drive regional trade, economic development, and supply chain efficiency.
Moderator: Alicia Lines, President, Cargo Network Services (CNS)
Andres Bianchi, CEO, LATAM Cargo
Diogo Elias, CEO, Avianca Cargo
Fabián López Cancino, CEO, Acosta & Aguayo – Intermodal Logistics
Peter Penseel, President, Delta Cargo
- 13h00 – 14h30** **LUNCH BREAK** sponsored by **Koin**
- 14h30 – 14h45** **Keynote: Combatting Human Trafficking in Aviation**
UNODC will share key insights on how the aviation sector can work together to prevent and combat human trafficking.
Mario Cordero Véjar, Oficial de Programas, UNODC
- 14h45 – 15h15** **Innovation Chat: Archer's Midnight - Unlocking the Next Era of Air Mobility**
Examining the potential of eVTOLs and urban air mobility via global use cases to revolutionize air transport with a fireside chat between **Gabriela Frias, Anchor, CNN** and **Nikhil Goel, Chief Commercial Officer, Archer**
- 15h15 – 15h45** **CEO 1-on-1: Charting LATAM's Future: A Fireside Chat with Roberto Alvo**
A fireside chat between **Roberto Alvo, CEO, LATAM Airlines Group** and **Gabriela Frias, Anchor, CNN**, to share insights on LATAM's vision for the region.
- 15h45 – 16h15** **NETWORKING BREAK** sponsored by **Turkish Airlines**
- 16h15 – 16h45** **CEO 1-on-1: Connecting the Continent: Abra Group's Vision for Latin America**
A fireside chat between **Adrian Neuhauser, CEO, Abra Group** and **Gabriela Frias, Anchor, CNN**, to explore how Abra Group aims to enhance connectivity and reshape air travel across Latin America.
- 16h45 – 17h30** **Panel: Airport Executive Roundtable - Powering the Next Generation of Infrastructure in the Americas**
Exploring regional priorities and global best practices to build smarter, more resilient airports.
Moderator: Sandra Gonzalez, Assistant Director, Airport Development, IATA
Nicolás Claude, CEO, Nuevo Pudahuel
Peggy Croes, Senior Vice President, Aviation Market Development, Curaçao Airport Partners
Daniel Ketchibachian, CEO, Aeropuertos Argentina
George Miley, Vice President, Latin America & Caribbean, SITA
- 18h30 – 19h30** **COCKTAIL RECEPTION** sponsored by **Aeropuertos Argentina**
- 19h30 – 22h00** **GALA NETWORKING DINNER** sponsored by **LATAM Airlines & Delta Air Lines**

Thursday, 9 April

- 07h30 – 09h00** **IATA & IAWA Women in Aviation Breakfast (*by invitation only*)**
An inspiring and intimate gathering celebrating the contributions of women in aviation, featuring discussions on leadership, mentorship, and advancing gender equity across the industry. **Sponsored by Airbus & in Collaboration with IAWA**
- 08h00 – 09h00** **WELCOME COFFEE**
- 09h00 – 09h45** **Safety Panel: Resilient Skies - Aviation Safety in a Shifting Geopolitical Landscape**
A focused conversation on the intersection of geopolitical instability and aviation safety in the Americas, examining emerging risks and their effects across the commercial aviation value chain
Moderator: Enrique Perrella, Aviation Director, Business Traveler
Alfonso Arroyo, Representative Latin America and Caribbean, EASA
David Burkholder, Acting Executive Director, Office of international Affairs, FAA
Humberto Fernández, Director General, DGAC Chile
Pamela Suarez, Strategic Safety Advisor, ALTA
- 09h45 – 10h30** **Regulatory Roundtable: Balancing Consumer Protection & Industry Viability**
A debate on how to align passenger rights with sustainable airline operations and regulatory frameworks.
Moderator: James Wiltshire, Assistant Director, External Affairs, IATA
David Dueñas, Secretary General, JAC Chile
Daniela Mauro, Director, International Affairs, Air Canada
Juan Carlos Mencio, Chief Legal Officer, LATAM
André Teives, Head of Regulatory and Industry Affairs, TAP Portugal
- 10h30 – 11h00** **CEO 1-on-1: JetSMART and the Future of Aviation in Latin America**
A fireside chat between **Estuardo Ortiz, CEO, JetSMART Airlines** and **Gabriela Frias, Anchor, CNN**, exploring JetSMART's vision for expanding access to air travel and connecting more people across the region.
- 11h00 – 11h30** **NETWORKING BREAK** sponsored by **CATA**
- 11h30 – 11h45** **The WASG Advantage - A Proven Global Approach to Airport Capacity**
This session highlights the enduring value of the WASG in optimizing scarce airport capacity across the global aviation system.
Arantza Mendicoa Guillen, Senior Manager, Worldwide Airport Slots, IATA
- 11h45 – 12h30** **Panel: Headwinds to Aviation Decarbonization in Latin America: Scaling SAF and CORSIA under Structural Constraints**
Industry experts share pathways to decarbonize aviation through SAF, CORSIA, technology, and regional collaboration.
Moderator: Pedro de La Fuente, Sustainability Lead, Americas, IATA
Juan Carlos Arredondo, Director, Abatable
Agustina Cundari, Head of Policy, IETA
Paula Dacora, Head of International Business Growth, Airbus
Juan Jose Toha, Corporate Affairs & Sustainability, LATAM Airlines Group

Thursday, 9 April

- 12h30 – 13h15** **CEO Panel: Leadership Perspectives on Transforming Air Transport in the Americas.** CEOs examine how strategy, regulation, and investment will shape the industry's future.
Moderator: Gabriela Frias, Anchor, CNN
Daniel Belaunde, CEO, Sky Airlines
Louis De Grange, Minister of Transport, Chile
Gabriel Oliva, President, Avianca Group
- 13h15 – 13h30** **Closing Remarks & Key Takeaways**
Helen Kouyoumdjian, Country Manager, Chile, IATA
- 13h30 – 14h30** **FAREWELL NETWORKING LUNCH**
- 14h30 – 17h30** **Parallel Workshops (by registration only)**
These are small, intimate workshops designed for deep dives into key topics, led by IATA's respective SMEs with a potential 15-minute sponsor presentation on the related subject. Advance registration is required during the conference registration process. You must hold a valid Wings of Change Americas registration to sign up.
Mandarin Oriental
- 1. Consumer Regulation Trends: Global Best Practices & Regional Challenges:**
Examining evolving consumer protection laws and how Latin America can align with global standards.
 - 2. Airport Capacity and Slot Management in Latin America:** An interactive session exploring how data-driven capacity declaration principles and clear and harmonized slot policies can improve coordination and address growing pressures at constrained airports across the region.
 - 3. Modern Airline Retailing: Offers & Orders**
Exploring how airlines can leverage data, digital tools, and AI to deliver smarter retail experiences.
- 16h00 – 16h30** **JOINT NETWORKING COFFEE BREAK**
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