



72ND IATA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

RESOLUTION ON THE ILLEGAL TRADE IN WILDLIFE

NOTING that the illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products threatens the survival of many endangered species and noting the importance of wildlife conservation efforts for global tourism and the airline sector;

EXPRESSING CONCERN that transnational criminal groups are exploiting the increasingly interconnected air transport system to traffic such products illegally;

ACKNOWLEDGING that, while the responsibility to apprehend and prosecute offenders rests with national enforcement authorities, airlines and airline staff have a role to play in addressing the problem;

RECOGNIZING that airlines fully support the objectives of the Convention on International Trade on Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and do not knowingly facilitate or tolerate the illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the concealed carriage of wildlife and wildlife products in the air transport system may pose a risk to health and safety;

RECOGNIZING that passengers and shippers have a duty to comply with customs and quarantine laws, and may face fines or imprisonment as a penalty;

NOTING the vital role that education and awareness programs may have in minimizing inadvertent carriage of wildlife and wildlife products and the likely contribution of such programs to a reduction in final demand; and

EMPHASISING that a coordinated approach to combatting the illegal trade in wildlife between governments and conservation groups, supported by the air transport sector, would be more effective than individual actions alone;

The 72nd IATA Annual General Meeting:

1. denounces the illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products;
2. calls on member airlines to increase passenger, customer, client, and staff awareness about the nature, scale, and consequences of the illegal wildlife trade;
3. calls on governments and their enforcement agencies to devote additional resources to eliminating this illegal trade;
4. calls on airlines, airports, freight forwarders and all other stakeholders within the air transport sector to work proactively with enforcement agencies and conservation organizations to address the problem;
5. calls on member airlines to consider the adoption of appropriate policies and procedures that discourage this illegal trade, taking into account the importance of awareness programs, information sharing and incident reporting systems; and
6. encourages member airlines to sign the United for Wildlife Transport Taskforce Buckingham Palace Declaration.