



## **JOINT DECLARATION OF THE ASIA PACIFIC AVIATION INDUSTRY**

**WE**, the Assembly of Presidents of the Association of Asia Pacific Airlines (AAPA), together with the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and Airports Council International Asia-Pacific (ACI Asia-Pacific), are deeply concerned by the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic crisis that is threatening the health, well-being, and livelihoods of people worldwide.

We have collectively implemented objective risk management measures based on medical advice, to ensure that air travel is safe and trust in air travel is restored. We are firmly committed to adopting and applying the ICAO Council Aviation Recovery Task Force (CART) guidelines.

We support the establishment of globally accepted, standardised and mutually recognised COVID-19 testing protocols which we view as a critically important additional risk mitigation layer in support of a safe and timely recovery of international air travel.

Recognising that prolonged border closures and other travel restrictions hamper the essential movement of people, we will endeavour to maintain global connectivity and smooth the flow of essential goods, supplies and services, as we have done since the beginning of the crisis.

We acknowledge that containing the spread of COVID-19 and dealing with related socio-economic challenges are priorities for governments. To this end, we urge that related emergency measures be targeted, balanced, transparent and flexible in duration. We are committed to cooperating with the relevant authorities to ease travel restrictions while reinforcing efforts to prevent the spread of the virus.

The air transport sector which accounts for 3.1% of Asia Pacific GDP and supports nearly 50 million jobs, urgently needs regional coordination mechanisms to overcome the unprecedented damage to the travel and tourism sectors, including the widespread loss of livelihoods in many communities across the region.

Recognising the importance of working collectively with all stakeholders in the international community, we express our firm resolve to partner governments as an industry, to harmonise cross-border measures that will ensure safe, smooth and sustainable air transport, as well as quicken the pace of the restart of travel and tourism.

Aware of the transformational changes that will result from the pandemic, we are committed to the sharing of information and best practices, adopting fresh perspectives and embracing innovation to navigate the new realities together.

As one united aviation community, we reaffirm our shared mission to strengthen solidarity and cooperation with governments and other stakeholders, to control and contain the spread of COVID-19, by providing a safe travel environment for our passengers and employees to revive air travel and secure its future.

Dated this 16<sup>th</sup> day of November 2020



Subhas Menon  
Director General  
AAPA



Conrad Clifford  
Regional Vice President  
IATA Asia Pacific



Stefano Baronci  
Director General  
ACI Asia-Pacific