

INTERIM REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT SAM FOR 2018

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1. GENERAL

This year of 2018, the SAM region had important discussions towards safety, human factors, fatigue risk management system, flight time limits, optimization in aviation, political and government issues. The support of the Regional Vice Presidents and their teams will be vital to introduce SAM into those important global debates.

SNA organized, last month, the IFALPA FTL/ FRMS Course, held in São Paulo, bringing to the SAM region a quite interactive and fruitful training course, with experts from Argentina, Australia, Brazil and European Union. The two-days of the course counted with Dr. Adam Fletcher, a world reference in this subject, talked about the science behind sleep and fatigue studies; the difficulties and challenges faced to understand how fatigue affects each person and potentiates the risks to the operation, and how to develop an effective management system based on the particularities of each operation. The Brazilian Fatigue Monitoring Project (‘Fadigômetro’) was also presented, as an innovative and pioneer project in the world, which aims at the development of a database of the alertness level of Brazilian civil aviation crews during their working days. Very interesting presentations were made by Cpt. Javier Martín Chico, director of ECA and SEPLA, who talked about the implementation of the FRMS in Europe; followed by Capt. Alejandro Juan López Camelo, human factors instructor for SMS/SSP, former APLA’s Safety Secretary and RVP SAM South, who spoke about the current reality of fatigue management systems and the requirements for their implementation, focused on the need for approximation (and cohesion) among Latin American pilots to have an active voice in the debate about safety. The event have stood out as a unique opportunity for the exchange of information between participants from 11 countries.

Moreover, our region have held, in Rio de Janeiro, a very important HUPER Committee Meeting. This committee is addressing essential discussions in Medical issues (Fatigue, Cabin Air Quality, Total Pilot Health), Human Factors (Pilot Monitoring, Information Management), and Licensing & Training (Competency-based Training and Assessment, Manual Handling Skills, Electronic Learning).

In the sub region SAM/South, nothing else happened since the last meeting in Luxembourg. However, in the sub region SAM/North, basically, since the declaration of the illegal strike in Colombia, 82 pilots were dismissed and foreign pilots recruited by Avianca, replacing the places of the strike pilots. Nowadays, they are facing criminal, labour and civil process, and Avianca continues its anti-union policies, discriminating and violating the right of free association.

2. MEETINGS ATTENDED

January - IFALPA Executive Board Meeting in Montreal.

March - IFALPA Executive Board Meeting in Luxembourg.
- IFALPA Annual Conference in Luxembourg.

April - IFALPA Executive Board Meeting in Montreal.

September - IFALPA PGA Committee Meeting in Chicago.

October - IFALPA FTL/FRMS Training Course in São Paulo.
- ICAO ATRP Working Group Meeting in Montreal.

*Moreover, SNA delegates were instructed to participate in the following meetings:

July/August - ALPA's 64th Air Safety Forum in Washington D.C., USA.

September - ICAO World Aviation Forum in Fortaleza, Brazil.

October - IFALPA HUPER Committee Meeting in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

3. CONCLUSION

During this year of 2018, I participated in several meetings in South America and around the world, including the Fatigue Risk Management System Course, in São Paulo, and the ICAO ATRP Working Group Meeting in Montreal. I have been working in discussion regarding open skies in Brazil, the total opening of the capital of national companies to foreign ones and other issues. For the next year, I plan to continue visiting SAM area. The purpose is still to work with all the region team in order to enhance the partnership, sharing studies and experience. It is necessary to fight so that in the region there is no setback in labour rights and that our fair guidelines continue to be discussed, even when there are powerful governments and airlines fighting against our rights and being irreducible in any labour negotiations, like happened with Avianca in Colombia last year. Moreover, we also have to work to bringing more IFALPA training courses to SAM Region, as we have done this year with this FTL/ FRMS Course.