International Air Transport Association (IATA)

Key features

Type of organisation: Private (non-profit) standard-setting organisation	**Regional offices:** Amman (Jordan), Beijing (People's Republic of China), Madrid (Spain), Miami (United States) and Singapore
Charter/Constitution: Act of Incorporation by a Special Act of the Canadian Parliament, www.iata.org/about/Documents/chapter-1-english-%20aol.pdf	**Country offices** in 60 countries
Membership:	**Secretariat staff:** 1 500 (2014)
• Nature: Airline companies	**Total budget:** NA
• Number: 281 members	**Type of activity:** Standard setting, financial settlement, advocacy, environmental stewardship, data collection and analysis, consulting, commercial services
Year of establishment: 1945	**Sectors of activity:** Air transport industry: passenger, cargo, airports, security, financial settlement, safety, environment, policy, flight operations, ground operations
Headquarters: Montreal, Canada	
Executive offices: Geneva (Switzerland)	**Website:** www.iata.org

Members

From 57 founding members in 1945, IATA now represents 281 airlines in over 120 countries. Carrying 83% of the world's international air traffic, IATA members include the world's leading passenger and cargo airlines.

Relationship with non-Members

From time to time IATA enters into Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with non-members for mutual benefit. In addition IATA also runs capacity building programs with non-members.

Observers

IATA currently does not grant airlines or other organisations "observer" status.

Mandate

IATA is the trade association for the world's airlines. It supports many areas of aviation activity and helps formulate industry policy on critical aviation issues. It is the prime vehicle for inter-airline co-operation in promoting safe, reliable, secure and economical air services for the benefit of the world's consumers.

IATA aims to be the force for value creation and innovation driving a safe, secure and profitable air transport industry that sustainably connects and enriches the world. IATA's mission is to represent, lead, and serve the airline industry.

IRC processes taking place within the International Air Transport Association

Process	Frequency
Exchange of information and experiences	Systematically
Data Collection	Systematically
Research and policy analysis	Systematically
Discussion of good regulatory practices	Systematically
Development of rules, standards or good practices	Systematically
Negotiation of international agreements	Never
Enforcement: imposition of sanctions	Never
Dispute settlement	Never
Crisis management	Occasionally

Categories of legal and policy instruments

	Is it taking place within the IO?	Approximate number
Treaties for ratification by States (excluding the funding one)		
Legally binding decisions		
Recommendations	√	
Political declarations	√	
Model treaties or law		
Production of technical standards	√	
Non-binding guidance/best practices document	√	

Interactions with other international organisations active in the field

Mechanisms of interaction	Approximate number of IOs involved	Examples
Develop joint instruments		IATA maintains close relationships with ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organization), ACI (Airports Council International), and CANSO (Civil Air Navigation Services Organization) and other members of the air transport value chain, such as travel agents, ground handlers, and civil aviation authorities. In IATA interacts also with numerous non-aviation organisations and State-level organisations such as EU, WEF (World Economic Forum).
MoU or other agreements	√	
Participate in co-ordinating institution	√	
Joint meetings that provide forum for co-ordination	√	
Observe relevant actions of other bodies	√	
Exchange information	√	

IATA history

IATA was founded in Havana, Cuba, in April 1945. It is the successor to the International Air Traffic Association, which was formed in 1919 at The Hague, Netherlands. At its founding, IATA had 57 members from 31 nations, mostly in Europe and North America. Today it has 265 members from 117 nations in every part of the globe. Much of IATA's early work was technical and it provided input to the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). The international scheduled air transport industry is more than 100 times larger than it was in 1945. Few industries can match the dynamism of that growth, which would have been much less spectacular without the standards, practices and procedures developed within IATA.