



# Press Release

For Immediate Release 5 September 2013

## **IBAC Welcomes APEC Business Aviation Core Principles**

**Montreal, 5 September 2013** – The International Business Aviation Council (IBAC) greeted today the endorsement by the Aviation Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) transport ministers of a set of core principles that recognize the value of business aviation to the region. At the 8<sup>th</sup> APEC Transportation Ministerial Meeting in Tokyo, Japan, transport ministers agreed to a set of uniform and predictable practices by the economies that will facilitate the sector's growth.

“IBAC is very pleased that APEC transport ministers have acknowledged the contribution of business aviation in support of APEC's objectives of enhanced trade, investment, and economic growth in the region,” said Kurt Edwards, Director General.

The principles recognize business aviation operators' freedom to fly within the region, urge economies to process permit requests in a timely manner, and encourage all regulatory authorities to treat non-commercial business aviation operators appropriately. They recognize operators' need for flexibility in order to grow business and take advantage of opportunities in an economically dynamic region.

“While the APEC Core Principles focus on the non-commercial activities of business aviation—an important step—IBAC looks forward to continuing work with APEC economies to improve the economic regulatory treatment of commercial business aviation operators too,” said Edwards. He noted that flexibility is vital for non-commercial as well as commercial business aircraft operations alike.

A copy of the Core Principles is attached.

## Business Aviation Core Principles

Recalling that APEC Transportation Ministers, in the APEC 7<sup>th</sup> Transportation Ministerial Joint-Statement, urged the APEC Transportation Working Group (TPTWG) to focus expeditiously on identifying the benefits of business aviation and then work to develop and implement an APEC-wide set of agreed core principles that will apply to business aviation operations;

Appreciating the role business aviation can play in advancing APEC's broader goals of economic integration, trade facilitation, and development;

Noting that, for the purposes of this statement, the term 'business aviation' refers to the non-commercial use of aviation to facilitate and conduct business, examples of which include:

- An individual using his or her own aircraft.
- A corporation using its own aircraft(s) to transport employees and/or individuals with whom it is engaged in business.
- The use by individuals or corporations of aircraft in which they possess an ownership interest;

Recognizing that the key commonality among these various types of operations, in terms of distinguishing them from commercial aviation operations, is that they are not held out for remuneration or hire;

Acknowledging that this is not a legally-binding document;

APEC Economies have reached consensus on the following core principles:

1. *"Business aviation operations should be treated, from an economic regulatory standpoint, as non-commercial, not-for-hire aviation. As such, they may have the freedom to fly within and between any points in all Economies, in accordance with an Economy's applicable requirements."*
2. *"Any operating permissions for business aviation operations should be considered and acted upon in a timeframe suitable to their operational needs."*
3. *"Consistent with ICAO standards and recommended practices, all governmental entities, e.g. customs, immigration, security, safety, etc, with jurisdiction over business aviation operations ought to recognize and treat these operations as part of non-commercial aviation."*