



# THE ALTA BRIEF

WHERE LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN AVIATION STANDS WHAT ALTA IS BUILDING



Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to share the **second edition** of **The ALTA Brief**, our publication designed to keep members and stakeholders informed on the issues, opportunities, and developments shaping aviation across Latin America and the Caribbean.

As the second half of 2026 unfolds, aviation in our region continues to demonstrate resilience despite a more complex operating environment. While demand remains above pre-pandemic levels and connectivity continues to expand across many markets, the sector faces growing challenges, including economic uncertainty, increasing cost pressures, infrastructure constraints, regulatory complexity, and proposals for new taxes and charges that risk undermining the benefits aviation delivers to our societies and economies.

At the same time, **important opportunities** lie ahead. **Governments across the region** are increasingly recognizing the **strategic role of aviation in supporting tourism, trade, investment, job creation, and regional integration**. This creates a unique opportunity to advance policies that strengthen competitiveness, encourage investment, modernize aviation frameworks, and improve the passenger and cargo experience.

Against this backdrop, **ALTA continues to advocate for a regulatory and fiscal environment that enables sustainable growth while working closely with governments, industry partners, and international organizations to address key issues** ranging from taxation and infrastructure to safety, sustainability, fuel competitiveness, consumer protection, and regional connectivity.

This edition highlights the work undertaken in recent months to defend the interests of the aviation sector, strengthen our industry's voice, and promote policies that support a more connected, competitive, and prosperous Latin America and the Caribbean.

We invite you to review the updates that follow and to continue engaging with ALTA as we work together to ensure aviation remains a powerful catalyst for economic and social development across our region.

Peter Cerdá

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & CEO  
ALTA



## SUSTAINABILITY

### OUR GOAL

**Promote strategic dialogue and generate tangible opportunities tailored to the realities and needs of LAC**

### OUR PROGRESS

- ALTA **issued a formal position opposing the European Commission's proposal to extend the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS)** beyond Europe, advocating for a globally harmonized approach under ICAO's CORSIA framework and warning against the risks of overlapping carbon pricing mechanisms on international aviation, joining the position already expressed by ICAO, IATA, A4A, A4E, and AACO.
- ALTA's CORSIA impact assessment in Panama **provided key technical evidence** that informed the country's decision not to voluntarily participate in CORSIA, while supporting broader discussions on connectivity, competitiveness, and cost impacts for the aviation sector.



## FUEL

### OUR GOAL

**Enhance fuel supply efficiency, safety, and competitiveness across LAC and ensure operational continuity and resilience**

### OUR PROGRESS

- ALTA led industry engagement with Colombia's energy regulator (CREG) by **submitting technical comments on the proposed jet fuel pricing framework**, coordinating a joint position with IATA and member airlines, and securing a dedicated meeting with CREG to advocate for transparent, market-based fuel pricing mechanisms and address concerns related to Resolutions 704012 and 704013.
- ALTA advanced its regional fuel benchmark across **approximately 50 LAC airports**, structuring data collection with member airlines on fuel price references, logistics, airport charges, and taxes to identify cost drivers and support evidence-based advocacy.
- ALTA engaged with the Salvadorian Authorities and stakeholders to address non-transparent fuel differential charges impacting airline costs, as well as structural competition constraints and barriers to entry, with emphasis on short-term cost pressures and longer-term market conditions.



## SAFETY

### OUR GOAL

**Strengthen aviation safety in LAC through data-driven collaboration, harmonized practices, and coordinated industry engagement**

### OUR PROGRESS

- ALTA held the **Aviation Safety, Flight Operations and Training Summit** from June 16–18, 2026, in Mendoza, Argentina, and brought together almost 200 participants from 23 airlines, civil aviation authorities, accident investigation agencies, aircraft manufacturers, international organizations, and industry associations across LAC. Participants agreed to strengthen regional safety intelligence and confidential information sharing, accelerate the implementation of mitigation strategies through Collaborative Safety Teams (CSTs), reinforce cooperation with civil aviation authorities and international organizations, and align future initiatives with the region's highest operational safety priorities.
- During the **Training Committee in Mendoza**, discussions on UPRT emphasized the need to move from a recovery-focused approach toward prevention, using operational data to identify precursors to Loss of Control In-Flight:
  - The review of SRVSOP Multinational Agreements highlighted the need to move beyond regulatory harmonization toward more consistent procedures and effective mutual recognition of licenses and training organizations.
  - On pilot training, the Committee stressed closer alignment between flight schools and airlines, with technical and non-technical competencies developed earlier in the training pathway.
  - Finally, emerging technologies were seen as an opportunity to personalize and improve training, provided that sufficient operational evidence is generated to support their regulatory adoption.
- ALTA presented proposals to NACC Civil Aviation Directors and CLAC authorities aimed at promoting Collaborative Safety Teams (CSTs) as a practical mechanism for collaborative risk management, while also advancing the recognition of flight crew licenses through voluntary, non-binding, and technically based approaches. These initiatives seek to strengthen cooperation between States and industry, enhance operational efficiency, and contribute to a safer, more integrated, and competitive aviation system across Latin America and the Caribbean.



## REGULATORY

### OUR GOAL

**Addressing regulatory matters that impact competitiveness and aviation development.**

### OUR PROGRESS

- During the **5th Session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC-5)** at the United Nations, ALTA played an active advocacy role to protect the international tax framework applicable to aviation, positioning the sector's concerns in discussions on Articles 5 and 21 of the Framework Convention and Article 8 of Protocol I.
  - ALTA formally intervened before the United Nations, coordinated technical positions with IATA, promoted dialogue with key delegations from Latin America and Europe, and pushed for greater ICAO involvement as the designated technical authority. As a result, several States expressed support for retaining Article 8, including Belgium, Singapore, the United Arab Emirates, the African Union, and Panama, strengthening the possibilities of preserving the specialized tax treatment of international air transport and avoiding double taxation and legal uncertainty for the sector.
- ALTA engaged with the Instituto Colombiano de Bienestar Familiar (ICBF) to address the legal and operational uncertainties surrounding the implementation of the new departure tax, consolidating key industry concerns related to ticket sales, tax collection, declarations, transit passengers, refunds, and system adaptations, seeking greater legal certainty, clearer operational procedures, and a reasonable implementation period before the tax enters into force.
- ALTA participated in the public hearing at Brazil's Chamber of Deputies presenting the aviation industry's position on the proposed tax reform and its potential impact on air transport. ALTA joined IATA, ABEAR and member airlines in a mission to Brasília on August 19/20 to meet with government officials and highlight the potential consequences of the reform on connectivity, affordability, and the sector's contribution to Brazil's economic development.



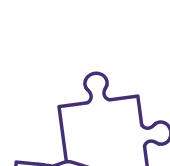
## TRAINING

### OUR GOAL

**Advance regional harmonization of pilot licensing and simulator training certification to support mobility, international recognition of licenses, and efficiency**

### OUR PROGRESS

- ALTA continues to actively support ICAO's SRVSOP Ad Hoc Group on Personnel Licensing, contributing technical expertise to the review and modernization of key multilateral agreements governing the recognition and validation of aviation personnel licenses across the region. This work includes updates to the CIAC, CEAC, CMAE and Automatic Pilot License Convalidation agreements among member states. The initiative aims to strengthen regulatory harmonization, facilitate the mobility of qualified aviation professionals, reduce administrative burdens, and enhance operational efficiency and safety throughout Latin America and the Caribbean.



## ECONOMICS

### OUR GOAL

**Deliver timely and accurate aviation data and economic analysis through reports, dashboards, and targeted studies to support advocacy and decision-making**

### OUR PROGRESS

ALTA supported advocacy through data-driven content, publications:

- the **Argentina Country Insight** providing market evolution (2024 vs. 2025) and its impact on the country's economy, tourism, and connectivity.
- An **executive policy brief assessing the potential impact of Brazil's tax reform (LC 214/2025)** on the cost of flying, the potential drop in demand, aviation competitiveness, and the country's connectivity.
- An **ALTA Spotlight** on LinkedIn analyzing international connecting traffic across major LAC hubs.

COMING UP NEXT



**ALTA AVIATION LAW AMERICAS**  
Aviation Industry Legal and Finance Conference

MIAMI, USA  
SEPTEMBER 8-10  
2026

**REGISTRATION NOW OPEN**

### ALTA AVIATION LAW AMERICAS CONFERENCE 2026

Consolidated as a key 3-day event where legal experts, renowned law firms, and leading airlines from across the Americas, The Caribbean, Europe, Asia, and Africa come together to immerse in dynamic discussions on pertinent legal and financial topics that will shape the future of Latin America's aeropolitical landscape.

September 8-10, 2026. Miami, United States.

[More info here...](#)



### ALTA WEBINAR – UPSET PREVENTION AND RECOVERY

From the Training Committee we will be organizing a webinar on Upset Prevention and Recovery Training. The session will address the global lessons learned on UPRT, how it can be made more effective with long-lasting benefits to the airline, the importance of instructors and the proper use of training devices. It will be delivered by **Dr. Sunjoo Advani, President of IDT b.v. and a pioneer of UPRT.**

Tuesday, 15 September at 9:00 a.m. Bogotá time (UTC-5)

[Register here...](#)