

Challenges to Air Connectivity in the Americas Panel

Panel de retos de conectividad aérea en las Américas



Moderator/ Moderador: José Fernando Suriano Guatemala



Alexander Ferguson
Bahamas



Patrick Pezzetta France



Cary Price
Trinidad and Tobago



Rafael Echevarne ACI-LAC



Jose Ricardo Botelho,
ALTA



José Fernando SURIANO BUEZO

Viceministro de Transportes Ministerio de Comunicaciones, Infraestructura y Vivienda



Actualmente cumple sus funciones como Viceministro de Transportes del Ministerio de Comunicaciones, Infraestructura y Vivienda -MICIVI- en donde destacan la colaboración, supervisión y ejecución de los proyectos del sector Transportes.

Asumió como Coordinador General del Comité Ejecutivo del Programa Nacional de Competitividad - Pronacom- el 12 de febrero del 2024, desempeñando el papel como Comisionado Presidencial para la Competitividad e Inversión.

Se incorporó a la Superintendencia Administración Tributaria de Guatemala, como Intendente de Recaudación en julio del 2018. Durante su administración, ha liderado el desarrollo de herramientas electrónicas como el RTU Digita, la Factura Electrónica en Línea -FEL- y Retenciones de IVA e ISR Web; además, junto con la cooperación del Banco Mundial, Millennium Challenge Corporation y la Agencia de los Estados Unidos para el Desarrollo Internacional (USAID), promoviendo la gobernanza de datos como insumo para la detección y selección unificada de casos en el proceso tributario; desarrollando estrategias de que facilitan el cumplimiento de las obligaciones tributarias y de control.

Es economista especializado en Estudios de Finanzas y Gestión Pública, así como en Gestión de Proyectos; tiene experiencia en el sector público, privado y educativo.

Fue Director del Programa Nacional de Competitividad, dirigió operaciones de préstamo en el Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo, así como programas de apoyo a la cooperación con el Banco Mundial y una donación de la Millennium Challenge Corporation. Tiene experiencia en la gestión del desarrollo económico local y la gestión de políticas públicas para el desarrollo económico local.

En el ámbito privado, ha trabajado para el área de vivienda y el área de exportación de servicios.



Mr. Alexander Berkley Ferguson has spent over forty (40) years in the aviation industry, with solid experience in both the private and public sectors. He started his aviation career at the age of 18 as a charter pilot. Mr. Ferguson was confirmed as the Director General of the Civil Aviation Authority Bahamas (CAA-B) by statutory appointment with effect from the 21st April 2022. Mr. Ferguson previously served as CAA-B's Acting Director General, Legal Counsel and Board Secretary.

Mr. Ferguson oversees the regulation of civil aviation operations in The Bahamas and has responsibility for maintaining standards of safety and security in The Bahamas civil aviation industry as prescribed by the Chicago Convention and other aviation conventions, agreements or undertakings to which The Bahamas is a party. Mr. Ferguson has responsibility for the Authority's day-to-day operations, manages all personnel and performs the functions conferred upon him by the Civil Aviation Authority Bahamas Act, 2021 and as otherwise delegated to him.

Mr. Ferguson has a wealth of experience particularly in the field of regulatory affairs, and with responsibility for oversight activities related to flight safety and security within Bahamian airspace. Mr. Ferguson is an ex officio member the Statutory Board of CAA-B. He has previously and presently served as a Ministerial appointed member to government Boards and Committees involved in the development of the national civil aviation initiatives. He previously served as Chairman of the CAA-B regulations Committee and as Secretary to the CAA-B's statutory Board.

Mr. Ferguson has received extensive training in the field of civil aviation and holds numerous training certificates/diplomas in air law and civil aviation management from ICAO and IATA. He was awarded an executive education certificate of completion for the Strategic Management of Regulatory and Enforcement Agencies Program from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. Mr. Ferguson has represented The Bahamas at many civil aviation conferences, meetings, workshops and other important civil aviation events around the world.

Prior to joining the CAA-B, Mr. Ferguson had a long legal career in private practice. He holds an LLB law degree with honors from the University of Buckingham England, and qualified as a Barrister at Law at the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple in London England. Mr. Ferguson is a member of the English and The Bahamas Bar, and specialized in aviation law. He has represented a number of regional and international air carriers operating in The Bahamas, including twelve years (12) as Legal Counsel with the national airline, Bahamasair.

Prior to qualifying as a Barrister at law, Mr. Ferguson qualified as a professional pilot and flew aircraft for local air charter operators and the national flag carrier Bahamasair. He has flown more than 4500 hours. Mr. Ferguson was previously actively involved other aviation related interests and endeavours, including owning and flying his own aircraft.

Mr. Ferguson's passion has always been aviation! (and fishing).



Patrick Pezzetta has been deputy director of civil aviation in the French Antilles and Guyana for five years, based in Martinique. He previously worked in the same areas in Nice, in the Pacific and in Corsica. He is fully involved in cooperation projects led by France in the CAR Region.



Mr. Cary Price is Director-General the Trinidad and Tobago Civil Aviation Authority (TTCAA). He holds the Master of Science (MSc) degree in Aviation Management from the University of the West Indies, graduating with Distinction, the Management Certificate in Civil Aviation from the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) and Concordia University, the Certificate in Aviation Safety and Security from the University of Southern California (USC) and the Diploma in Professional Training from the International Air Transport Association (IATA). Mr. Price is a licensed Air Traffic Controller, Air Traffic Control Instructor and Air Traffic Control Examiner, and is qualified as an ICAO Instructor and Course Developer.

Mr. Price served as a Board Member of the Trinidad and Tobago Air Traffic Controllers' Association for 10 years. He was elected as a member of the International Federation of Air Traffic Controllers' Associations (IFATCA) Professional and Legal Committee for 2 years, and as a member of IFATCA's Finance Committee for ten years. Further to this, Mr. Price was elected by IFATCA as Chairman of its Finance Committee for 2 years.

Mr. Price served as a Management Committee member of the Public Services Association's Civil Aviation Section for 15 years, in the positions of Assistant Secretary, Secretary and Chairman. In 2013 he was elected as a National Executive Officer of the PSA. During his tenure as an Executive Officer of the PSA, Mr. Price had both Administrative and Industrial Relations responsibilities. Mr. Price served as Treasurer, Trustee and General Secretary with responsibilities including Administration and Finance. Mr. Price also served the PSA as an Industrial Relations (IR) Consultant with responsibilities as representative and advocate at the Industrial Court, Ministry of Labour and in employer negotiations.

Mr. Price has also served in a private capacity as an IR Consultant, Lecturer, Educator and Adult Literacy Facilitator.

Having previously held the positions of Air Traffic Controller, Air Traffic Control Supervisor, Air Traffic Control Instructor and Manager Civil Aviation Training Centre, Mr. Cary Price was appointed Director-General of Civil Aviation from 01 January 2024.



Dr. Rafael Echevarne

Rafael Echevarne is the Director General of Airports Council International — Latin America and the Caribbean (ACILAC). Previously, Rafael was CEO of a major Caribbean airport and held positions in international organizations and airport companies worldwide, specialising in airport economic regulation, privatisation, and infrastructure and business development. Rafael holds a PhD in Air Transport Economics.

José Ricardo Botelho
Director Ejecutivo & CEO ALTA

José Ricardo Botelho es Abogado de la Universidad Católica de Salvador en Brasil con experiencia en aviación civil y servicio público. Fue nombrado Director Ejecutivo & CEO de ALTA el 11 de mayo de 2020 asumiendo el rol efectivo 1 de junio de 2020.

Antes de unirse a ALTA, José Ricardo sirvió por 4 años como Director Presidente de la Agencia Nacional de Aviación Civil de Brasil (ANAC) institución que, bajo su liderazgo, alcanzó importantes hitos que resultaron en un ambiente regulatorio actual, eficiente y capaz de brindar mayor competitividad al mercado aéreo brasilero.

Por cerca de 2 años y medio se desempeño como Delegado Diplomático Alterno de Brasil en la OACI, participando activamente en las modificaciones del texto de la Convención de Tokio, especialmente en los asuntos relacionados con seguridad de vuelo, en los trabajos pertinentes para la entrada de Brasil en el Public Key Directory (PKD) de la OACI y en la sistematización de API (Advanced Passenger Information), además de haber trabajado en las reglas contra actos de interferencia ilícita (AVSEC) en pro de la aviación civil.

Previo a ello, José Ricardo desempeñó con honores destacados cargos al servicio del Estado brasilero, entre ellos, como Asesor del Ministro de Seguridad Institucional de la Presidencia de Brasil, Jefe de Gabinete y Coordinador General de la Policía Criminal Internacional de Brasil y Secretario Nacional de Seguridad para Grandes Eventos como parte del Ministerio de Justicia de Brasil, con responsabilidades en eventos masivos como la Copa del Mundo 2014 y las Olimpíadas 2016.

José Ricardo cuenta con un postgrado en Ciencias Criminales de la Universidad Jorge Amando y posgrado en Gestión de Seguridad Pública de la Academia Nacional de Policía, ambos de Brasil, así como una graduación de la Academia Nacional FBI, EUA y un entrenamiento ejecutivo del National Executive Institute – FBI (NEI) con ciclos en la Escuela de Gobierno JFK (Harvard). José Ricardo habla fluidamente portugués, español, inglés y francés.

José Ricardo Botelho Diretor-executivo e CEO ALTA

José Ricardo Botelho é advogado, graduado pela Universidade Católica de Salvador, Brasil, com experiência na aviação civil e no serviço público.

Antes de ingressar na ALTA, em 1º de junho de 2020, José Ricardo atuou por 4 anos como diretorpresidente da Agência Nacional de Aviação Civil do Brasil (ANAC), instituição que, sob sua liderança, atingiu marcos importantes que resultaram no ambiente regulatório atual, eficiente e capaz de proporcionar maior competitividade ao mercado aéreo brasileiro.

Por cerca de 2 anos e meio atuou como Delegado Diplomático Suplente do Brasil na OACI, participando ativamente das modificações do texto da Convenção de Tóquio, especialmente em questões relacionadas à segurança de voo, ao ingresso do Brasil na ICAO Public Key Directory (PKD) e na sistematização do API (Advanced Passenger Information), além de ter trabalhado nas normas contra atos de interferência ilícita (AVSEC) a favor da aviação civil.

José Ricardo possui pós-graduação em Ciências Criminais pela Universidade Jorge Amando e pósgraduação em Gestão de Segurança Pública pela National Police Academy, ambas do Brasil, além de graduação pela FBI National Academy, EUA, e treinamento executivo do National Executive Institute - FBI (NEI) com ciclos na JFK School of Government (Harvard).

José Ricardo é fluente em português, espanhol, inglês e francês.

José Ricardo Botelho
ALTA Executive Director & CEO

José Ricardo Botelho is a Lawyer from the Catholic University of Salvador, Brazil with experience in civil aviation and public service.

Prior to joining ALTA, José Ricardo served for 4 years as President of the Brazilian National Civil Aviation Agency (ANAC) and, for about 2 and a half years, he served as Brazil's Alternate Diplomatic Delegate to ICAO, actively participating in the amendments to the text of the Tokyo Convention in the work relevant to Brazil's entry in ICAO's Public Key Directory (PKD) and in the systematization of API (Advanced Passenger Information), besides having worked on the rules against acts of unlawful interference (AVSEC) for civil aviation.

José Ricardo holds a postgraduate degree in Criminal Sciences from Jorge Amado University and a postgraduate degree in Public Security Management from the National Police Academy, both from Brazil.