70 WOMEN INSPIRING GENERATIONS OF AVIATION PROFESSIONALS
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70 WOMEN INSPIRING GENERATIONS OF AVIATION PROFESSIONALS

2014 marks 70 years from the signing of the Convention on International Civil Aviation in Chicago, United States, and the beginning on an era of international cooperation and steady progress for civil aviation across the world.

While the Chicago Conference, held in 1944, did not have a female delegate nominated by a State, many women were involved in aviation at the time and even before then, paving the way for future generations of professional women interested in this passionate activity. The first female pilot in the world, Elise Raymonde de Laroche from France, received her license on 8 March 1910, inspiring countless women around the globe to put on their aviator goggles and take flight. By the time the Convention was signed, women had concurred the skies, set world records for speed, length and altitude of flight, served in military regiments during actual combat, taught in piloting schools, worked in traffic control towers, designed and engineered aircraft and even passed in the realm of aviation legends. In the seven following decades, women have also become airline managers, national and international regulators, renowned aerospace academics, high-level executives, and a few of them have even reached for and walked among the stars.

We thank and look up to all of them!

On this celebratory occasion, ICAO and the International Aviation Women’s Association (IAWA) have chosen to recognize 70 women role models in aviation. These women are a sample of the female aviation-related excellence over the past 70 years. They are all unique in background and contributions, but they share one common characteristic: their achievements make all of them a source of inspiration for current and next generations of both women and men in aviation!
Ms. Asli Hassan Abade is the first, and to this date, only woman pilot in the Somali Air Force, a career choice much influenced by her family environment and her own strong character and the zeal to do something concrete for her country. She worked for Air Force almost 10 years and was efficiently promoted in the ranks.

She came to the United States initially for pilot training and went back and forth for some years, until she met her husband, an aircraft engineer with American Airlines, and settled in Dallas-Fort Worth and started her family. Simultaneously, she obtained a Master’s Degree in Social Work with the Asylees and another Master’s Degree in Management.

A passionate advocate for the rights of refugees and a peace activist for Somalia, Ms. Asli Hassan Abade is mostly known for her appearance in the colors of the Somali flag, for which she was accorded the codename Calansida (“The Flag-bearer”).

Mrs. Ghaida Abdullatif is currently the Vice Chairman – Director General and CEO of Syrian Arab Airlines. She has been leading the airline into expanding its fleet and network, despite the currently turbulent political situation in Syria and the broader Middle East. She has also upgraded the national carrier’s technology infrastructure, with a seven-year contract being awarded to SITA for global hybrid solutions.

Mrs. Abdullatif has been listed numerous times as one of the most powerful airlines CEOs of the Middle East.
As VP Information, Communications and Technology at the Bahrain Airport Company (BAC), Najwa Abdul Rahim leads and formulates the ICT strategy and operational plans in alignment with airport’s overall strategy to help achieve its mission and goals. Her responsibilities include planning and execution of the ICT strategy model to improve performance, cost effectiveness and service quality. Ensure information availability, integrity and accessibility to all BAC users, partners and customers. Prior to this appointment, Ms. Abdulrahim was deeply involved in the development of the ICT strategy of the airport when the BAC was set up in 2008. She was also instrumental in the establishment of the ICT department in BAC and managed the migration of all airport operations applications and users from the Civil Aviation Affairs to BAC.

Before joining BAC, Ms. Abdulrahim was the Assistant Secretary General of the Supreme Council for Women and was thus part of the lead team that formulated the strategic plans for the National Strategy for the Advancement of Bahraini Women. Her stint at the Ministry of Finance, spanning 20 successful years, helped shape her influential role in developing ICT not only in the ministry in particular, but also in the Government sector as a whole.

In recognition of her many social development initiatives as well as outstanding individual achievements, Ms. Abdulrahim was appointed as an independent board member in TAKAFUL International Company, where she recently ranked 66th in Forbes’ 100 most Powerful women in the Arab World, May 2012 issue.

Her lifelong commitment to learning spans more than two decades of educational achievement – she received the Gulf Executive Development Diploma from the Darden School of Business Administration, University of Virginia, U.S.A., she completed her MBA from the University of Bahrain and graduated with a B.Sc. in Computer Science and Mathematical Statistics degree from the University of Kuwait.

Pilar Albiac Murillo was appointed Executive Vice President Head of Operations and Transformation Airbus Defence and Space in September 2013 and started the job in January 2014.

Born in Zaragoza, Spain in 1953, Mrs. Murillo obtained a degree from the University of Zaragoza in 1975 and received her Master’s Degree in Science of Administration from Central Michigan University in 1992.

Mrs. Albiac began her professional career with General Motors in Spain in 1980 as Senior Executive Management Instructor and stayed with the company until April 2006 in various positions and countries. Her main responsibilities were in charge of Operations of increasing size, and in all cases Turnarounds, through the implementation of lean methodologies and Change Management. Her methods and efforts resulted in a considerable growth of productivity and consequently turnover regardless of the position and division she worked at.

In 2006 she was appointed as Vice President of Mexico Operations. She left the automotive industry and joined Airbus in Toulouse in January 2008 as Head of Lean Manufacturing with the mission to deploy Lean in Airbus Operations. She stayed in this position until April 2010 when she was appointed “Head of Quality and Lean Corporate”.

In August 2012 she moved to Cassidian as Chief Operating Officer (COO) and CEO for Cassidian Spain where she was responsible for engineering, quality management, supply management, business excellence, operations, information management services, and the Spain country organization. Mrs. Albiac has an over 30 years’ experience in operations, lean and transformation with leading international companies. During her career she has implemented many successful ways to support cultural change, increased the productivity of various plants and sites and implemented transformation processes towards lean manufacturing. She’s also a member of the Conseil d’Administration du Banque Populaire Occitane since 2012.
Recipient of the 2013 UAE Federal Personality Award, with more than 17 years of experience in civil aviation, Capt. Al Hameli heads the UAE Permanent Diplomatic Mission to ICAO. She became the first-ever Emirati woman in charge of a diplomatic mission. At that time of her appointment, she was the youngest-ever Permanent Representative accredited to ICAO. Currently she is an official candidate nominated by the government of the UAE running for the post of the Secretary General of ICAO. In 2011, she was appointed as one of the Council’s Vice Presidents. She has also served as Vice-Chair of the Air Transport Committee. In 2012, she was elected Chairperson of the Ad-Hoc Working Group on Market-Based Measures (MBM) – a group tasked with one of international aviation’s most sensitive issues. From 2010 through 2013, Capt. Al Hameli also acted as coordinator of the Arab Civil Aviation Commission on the Council of ICAO. Similarly, in October 2012, she was elected Vice-Chair of the Unlawful Interference Committee.

Before her appointment to ICAO, she served at the General Civil Aviation Authority as the Head of the Air Transport Department. Her responsibilities included representing the UAE in the international arena, lead UAE delegations to bilateral air services negotiations for the purpose of expanding the UAE traffic rights. Capt. Al Hameli has a diverse aviation background academically and on job experience which covers the fields of air transport, flight operations, safety and security, at both national and international levels.

She holds a Master’s degree in Air Transport Management from City University of London, and a Bachelors of Arts and Science from Zayed University (UAE). Capt. Al Hameli is a regular speaker at international conferences on international aviation and leadership issues. In 1998, she became the first-ever Emirati woman to be a commercial pilot.

Born in Mecca, Ms. Hanadi Zakaria Al-Hindi is the first Saudi Arabian woman to be certified as a commercial pilot. She is a graduate of the Middle East Academy for Commercial Aviation in Amman, Jordan, and currently is the pilot of the “Kingdom”, the private jet of Prince Al-Waleed bin Talal’s Kingdom Holding Company. Prince Al-Waleed commented on her hiring: “I see the hiring of this female pilot to work on Kingdom Holding’s fleet of private jets as a historic move for Saudi ladies. The move transcends the traditional role of Saudi women previously confined to working in the health, education and philanthropic sectors. I am in full support of Saudi ladies working in all fields.” Similarly, Captain Al-Hindi mentioned that “women are very capable of taking on any job previously monopolized by men.”
With an undergraduate degree in English Literature, and having overcome gender stereotypes, Major Al Mansouri is the first female fighter pilot of the UAE Air Force.

She has graduated in 2007 from the Khalifa bin-Zayed Air College of the United Arab Emirates Air Force for pilots and has received the Mohammed bin Rashid Pride of the Emirates medal for excellence in her field. She is actively taking part in military operations in the Middle East region, gathering considerable attention from the international media and has been described by her compatriots as a role-model for women in Islamic and Arab States.

**MARIAM AL MANSOURI**
United Arab Emirates

**LAILA ALI HAREB AL-MUAIRI**
United Arab Emirates

With substantial experience in strategic planning, as a result of her career in RTA and Dubai Metro, Ms. Laila Ali Hareb Al-Muhairi is currently Assistant Director General of the Strategy and International Affairs sector of the General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA) of the UAE. She has been instrumental in amending the Civil Aviation Law of the UAE so as to accommodate future forecasts of growth and prosperity. Her reform plan of the GCAA has won the Authority the Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Government Excellence Award, for the best strategic planning in a governmental body. She is equally invested in expanding the network of bilateral air transport agreements of the UAE, which to date numbers agreements with 163 States.

Ms. Hareb played a pivotal role in the election of the UAE to the ICAO Council and is a firm believer in regional cooperation, giving particular attention to the work of the Arab Civil Aviation Authority. Other projects on her docket include the “UAE Position towards the International Aviation Sector and Climate Change” and the “Advance Passenger Information” for early querying about travelers in Abu Dhabi International Airport and Dubai International Airport. Ms. Hareb has been honoured, within the UAE, as the person of the year who made significant achievements in the local civil aviation sector, and internationally, with a “2013 Silver Stevie Award for Female Innovator of the Year – Government or Non-Profit.”
Ms. Maria Claudia Amaro, Director of the Board of TAM until September 2014, holds a bachelor’s degree in Business Administration and Marketing. Previously, she served as Marketing Director at TAM Linhas Aéreas. She has been a member of the Board of TAM S.A. since September 2003, and chairwoman of the Board since April 2007. She is also an Executive Officer at TAM Empreendimentos e Participações S.A. and a member of the boards of Multiplus S.A. and of TAM Aviação Executiva e Taxi Aéreo S.A.

She has been recognized as the Personality of the Year 2008 by the Brazilian Chamber of Commerce in Great Britain.

Lawyer with technical and administrative preparation in the field of civil aviation, Mrs. Aráuz Betanco has chosen a career in the Public Sector. Since June 2000, Mrs. Aráuz has held various functions within the Nicaraguan Civil Aviation Authority and has represented Nicaragua at the international level, carrying out various functions, including those of Legal Advisor and Head of the National Registry of aircraft, Secretary of the Board, Head of Legal Affairs, and Director of Air Transport.

She is currently the Representative of Nicaragua to ICAO and the ICAO Council, as well as the Head of Delegation of Nicaragua to the Legal Committee of ICAO. She represented Nicaragua to the Project Plan Puebla-Panama in the air transport sector and to the negotiations on Free Trade in coordination with other authorities in the field of air transport. Mrs. Aráuz is a member of the Technical Committee of the Civil Aviation Authority, the Nicaraguan delegation to the Sixth Regular Session of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism, the Groups of Legal Experts in Civil Aviation of the Central American Region formed in 2006, who participated in the analysis for the Adoption of the General Civil Aviation Act resulting in the creation of the Nicaraguan Civil Aviation Authority. She also was part of the negotiating team on bilateral Air Transport Agreements for Nicaragua.

Her engagement with aviation can be described as follows: “As a teenager, I was once given the opportunity for a brief moment to appreciate the view from the cabin of a commercial aircraft. The sense of freedom I experienced aroused some interest in me. I wanted to find out more about aviation.

Later, as I had just completed my studies as a lawyer, I was presented with the opportunity to work at the National Aeronautical Registry of my country, the entity in charge of assigning registration marks to an aircraft. I felt as if each time I assigned a mark, a small part of me enjoyed that freedom. I imagine the mind of a pilot and I can appreciate that there are no boundaries in the sky.

It is said that aviation has been a man’s job but each day more women are integrating. It is interesting to see how our participation is appreciated and welcome. I urge all those who may be interested to dare and become part of this new group of women in aviation.”
Mercy Awori has recently been appointed the Representative of Kenya to the Council of ICAO and is currently the Secretary to the African Group on the Council. She is the first woman from the Sub-Saharan Africa to serve as a Council Member.

Her accolades in the aviation industry date back to the late 90’s, when she authored several articles including one on the Montreal Convention of 1999. She served as an Assistant Secretary in the Civil Aviation Board at the Ministry of Transport and Communications (MDTC) in Kenya. She also represented the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Transport on the Kenya Civil Aviation Authority (KCAA) Board, before joining the KCAA herself. She has been nominated by Kenya on several high-level international, regional and national committees and task forces related to aviation.

Before joining the Council, she was Head of Air Transport at the Kenya Civil Aviation Authority (KCAA) and represented Kenya in several ICAO meetings and conferences. She holds an advanced degree in aviation and is an alumna of Cranfield University, United Kingdom and Leiden University. She holds several professional qualifications among others from Maastricht School of Management, Netherlands.

She is passionate about aviation and has served Kenya’s aviation industry with dedication and commitment.

Born in Alberta, Canada, Bjornson took her first flying lesson on her 17th birthday. In 1969 she earned her instructor rating and taught at the Flying Club in Winnipeg. She was the first woman awarded the 89th Gold Seal of Proficiency from the Royal Canadian Flying Clubs Association. In April 1973, Transair, Canada’s fourth largest airline at the time, hired her as the first female First Officer on a Fokker F28 jet. She was the first woman to be hired by a commercial airline in Canada, and the first woman member of the Canadian Air Line Pilots Association.

Obligated to take an unpaid leave of absence while pregnant with her first child in 1979, Ms. Bjornson convinced the Government of Canada to change the regulations in place, thus allowing female pilots to continue to fly while under doctor’s supervision. She flew into her sixth month during her pregnancy in 1984.

In 1990, Bjornson was the first woman promoted to Captain with a major Canadian air carrier, a position she held until her retirement in 2004. Bjornson was inducted into the International Forest of Friendship in 1988, into Canada’s Aviation Hall of Fame in 1997 and into Women in Aviation International Pioneer Hall of Fame in 2004. She is a motivational speaker and has been an active supporter of women in aviation careers.
Ruxandra Brutaru has a broad understanding of airline operations – from the technical and operational aspects to the strategic and commercial ones. She holds a Bachelor’s degree in Aviation Administration from St. Francis College New York and an Aerospace Executive Masters of Business Administration from the École Superieure de Commerce de Toulouse, France. Ms. Brutaru has extensive experience working in international projects with a career that started at EUROCONTROL, the European Safety Agency for Air Navigation, where she worked with the Air Navigation Service Providers across Europe improving safety performance. She then moved on to the commercial side of the industry as the Marketing and Sales Director at the first low cost airlines in Romania, Blue Air. Her standout skills in the area of airline operations drew the attention of Binter Canarias of Spain where she assumed responsibility for demand forecasting as International Expansion Manager – expanding the fleet from ATR72s to B737-400s and transitioning the airline from a traditional island-based operation to an international carrier. Ruxandra led TAROM, the Romanian national airline, as the CEO where she successfully grew its passenger numbers by more than 25% and formed an important international strategic partnership for TAROM by joining the SkyTeam Alliance. She now leads the business development effort for Aloft in Europe while also acting as General Manager of her own consulting business.

A true aviatrix, Evelyn Bryan Johnson, neé Stone, nicknamed “Mama Bird”, was at the date of her death in 2012, at the age of 102, an aviation record setter. She was the female pilot with the most number of flying hours in the world, and was in fact named in the Guinness Book of World Records as having the most flying hours of any woman and the most of any living person. She logged 57,635.4 flying hours, the equivalent of 7 years aloft, and was the oldest flight instructor in the world.

A graduate of Tennessee Wesleyan College and later attendee of the University of Tennessee, Bryan Johnson was a colonel in the Civil Air Patrol and a founding member of the Morristown, Tennessee Civil Air Patrol squadron. She earned a private pilot certificate in June 1945, added a commercial certificate in 1946, became a flight instructor in 1947 and was named designated FAA examiner in 1952. She also participated in the Powder Puff Derbies in the 1950s. Having administered over 9,000 checkrises, she trained more pilots and gave more FAA exams than any other pilot. Bryan Johnson became manager of the Moore-Murrell Airport in Morristown, Tennessee, in 1993, a position she held well into her 90s. She has been inducted into the Women in Aviation Pioneers Hall of Fame, the National Flight Instructors Hall of Fame and the Kentucky and Tennessee Aviation Hall of Fame.
Carol J. Carmody completed her five year term (2000-2005) at the National Transportation Safety Board and retired from federal service in March 2005. During her tenure she was appointed Vice-Chairman by President Clinton, and served twice as Acting Chairman. She was Chairman on September 11 and was responsible for committing NTSB resources to assist the FBI and other agencies in recovery and identification of aircraft parts and victims. Ms. Carmody led the effort in a number of accident investigations including the aircraft accidents that killed Minnesota Senator Paul Wellstone and Missouri Governor Mel Carnahan, the Aspen Colorado air crash which killed 18 people, and the Kensington train derailment. She chaired public hearings on the American Airlines 587 accident, a derailment and spill in Minot North Dakota, and the use of cockpit video recorders.

Ms. Carmody has 30 years of experience in the aviation community. Before joining the NTSB, she worked as an independent aviation consultant focusing on international and environmental issues. She was appointed by President Clinton in 1994 and served five years in Montreal as the U.S. Representative to the Council of ICAO. She was instrumental in persuading ICAO to establish a safety oversight program to assess States’ effective implementation of ICAO standards. This was a first at ICAO and the results have improved safety for the traveling public around the world.

Dr. Emilia Chiavarelli, Director General Finance and Personnel (2001-2004) and Director General Economics (2005-2008) of ENAC in Italy, got a Doctor Degree on Political Sciences (summa cum laude) at the University of Rome “La Sapienza” and a Master Degree on Air and Space Law at the McGill University of Montreal. She was Assistant Professor at the University of Rome “La Sapienza”, Chair of Air Navigation, and since 2001 she is UNIDROIT Correspondent.

In the years 1986-1988, Dr. Chiavarelli was the Permanent Representative of Italy on the ICAO Council (from 1980 to 1985 she was the Permanent Alternate Representative of Italy on the ICAO Council). As ICAO Council Member she chaired the Committee on Joint Support of Air Navigation Services, the Finance Committee, the Committee on Unlawful Interference.

In the period 1989-2007, Dr. Chiavarelli was elected by the ICAO General Assembly (from the 27th to the 36th Session), Chairperson of the Administrative Commission and Chairperson of the Legal Commission. From 2003 to 2008 she was the first Vice President of the ICAO Legal Committee.

Dr. Chiavarelli chaired all the ICAO – UNIDROIT process that dealt to the Cape Town Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment and the Associated Protocol (Cape Town Convention).

### Captain Diana Clavijo
Colombia

Captain Diana Clavijo is the first woman pilot in Latin America to have flown a Boeing-777F. She has a law degree from the Javeriana University and has studied aviation for one year in the United States. Working for Líneas Aéreas Vargueras de Colombia, Captain Clavijo has more than 20 years of experience in cargo flights. Her career began in 1994 as a flight engineer, before progressing to co-pilot and finally commander over a decade ago. She has a total of more than 10,000 flight hours, with an average of 80-90 hours monthly. Captain Clavijo has flown aircraft such as Douglas DC-8, Boeing 767 and Boeing 707, always on cargo flights, including flights in Iraq and Afghanistan during periods of armed conflict.

### Adv. Keren Cohen Saad
Israel

Adv. Keren Cohen Saad holds a Law degree from the Management College, Israel (LL.B.) and Master of Laws from the University of Bar Ilan, Israel (LL.M.). She is the Head of Legal Affairs at EL AL Israel Airlines Ltd since 2008. Keren manages a team of in-house counsels responsible for providing legal services to all the divisions within the company, such as commercial, financial, operation, IT, marketing, cargo, international affairs and maintenance.

Keren advocates for the company’s interests before the Parliament (Knesset) Economic Committee on multiple regulatory issues and oversees EL AL’s compliance with aviation regulation and consumer protection regulations.

Prior to joining EL AL, Keren worked in the Legal department of Israel Airport Authority before opening its new Terminal 3 and managed the commercial tenders.
Captain Suzanna Darcy-Hennemann serves as Chief Pilot of Boeing Training and Flight Services L.L.C. Captain Darcy-Hennemann is responsible for all pilots providing flight services, and all instructor pilots providing flight and cabin crew training. She has oversight of flight training operations in Training and Flight Services’ campuses worldwide. She was Chief Pilot for the 777 program, responsible for engineering flight-test activities related to all Boeing 777 airplane models. She has been an integral member of the 777 Program since its inception, contributing to the design, testing and certification of the initial airplane as well as its derivatives, added features and technologies. She joined Boeing in 1974 and spent her first seven years in engineering. She became a trainer for airline pilots, and in 1985 was named a Boeing Production Test pilot, becoming the first woman hired in this capacity at Boeing. In 1989, she became the first woman rated as a captain on the 747-400 and on the 737, 757 and 767. Capt. Darcy-Hennemann was the pilot of a record breaking 21,602.22 km flight from Hong Kong to London over the Pacific Ocean, America, and the Atlantic on 9 November 2005 in a Boeing 777-200LR.

Capt. Darcy-Hennemann is a Member of the Society of Experimental Test Pilots and is a frequent guest speaker at industry and community forums including the Royal Aeronautical Society’s Seattle Branch, the GE Accident Reduction Operations Team and the NASA Goddard Engineering Colloquium. She graduated from the University of Washington with a Bachelor of Science degree in Aeronautics and Astronautics Engineering.

In her opinion, the greatest thing about being part of the world of aviation is that it knows no cultural boundaries. “We are readily accepted anywhere in the world,” she said. “The love of aviation makes differences fall away.”
Ms. Marina Donato was the first woman to be appointed at the position of Director in ICAO, by leading the Air Transport Bureau. She was also the first woman to hold the post of Chief of Laws and International Negotiations within the Civil Aviation Author­ity of Argentina (Dirección Nacional de Transporte Aéreo) and the first woman to be elected Secretary General of LACAC. Ms. Donato is currently the Secretary General of ALADA, the Latin American Air and Space Law Association, a regional entity bringing together lawyers and other professionals in the aerospace field from Latin America, Spain, and Italy.

Upon her retirement from ICAO, and holding the position of Undersecretary of Air Transport in Argentina, Ms. Donato was greatly involved in the creation of the “Assad Kotaite” Panamerican Institute of Civil Aviation (Instituto Panamericano de Aviación). Ms. Donato’s first involvement in aviation occurred when close to graduating from law school, she was invited to work as the secretary of the Air Navigation Law Institute under the direction of Prof. Basualdo Moine, on the project of the modernization of the first Air Law Code. She has subsequently lectured on Air and Maritime Law in the National University of Buenos Aires, has served as external examiner with the McGill Institute of Air and Space Law and has published extensively on Air Law issues.

Ms. Donato has received numerous awards and tributes, including the “Santos Duomon” Commander grade by the Federal Republic of Brazil and the Silver Medal of ALADA.

Ms. Donato holds a law degree from the National University of Buenos Aires and a degree in Air Transport Economy by the specialized course jointly offered by ICAO and the Argentinian Air Force in Buenos Aires.

Maureen Dougherty is president of Boeing Australia and South Pacific. She earned her Master’s degree in engineering from the University of Washington, where she studied as a Boeing Company Systems Engineering Fellow. She received her undergraduate degree in mechanical engineering from Pennsylvania State University. She is the senior company leader in the Oceania since her appointment in early 2014. Throughout her 30-year career, Dougherty has held a variety of engineering and program leadership positions on missile, fighter, bomber and military commercial derivative aircraft programs. She has a broad technical background in structures, avionics, systems and test engineering and has managed programs through development, production and sustainment.

Dougherty is a member of the Business Council of Australia, the President of The American Chamber of Commerce in Australia and sits on the President’s Council of the Art Gallery of New South Wales.
Kai Duell is Chief Representative of China for General Aviation Manufacturers Association (GAMA), a non-profit international trade association headquartered in Washington D.C. with branch office in Beijing, Brussels and Dubai. Ms. Duell graduated Cum Laude from St. Thomas University in St. Paul, Minnesota, USA and continued her MBA studies at Rutgers University Beijing Campus.

Before joining GAMA, Ms. Duell was the founding President and CEO of United Eagle Airlines (now Chengdu Airlines) based in Chengdu, Sichuan Province in China. She also held positions as Executive Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of West Air and as President and CEO of Beijing Capital Airlines (formerly Deer Air) under Hainan Aviation Group in China.

Ms. Duell started her aviation career as a Flight Attendant Manager for Northwest Airlines in the United States and has since advanced her airline career via a solid professional development track. Other positions she held at Northwest Airlines in the United States and China include Senior Analyst International Product Design, Customer Service Manager Airport Ground Operations, Regional Manager Field Fleet and Plant Maintenance, District Manager Beijing and Northern China, Chief Representative and District Manager Shanghai, and Division Head International Operations at World Gateway Detroit International airport.

Ms. Duell held various industry leadership positions as Board of Governors American Chamber of Commerce Shanghai, Chairman of Airport Operators Committee Beijing, Chairman of Airport Operator Committee Shanghai, and ACC panel member of IATA.

The “Lady of the Skies”, Emma Catalina Encinas Aguayo was the first woman to receive a pilot’s license in Mexico and only the second one in Latin America. She was trained as a pilot by the famous military aviator Roberto Fierro Villalobos, who agreed to enroll the young woman in his flight school in the city of Chihuahua. Her first solo flight, performed in Spartan biplane, was observed by numerous spectators, curious to witness a woman flying solo. After her marriage, she worked as an interpreter, while other sources suggest that she also held a position in the public relations department of American Airlines.

She was recognized posthumously, by the unveiling and induction of her bust in the Hall of World Aviation Heroes in the International Airport of Mexico City, while there are plans of naming a street in the aviation sector after her.
She is the first female to become captain in the history of Ethiopian Airlines. Capt. Endegnanew joined Ethiopian Airlines Pilot Training School on 10 July 2000 and started her career as first officer on 26 November 2002. Since then, she has trained and worked on Fokker-50, 757 and 767 aircraft as first officer. Capt. Endegnanew has been able to complete successfully all the necessary training requirements and passed through rigorous checks to gain her four stripes. She had a total of 4475 flight hours under her belt before becoming the commander-in-chief of her flight.

Capt. Endegnanew holds a Degree in Architecture from the Addis Ababa University.

Mrs. Nagwa Hassan El Aasar graduated from the Faculty of Engineering, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt with a B.Eng. in Engineering in 1965. She then joined the Egyptian Civil Aviation Authority (ECAA) as Airworthiness Inspector (1965-1992) and was the first Egyptian woman to hold this post. During her tenure at the ECAA, she updated the Egyptian airworthiness regulations and restructuring of the airworthiness/oversight activities.

For the 1992-1995 period, she was appointed by the Egyptian government as the Representative of Egypt on the Council of ICAO, Montreal, Canada. During that time, she was instrumental in the update of Annex 8 D Airworthiness of Aircraft to the Chicago Convention and instituting the Arabic language as one of the official languages of ICAO. She then returned to Egypt and was appointed Chief of Engineering Division of ECAA (1996-1999) and was responsible for updating the air traffic control system and privatization of airports in Egypt. In 1999, she joined ICAO as Technical Officer Airworthiness where she served as the Secretary of the Airworthiness Panel until her retirement in 2006. She was a major contributor and member of the Civil Aviation Halon Transition Team that was awarded the 2008 Stratospheric Ozone Protection Award.
Mrs. Helena Faleiro joined the Portuguese Civil Aviation Authority in 1983 and has gathered vast experience in International Civil Aviation matters, both from a bilateral and multilateral perspective.

Her professional experience is related to economic, financial, licensing and regulatory issues of airlines and handling agents, economics of airports and air navigation services providers, consumer’s protection rights, bilateral and multilateral air services agreements and in the air transport policy area, competition and environment. She was involved in the discussions of several E.U. regulatory proposals and was training on-job technical collaborators from several Member States, namely some from the Portuguese speaking States.

She is graduated on Management and Enterprise Administration and post-graduate on Public Regulation and Competition. From 1994 to 2013 she had managerial responsibilities in the area of Competition, Prices, Consumer Protection and Economic Regulation. In the period 2006-2013 she has been Professor of Economic Regulation (Aeronautical Sciences course) at Lusofona University, in Lisbon.

Mrs. Helena Faleiro has been nominated, on the 30 of September 2013, to the ICAO Council by Portugal one of the seven Member States of the ABIS Group.

Asked about why she chose aviation as a career, Mrs. Faleiro mentions: “Civil aviation represented for me an opportunity to work with a sector in which the stakeholders have completely different business models subject to ongoing challenges. Furthermore, to know and to be able to interact with different people, regions and cultures constituted an attraction that keeps me in the world of aviation for over 30 years.”

Amalia Celia Figueredo was the first woman to receive a pilot’s license in Latin America. She fell in love with aviation when, at the age of 19, she moved near the Villa Lugano airfield, where she met the aviator and aircraft builder Paul Castaibert, who became her first instructor. She then had lessons with Eduardo Alfredo Olivero and Emilio Sauvein, as well as in the piloting school of Pablo Teodoro Fels and Marcelle Paillete in San Fernando (Buenos Aires). She passed her flight exam, having completed a series of demanding maneuvers before landing to the default site. She obtained license No. 58 of the International Aeronautical Federation, issued by the Argentine Aeroclub. While she never stayed away from aviation, Figueredo worked for 30 years with the Civil Registry of Belgrano. Figueredo is buried in the Pantheon Military Cemetery of the Chacarita.

During her long life, she received numerous national and international awards. She was President of the Women’s Aeroclub of Argentina, was appointed Honorary Associate of the Military Circle Aeronautics (1952), received the titles of Military pilot “Honoris Causa” (1964), Civil Aviator of Uruguay (1968), “Order of Merit” with the rank of Grand Officer (Brazil, 1968), Pioneer of Aeronautics in Argentina awarded by the Air Force (1970). She also received the Gold Medal of the Vieilles Tiges Association (1971), the Silver Medal for Aeronautics Association Argentina (1979) and was named Reserve Captain of Argentina Air Force (1983). The Argentinian Senate paid homage to her in 1964 and the Cosquin airport is named after her since 1972.
Flügge-Lotz was the first woman engineering professor at Stanford University, with a specialization in the mathematics of aerodynamics. A graduate of the, at the time, male-dominated Technical University in Hanover, she studied applied mathematics, earning the degree of Diplom-Ingenieur in 1927 and Doktor-Ingenieur in 1929. For the majority of her studies, she was the only woman in many of her classes. Having accepted a research position at the Aerodynamics Institute of Göttingen, Flügge-Lotz managed to solve the integro-differential equation for the lifting-line theory for the spanwise lift distribution of an airplane wing, thus developing the “Lotz Method”, and being promoted to team leader. While working as a consultant for the Deutche Versuchsanstalt fur Luftfahrt (DVL) in Berlin, she began working on automatic control theory, developing the theory of discontinuous, or on-off control systems.

In 1948, she moved to the United States of America with her husband, and became a lecturer at Stanford. Her classes and academic work were so prolific, that in 1960 when Flügge-Lotz was the only female delegate from the United States at the first Congress of the International Federation of Automatic Control in Moscow. In the same year she was appointed full professor in both engineering mechanics, as well as aeronautics and astronautics. She was Stanford’s first female professor in engineering. In 1970, she was awarded the Achievement award by the Society of Women Engineers. She was the first woman elected to be a Fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics in 1970, and in 1971 she was the first woman to be selected to give the prestigious von Karman Lecture.

Appointed by President Bill Clinton as the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, Ms. Jane Garvey became the first woman to head the FAA, the first 5-year term appointment and the first non-licensed pilot Administrator. Her career intertwines aviation and traditional transportation. She held senior positions in the Massachusetts Department of Public Works, Boston’s Logan International Airport and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), as well as the Meridian Foundation and JP Morgan Securities’ Infrastructure Advisory Group.

Ms. Garvey has received numerous awards and public recognition including the National Air Transportation Association’s Distinguished Service Award, the National Council of Public-Private Partnerships Leadership Award, the National Award of Excellence for Public leaders, the Woman of the Year award from Women in Transportation and Women in Politics. In 2002, the Association of Road and Transportation Builders presented Ms. Garvey with their highest award when she joined the distinguished list of The Hundred Leaders in Transportation in the 20th century. She currently serves on several corporate boards and commissions.

Ms. Garvey holds a Bachelor’s degree from Mount Saint Mary College and a Master’s degree from Mount Holyoke College. She participated in the Fellowship Program for Public Leaders at Harvard, and she holds honorary degrees from several universities.
Silvia Gehrer is Director General International in the Austrian Civil Aviation Authority since 2013 and is heading the Department of Strategy and International since 2009. She initially worked with the Ministry for Economic Affairs and joined the Austrian Permanent Representation at the EU in Brussels in 1999, the year of Austria’s accession to the EU as Trade Policy Attachée. She also worked at the US Embassy in 1999 before joining the Austrian Ministry for Transport in 2000 where she headed the unit for EU and International Aviation. During the 2004-2007 period, she represented Austria on the Council of the ICAO as a member of the ABIS Rotation Group (Austria, Belgium, The Netherlands, Luxemburg, Ireland, Switzerland and Ireland).

Peggy Gilligan became Associate Administrator for Aviation Safety on 5 January 2009 after serving as the Deputy Associate Administrator in that organization for 14 years. She has been in the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) since 1980.

As Associate Administrator, Peggy leads the organization responsible for setting, overseeing, and enforcing safety standards for all parts of the aviation industry—airlines, manufacturers, repair stations, pilots, mechanics, air traffic controllers, flight attendants, and any person or product that operates in aviation. These programs have a direct impact on every facet of domestic and international civil aviation safety.

In June 2014, Peggy received the 2014 L. Welch Pogue Award for Lifetime Achievement in Aviation. The award recognizes her visionary leadership in the aviation community and was given by Aviation Week and Space Technology and the International Aviation Club. She is also the recipient of the Roger W. Jones Award for Executive Leadership, the Robert J. Collier Trophy and the Laurel Award from Aviation Week and Space Technology magazine. Peggy was Chief of Staff at the FAA, serving four Administrators. She also served in the Chief Counsel’s office in Washington, D.C. and as a staff attorney in FAA’s Eastern Region in New York. Peggy is a 1979 graduate of Boston University School of Law and a 1975 graduate of Manhattanville College, Purchase, NY.
Angela Gittens began her tenure as Director General of Airports Council International (ACI World) in 2008. She became interested in international aviation when she was recruited to become Deputy Director for Business and Finance at San Francisco International Airport. She later was recruited to lead Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, preparing it to accommodate the 1996 Olympic Games, then the largest peace-time event in history. She later became Miami’s Aviation Director, leading Miami International Airport and four general aviation airports. In other previous roles, Ms. Gittens served as Vice-President, Airport Business Services for HNTB Corporation, where she led the firm’s practice in airport business and strategic planning, and as Vice President at TBI Airport Management, she oversaw the transition to private ownership of London Luton Airport and managed operations contracts at several airports in the US and Canada.

Ms. Gittens has served on numerous aviation industry boards and committees including the FAA Management Advisory Committee, the FAA Research, Engineering and Development Committee, the National Civil Aviation Review Commission (“the Mineta Commission”), the Executive Committee of the Transportation Research Board, the Airport Cooperative Research Program Oversight Committee and the Board of Directors of JetBlue Airways. She recently became a Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society and now serves on the Policy Board of the Radio Technical Commission of Aeronautics, a U.S. based aviation technical standards-setting advisory board.

The adopted daughter of Kemal Atatürk, Sabiha Gökçen was one of the world’s first female combat pilots and Türkiye’s first female combat pilot. She was the first female trainee of the Türkku-Du (Turkishbird) Flight School. Unable to officially register in the national War School, she received a special education programme of eleven months at the Tayyare Mektebi (Aviation School) in Eskişehir at the 1936-1937 academic year. After receiving her flight patents (diploma) she has was trained to become a war pilot at the 1st Airplane Regiment in Eskişehir for six months, immediately followed by active participation in combat. She joined the Türkku-Du Flight School of Turkish Aeronautical Association as chief trainer in 1938, where she served until 1954 as a flight instructor and became a member of the association’s executive board. In her 28 years of flying, she flew 22 different types of aircraft for more than 8,000 hours, 32 hours of which were active combat and bombardment missions.

She was awarded the Turkish Aeronautical Association’s first “Murassa (Jeweled) Medal” for her service. The Sabiha Gökçen International Airport in Istanbul is named after her.
Ms. Nancy Graham joined the ICAO in 2007 as the Director of the Air Navigation Bureau. Ms. Graham has led the ANB through a major transformation, broadening its scope to include the full spectrum of Safety and Efficiency programs. She is a strong believer in partnership with aviation’s international organizations and works to foster joint activities to improve aviation safety and efficiency. Her personal motto is “more logos, less meetings”, in other words, results-oriented partnerships with all parts of the aviation system.

Prior to joining ICAO, Ms. Graham was an executive with the United States Federal Aviation Administration’s (FAA) for a number of years, serving in a variety of capacities around the world including Asia Pacific, Europe, the Middle East and Africa. Ever the non-traditionalist, Ms. Graham’s early career included a very successful period as one of the U.S.’ first female Torpedo Mechanics, and later Foreign Weapons Sales to U.S. NATO allies. She comes by the aviation bug genetically, having spent her preteen years building kit aircraft with her father (a pilot and jumpmaster) and younger brother (an aerobatic champion).

Ms. Graham holds a Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in Technology Management, graduating both with honors.

Marilyn Hewson is Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Lockheed Martin Corporation. She previously held a variety of increasingly responsible executive positions with the Corporation, including President and Chief Operating Officer and Executive Vice President of Lockheed Martin’s Electronic Systems business area.

In her 31 years with Lockheed Martin, Ms. Hewson has held several operational leadership positions including President of Lockheed Martin Systems Integration; Executive Vice President of Global Sustainment for Lockheed Martin Aeronautics; President and General Manager of Kelly Aviation Center, L.P., an affiliate of Lockheed Martin; and President of Lockheed Martin Logistics Services. She has also served in key corporate executive roles, including Senior Vice President of Corporate Shared Services; Vice President of Global Supply Chain Management; and Vice President of Corporate Internal Audit.

She is a member of the Board of Governors of the Aerospace Industries Association, and is an Associate Fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. Ms. Hewson has been selected by Fortune magazine as one of the “50 Most Powerful Women in Business” for the past five years and was named #4 in 2014. She was named #21 on the Forbes “World’s 100 Most Powerful Women” list in 2014.

Born in Junction City, Kansas, Ms. Hewson earned her Bachelor of Science degree in business administration and her Master of Arts degree in economics from The University of Alabama. She also attended the Columbia Business School and Harvard Business School executive development programs.
Dr. Karin Kammann-Klippstein studied law at the Universities of Hamburg and Geneva, with a focus on Public International Law and EU Law.

She joined the German Federal Ministry of Transport in 1983. As transportation Counsellor at the German Embassy in Washington, D.C. from 1997 to 2002, she was responsible for bilateral aviation policy issues between Germany and the United States. From 2006 to 2008, she was the German Permanent Representative to ICAO and member of the ICAO Council. In 2007, she was chairing the Air Transport Committee and was second vice president of the Council.

In 2008 she became Director of Aviation Policy in the German Federal Ministry of Transport.

A career diplomat, Ms. Kawooya served as the Interim Representative to the Council of ICAO in 2007-2008. Prior to this appointment, she held different positions within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Uganda, her diverse portfolio including areas such as Human Rights and Gender issues, Diaspora and relations with other African States. Ms. Kawooya has served her country abroad, holding posts in Canada and Australia and was even appointed International Supervisor for Registration of the United Nations mission to Kosovo (UNMIK).
Elisabeth Landrichter was appointed General Director Aviation in 2013 and is also heading the Department of Aviation Infrastructure since February 2013. Before she joined the Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology she was the Managing Director of 'City Airport Train – CAT'. She has built up this transport service in various fields. Since 1997, as Head of Controlling Handling Services, she was responsible for the development of the operational and strategic controlling, the differentiation of controlling instruments for cargo handling services and the monitoring of baggage reconciliation.

Dr. Liu has been serving as the Director of the Bureau of Administration and Services of the ICAO since November 2007. She has led the transformation of the Bureau towards a modern, results-based and performance-oriented entity, which resulted in enhanced efficiency and improved governance to support ICAO in the implementation of its Strategic Objectives. Dr. Liu has a proven track record of effectively managing and reforming the activities of the Organization in human resources; information and communication technologies; language services and publications; conference, security and general services, as well as Secretariat services for the ICAO Assembly and the Council and in managing revenue-generating activities of the Organization. Dr. Liu also acts as the Secretary of the Human Resources Committee of the Council and is representing ICAO in all matters relating to administration and management.

Prior to joining ICAO, Dr. Liu served in the Legal Affairs Division and the Department of International Affairs and Cooperation of the General Administration of Civil Aviation of China (CAAC) in increasingly responsible positions since 1987, holding the post of Deputy Director General of the Department of International Affairs and Cooperation until her appointment at ICAO.

In this role, she served as Chief negotiator on bilateral and multilateral air transport agreements and participated in major high-level talks on aviation cooperation between China and other countries, regional groups, as well as international and regional organizations. Dr. Liu developed China’s policy and regulation on international air transport, including market access and liberalization, air transport development, fair competition, consumer rights protection, environmental protection, etc. She was also responsible for Hong Kong's and Macao's aviation affairs related to international organizations and third countries. Dr. Liu represented her government in numerous international conferences in the fields of safety, security, environmental protection and sustainability of civil aviation. She was elected chairperson of the APEC Aviation Expert Group and Air Services Sub-group and represented the Chinese Government at the ICAO Council Special Group on Legal Aspects of Emission Charges and the ICAO Air Transport Regulation Panel and was nominated for Mediation of Dispute Resolution.

Dr. Liu is an experienced policy-maker in civil aviation and a seasoned leader with extensive management experience as senior international civil servant in large and complex organizations, such as ICAO. She exemplifies strategic thinking and vision and won recognition for her outstanding performance and capable leadership, which combines a thorough understanding of the aviation business with comprehensive administration experience in a dynamic environment.

Dr. Liu holds a PhD degree in law from Wuhan University of China, specializing in international law, and an LLM degree from Leiden University of The Netherlands, majoring in air and space law. She acts as Director of the Association of Air Law and the Association of Private International Law in China, is a Guest Professor at the Civil Aviation University of China and published several articles on international air transport regulation and policy as well as on international air law.
Kerryn is a commercial pilot with an Airline Transport Pilot License. She is a trained teacher and holds a Diploma of Transport Safety Investigation. She also has an Executive Masters of Public Administration with the Australia and New Zealand School of Government.

Kerryn started her career in aviation in 1988 as a charter pilot and flight instructor. After joining the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) in 1995 as an air accident investigator, Kerryn worked in a wide range of agency operations including with a focus on investigations, safety analysis and research, and organizational management. Kerryn led a number of significant agency projects including: the development of multi-modal legislation which culminated in the introduction of the Transport Safety Investigation Act 2003; the certification of the ATSB as a registered training organisation under Australia’s national training framework; the implementation of the ATSB’s Safety Investigation Information Management System; and the transition of the ATSB to both operational and functional independence on 1 July 2009.

Kerryn has been Australia’s Representative on the Council of ICAO since November 2010. In order to ensure that international aviation is able to grow sustainably, Kerryn, together with her Council colleagues, seeks to carefully guide ICAO on a range of significant policy issues, including in the areas of safety, security, air transport regulation and the environment. Kerryn chaired the ICAO Council’s Human Resources Committee in 2011-2012, the Air Transport Committee in 2012/2013 and is currently the chair of the Finance Committee.

Known as the “Queen of the Hurricanes”, Elsie MacGill was the world’s first female aircraft designer. The daughter of a prominent Vancouver lawyer and the first British Columbia female judge, Elsie MacGill graduated from the University of Toronto in 1927 with a degree in electrical engineering. While working in Pontiac, she began part-time graduate studies in aeronautical engineering at the University of Michigan, enrolling in the fall of 1927 in the full-time Master of Science in Engineering program to begin aircraft design work and conduct research and development in the University’s new aeronautics facilities. In 1929, she became the first woman in North America, and likely the world, to be awarded a Master’s degree in aeronautical engineering, in 1932-1943 she pursued doctoral studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

Despite having her walking ability compromised as a result of polio, MacGill started work in 1934 at Fairchild Aircraft’s operations in Montreal as an Assistant Engineer. In 1938, she was the first woman elected to corporate membership in the Engineering Institute of Canada. Later that year she was hired as Chief Aeronautical Engineer at Canadian Car and Foundry (CC&F), becoming the first woman in the world to hold such a position. While at CC&F she developed the Maple Leaf Trainer II and the Hawker Hurricane fighter aircraft for the RAF. With the outbreak of World War II MacGill’s primary task was production line optimization. Later, she authored Factors Affecting the Mass Production of Aэропланс, a paper that won the 1941 Gzowski Medal from the Engineering Institute of Canada. MacGill also designed de-icing controls and ski-landing systems for aircraft operation during the winter.

In 1943 she moved to Toronto, where she started an aviation consulting firm, along with her husband. In 1946, she became the first woman to serve as Technical Advisor for ICAO, where she helped draft International Airworthiness regulations for the design and production of commercial aircraft. In 1947 she became the chair of the National Air Regulations Committee, the first woman ever to chair a UN committee.

MacGill, following in her mother’s and grandmother’s footsteps, was a fervent advocate of women’s rights. She served as the president of the Canadian Federation of Business and Professional Women’s Clubs from 1962 to 1964. In 1967 she was named to the Royal Commission on the Status of Women in Canada and co-authored the report published in 1970 (including a Separate Statement). She was also a member of the Ontario Status of Women Committee, an affiliate of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women. For this work she was given the Order of Canada in 1971. In March 1993 the American Society of Women Engineers made her an honorary member and named her “Woman Engineer of the Year,” the first time that the Award had gone out of the United States. She was awarded the Centennial Medal by the Canadian government in 1967, the Ninety-Nines awarded her the Amelia Earhart Medal in 1975, and in 1979 the Ontario Association of Professional Engineers presented her with their gold medal. In 1983 she was inducted into Canada’s Aviation Hall of Fame, and in 1992 she was a founding inductee in the Canadian Science and Engineering Hall of Fame in Ottawa.
Born 1961 in Mozambique, Ms. Manave holds a Degree in Economics from UEM (University Eduardo Mondlane, Maputo, Mozambique).

She has held various positions within LAM Mozambique Airlines, and is currently the CEO of the airline, a position she has held since April 2011. Marlene is the Chairperson of the Airlines Association of Southern Africa (AASA), AGM – Casino Polana, Board of Directors – Travelport, Galileo Mozambique, and is also a Board Administrator – Hotel Cardoso.

She has held various other positions including Financial Advisor of the Board for the Restructuring Project Company, as a Project Coordinator for the Constitution of LAM International, and as a Financial Analyst – Specialist for NGO Financed Projects by USAID.

Born in the UK, but raised in Kenya, Beryl Markham was one of the first women bush pilots and the first woman to successfully cross the Atlantic Ocean non-stop from east to west. She ventured on to her historic flight in September 1936, taking off from Abington, England, and performed a crash-landing 20 hours later in Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia, Canada, due to fuel starvation as a result of icing on her Vega Gull. Despite not reaching her intended destination of New York, Markham set the record for a westward Atlantic crossing. This, and other aviation-related adventures were chronicled in her memoirs, West with the Night, published in 1942. The book was critically acclaimed, with Ernest Hemingway mentioning that “she has written so well, and marvelously well, that I was completely ashamed of myself as a writer”.

A republication of the book in 1983, featuring an additional chapter of the life of the 80-year-old Markham, and a 1986 television documentary established Markham as an aviatrix and an author that inspired many women to follow in her footsteps. She was inducted posthumously into the Women in Aviation International Pioneer Hall of Fame in 2014.
Marvingt, also known as “la fiancée du danger”, learned to pilot free balloons in 1901, later becoming the first French woman to obtain a balloon pilot’s license. She won numerous competitions and set records for French balloon pilots (male and female), and was the first woman to pilot a balloon from the Continent to England over the English Channel on 26 October 1909.

On 10 June 1910, Marvingt became the third woman in the world to earn a fixed wing pilot’s license, following Baronne Raymonde de LaRoche and Marthe Niel. She became the holder of the first formally recognized woman’s flying record, with a flight of 53 minutes during which she flew 42 kilometers on 27 November 1910, and was a combat pilot during World War I.

Marvingt was instrumental in the development and creation of air ambulances and aeromedical evacuation services. She designed one of the first air ambulances herself, was the first ever certified flight nurse, founded aeromedical organizations (Les Amies De l’Aviation Sanitaire; Infirmières de l’Air; The Flying Ambulance Corps) and trained female and male flight nurses.

Marvingt is the woman with the most official honours, awards and decorations in the history of France: a Chevalier and later on an Officer of the Legion of Honour; she was also awarded, among others, the Médaille de l’Aéronautique, the grand prize Deutsch de la Meurthe from the Fédération Nationale d’Aéronautique, the Médaille d’Argent du Service de Santé de l’Air, and was inducted in the Women in Aviation International Pioneer Hall of Fame in 2007.

Susan Mashibe is Founder, Owner and Executive Director of VIA Aviation, formerly known as Tanzanite Jet Centre (TanJet). An avid aviator and entrepreneur, she built her business to serve private aviation needs in three countries across the African continent. Ms. Mashibe became the first female FAA-certified commercial pilot and aircraft maintenance engineer in Tanzania. She is a Tanzania Country Chair for Global Dignity and the Africa Regional Lead for the National Business Aviation Association.

Ms. Mashibe is now a recognized leader in business aviation in Tanzania and East Africa. She is a 2011 WEF Young Global Leader and an Archbishop Tutu Fellow on 2009, as well as a 2011 Fortune Most Powerful Woman mentee. Currently, Ms. Mashibe is establishing aircraft maintenance and repair services at Kilimanjaro, which will measure up to international standards for general and corporate aviation. Susan strives to promote math and science, paying special attention to female pupils in primary and secondary schools in Tanzania. Ms. Mashibe holds a degree from Western Michigan University.
Carolyn McCall graduated from Kent University with a BA in History and Politics and from London University with a Masters in Politics.

Ms. McCall joined easyJet on 1 July 2010 as Chief Executive Officer and has been responsible for improving the airline’s punctuality to industry-leading levels as well as introducing important customer innovations like allocated seating. Her strategic focus has resulted in a series of milestone events including reaching the landmark of carrying 48m passengers annually and attracting more business travelers, with more than 12m now flying with easyJet each year – always ensuring easyJet provides easy and affordable travel for all.

Under Carolyn’s leadership easyJet has consistently exceeded market expectations. 2012 saw the company achieving record profits and paying a dividend for the first time and in 2013 the company entered the FTSE 100. In 2013, Carolyn led a rigorous evaluation process and obtained shareholder approval for the purchase of 135 Airbus aircraft. Prior to joining easyJet, Carolyn was Chief Executive of Guardian Media Group plc. She was also non-executive director of Lloyds TSB (from 2008-2009) and was non-executive director of Tesco plc (1999-2005). She was Chair of Opportunity Now (2005-2009) and a former President of Women in Advertising and Communications London (WACL).

Carolyn was awarded the OBE for services to women in business in the Queen’s Birthday Honours List in June 2008. In April 2008 she was named Veuve Clicquot Business Woman of the Year. In 2013, Carolyn McCall was awarded the Airline Business Airline Strategy Award for Low Cost leadership. In the same year Carolyn was awarded “City AM’s Personality of the Year” award along with the Gold Medal Award from the Chartered Management Institute for her work in management. In 2014 she was the winner of the Business Achievement Award at the British Travel Industry Hall of Fame Awards.

McKinley’s career in aviation began in 1997, when she was appointed the Head of the Air Navigation Services Division in the Department of Public Enterprise in Ireland. She gained extensive experience on a variety of European Commission and EUROCONTROL committees, working on policy areas that included the Galileo Global Navigation Satellite System project, the Single European Sky proposal, environmental issues in civil aviation and the aviation spectrum positions presented at WRC 2000. In the 2001-2004 period, she was the Representative of Ireland and the ABIS States (Austria, Belgium, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Ireland, Switzerland) on the ICAO Council. During her tenure, she was appointed the Chairperson of the ICAO Air Transport Committee, where she secured agreement for the introduction of Machine Readable Travel Documents (MRTDs) and deployment of biometric technologies.

In 2005 McGinley transitioned to the Airports Council International (ACI), where she worked as the Director of the ICAO Bureau in Montreal. Her work was crucial for ACI to obtain Observer status at the ICAO Air Navigation Commission.
**Captain Rashmi Miranda** was the first Indian female pilot to fly the Boeing 777 and was the Captain of an all-female crew flight of Air India from Mumbai to New York on International Women’s Day in 2010. She followed up with another inspirational flight, between Delhi and Kolkata in 2012, operating a Boeing 787-Dreamliner. It was the first time this type of aircraft was operated by a female captain and female co-pilot. Capt. Miranda is the first woman to be promoted to the rank of captain within Air India, a position she holds since 2003. A graduate of the Chennai Flying Club, Capt. Miranda joined Air India in 1989. In interviews with the local press, she has stated that “I always knew that I wanted to become a pilot. My father and brothers are pilots and so this was a natural career choice for me.”

**Ms. Mzimela** joined South African Airways in January 1996, as a Research Analyst responsible for route analysis and passenger forecasts. She was soon promoted to Manager, Market Development and later became Senior Manager Alliances, Regional General Manager for Africa and the Middle East, Executive Vice President of Global Passenger Services and handled the Global Sales and Voyager portfolio. She was appointed Chief Executive Officer of South African Express Airways effective 1 October 2003 at a time when it was faced with an undesirable and unsatisfactory financial position. In 2010, Ms. Mzimela was appointed as Chief Executive Officer of the biggest airline in Africa, SAA. Under her leadership, SAA was able to introduce direct services to New York and Beijing, China (a first in the history of the airline). The airline also grew its regional network by adding 8 additional routes in one year. She was appointed as the first female into the Board of Directors at IATA in 67 years.

Currently, she is the founder and Executive Chairperson of Blue Crane Aviation – an aviation services company with specific focus on African airlines and providing specialist airline consulting, aviation legal services, aircraft management services – all to enable airlines and aviation businesses with strategic access to the global market. Ms. Mzmela is a leader with substantial hands-on experience and whose positive attitude, strong negotiating skills and business acumen have helped her scale to many heights. Her personal philosophy and values have led her to succeed and in inspiring and leading others. Ms. Mzmela’s positive attitude, strong negotiating skills and business acumen have helped her scale to many heights. Ms. Mzmela was one of five national finalists for the Prestigious Nedbank Business Woman of the Year Award 2002.
Julie O’Neill is a non-executive director at Ryanair. She served as Secretary General of the Department of Transport, Ireland from 2002 to 2009. During that time, she delivered a successful IPO for the part-privatisation of Aer Lingus and oversaw the setting up of the Dublin Airport Authority to provide the basis for the subsequent independence of Shannon Airport. In a career that spanned 37 years in the Irish public service, she worked in strategic policy development and implementation in eight Government Departments.

As a small island nation with a big reach, aviation is in Irish blood, from when Alcock and Brown made their first transatlantic flight, landing in a bog in the west of Ireland and the arrival of the flying boats at Foynes on the Shannon estuary where, from 1937 to 1945, Ireland was the centre of the aviation world. Ireland’s passion for flying and vibrant aviation sector continue to this day with Ryanair, featuring a broad network of destinations and an expanding fleet. Julie is delighted to serve as a non-executive Director of this dynamic Irish company as it implements its “Always Getting Better” programme.

Julie is also a non-executive director at Permanent tsb bank and the Irish Museum of Modern Art. She chairs the Audit Committee at Trinity College Dublin and the China Group at the Institute of International and European Affairs (Ireland) and is a strategic management consultant at Join the Dots.

Dr Ola Orekunrin is a medical doctor, a trainee helicopter pilot and an entrepreneur who founded West Africa’s first indigenous air ambulance service, the Flying Doctors Nigeria which saves hundreds of lives across the region every year especially in the oil and gas industry, rendering medical evacuation services, remote site clinic management, First Aid Training and other medical solutions to make work safer in the industry. She is extremely passionate about healthcare in Africa and works with various foundations, charities and governments to improve standards of healthcare.

Dr Ola was born and bred in the UK. She studied medicine and surgery at the University of York after which she worked in Acute Medicine across the UK. She then went on to be awarded the Japanese MEXT scholarship which allowed her to further her studies in Tokyo Japan.

She has published two medical textbooks ‘EMQ’s in Paediatrics’ and ‘Pre-Hospital Care for Africa’ as well as articles in the British Medical Journal, New York Times and the Huffington Post.

She is an international speaker who has received multiple awards and nominations. These include the Mouldbreaker’s Award, the THIS Day Award, The Future Award as entrepreneur of the year, New Generation Leader for Africa, Ladybrille Personality of the month and Vanguard WOW Awards. She is also a TED fellow and has been honored by the world economic forum as a Young Global Leader.

She is also a member of the American College of Emergency Physicians.
With more than 20 years of experience working in the airline industry, Ms. Ourmières
has held a variety of key management positions within the Air France KLM Group. She
holds a Master of Aeronautics from the École National Supérieure d’Ingénieurs and an
MBA from Essec Business School. Ms. Ourmières began her career at Air France in
1988 in the Maintenance Department, and then moved to the Information Systems
Department. In 1992 she transferred to Amadeus as VP Sales and Marketing for the
French Market. From 1998 to 2001 she held the position of VP Air France Global Sales.
In 2002, she was promoted to the position of VP International Sales. In 2005,
Ms. Ourmières was named General Manager of Air France and KLM, UK and Ireland.
Before being appointed CEO of Citilift, the London based Air France subsidiary. Most
recently she held the position as the first General Manager and VP for Air France and
KLM in the US.

Prof. Malgorzata Polkowska has an academic background. She is a new Representative
to the ICAO Council (2013-2016). She comes from Poland, which for the first time in its
history is represented in the ICAO Council in the name of the Central European Rotation
Group (CERG). She graduated from the University of Warsaw, has a Ph. D. degree in
international law and has more than 16 years’ experience in the field of civil aviation.
She began her carrier at the Polish Airlines “LOT” (1996-2003) as air cargo instructor
accredited by IATA. In her last position, Dr. Polkowska served as the Plenipotentiary of
the President of the Civil Aviation Authority of the Republic of Poland for European and
International Affairs, as well as Director of the CAA President’s Bureau. She is well-
acquainted with the work of international organizations (ICAO, European Civil Aviation
Conference - ECAC and Eurocontrol) and of the European Aviation Safety Agency
(EASA), where she was a member of the EASA Rulemaking Advisory Group. Moreover,
she represents Poland at international diplomatic conferences in ICAO, the Legal
Committee and various international legal meetings. It is worth mentioning that Dr.
Polkowska has also lectured on Aviation and Space Law in several Polish and foreign
academies (including the Institute of Air and Space Law at McGill University) and
conducted aviation law courses for Aviation Training Academies. Her scientific output
consists of over fifty publications on international aviation and space law written both in
Polish and English. In 2014 she graduated and became a Professor at the Military
Academy and the School of Economics in Warsaw.

Reflecting on her engagement with aviation Dr. Polkowska says: “I started the adventure
with Aviation, because in my country, Poland, at the time of my studies, there was no
woman taking care of aviation law, no books in the Polish language and no universities
activities concerning this subject. So out of curiosity I started working for an airline, later
at the CAA and University. I fell in love with aviation and this love lasts till today. The
experiences what I have help me with my work. Working in Aviation is my passion!”
Ms. Ghislaine Richard was a Director and Vice-Chair of the Canadian Air Transport Security Administration Authority (CATSA) from April 2002 to 31 March 2004. Together with the CATSA Chairman, she was charged with the establishment of the new Crown Corporation created in the wake of the events of September 11, 2001. Prior to her appointment to CATSA, she served as Canada’s Permanent Representative on the Council of the ICAO from 1996 to 2001. In the course of her tenure at ICAO, she was elected Chair of the Unlawful Interference Committee (1996-1997) and Chair of the Finance Committee (1998-2000). She also acted as Representative of the Governing Body on the ICAO Staff Pension Committee (1998-2000). From 1990 to 1995, she held the position of Chair and CEO of the Civil Aviation Tribunal of Canada, having previously served as Vice-Chair of the Tribunal from 1986 to 1990.

A law graduate from Université de Montréal (B.A. 1962; L.L. 1965), she also holds a Master’s degree in Air and Space Law from McGill University’s Institute of Air and Space Law (1981). In 1993, she completed the Advanced Management Program (AMP) at the Canadian Center for Management Development (CCMD).

Currently a member of the Quebec Order of Notaries, she was a member of the Board of Directors of the Quebec Division of the Canadian Bar Association (CBA) (1985-1986), President of the Quebec Division of the CBA’s Air and Space Law Section (1984-86), Chair of the Council of Canadian Administrative Tribunals (CCAT) (1988-89) and Chair of the Steering Committee of the Group of Heads of Federal Agencies of Canada (1993-95). She was also a member of the Editorial Board of the Annals of Air and Space Law and a founding member of the Editorial Board of the Canadian Journal of Administrative Law and Practice (1987-95).

Ghislaine Richard was a member of the International Women’s Forum (IWF) and the past Chair of its Montreal Chapter (2002-04), as well as a member of the Women’s Executive Network (WEN). She was also a member of the International Aviation Women’s Association (IAAW). For many years, she was a member of the Board of Directors of the Montreal Symphony Orchestra (MISO) having also served as the Secretary of the MISO’s Executive Committee. She was a member of the Board of Directors of the Allegra Foundation and co-president of the Sir Robert Peel Association as well as a member of the Environment Committee of the Lake Echo Association.

She has published several articles, lectured extensively and participated in numerous conferences, colloquia and assemblies, both nationally and internationally. In November 2008, she was inducted into the Quebec Air and Space Hall of Fame. Having recently served as President of the Student Alumni of McGill University’s Institute of Air and Space Law, she held the position of Chair of the International Foundation for Aviation and Development (IFFAAD) until September 2014.

Representative of Colombia to the ICAO Council between 2010 and 2012, Dr. Rueda has a career featuring a series of prominent positions. She served as the Director of the Institute of Planning and Promotion of Energy Solutions (IPSE), and in 2004 assumed the post of Secretary General of the Ministry of Mining and Energy. During her tenure in ICAO, she was a member of the Air Transport Committee, the Technical Cooperation Committee and the Human Resources Committee. Currently Dr. Rueda is focusing on a career in politics, having been recently elected the Treasurer of the Centro Democratico Party in Colombia.
Sibongile Sambo is the founder and managing director of SRS Aviation – the first 100% black female-owned aviation company that offers clients professional and personalized flight options to destinations around the world.

Ms. Sambo holds a Bachelor of Administration from the University of Zululand, Bachelor of Administration Honours from Unisa, Advanced Programme in Organisational Development from Unisa, a Marketing Certificate from Institute of Marketing Management, a Mining Executive Preparation Programme from Wits. She is currently pursuing a Master’s of Science Degree in Management of Technology and Innovation in Aviation. She has received numerous awards for her activities as an entrepreneur and is passionate about mentoring younger generations of both women and men in business and aviation. Ms. Sambo has a global perspective to establish her company all over the African continent and to promote youth and women empowerment globally. To this end she is affiliated with the South African Entrepreneurs Network (SAWEN), Business Women Association (BWAI) and she is part of a team that is establishing the Southern African Woman in Aviation, a non-profit making company that will encourage women to enter the field of aviation in different levels; offer bursaries and scholarships towards aviation-related training, etc. Sibongile is a board member of SAWIA.

Sibongile has a strategic relationship with Women of Color in Aviation and Aerospace in the United States of America. Sibongile is also a member of Women in Aviation International (WAI).

A member of the legendary “Night Witches”, the all-female Air Force unit of the Soviet Union, Lieutenant Irina Sebrova began her career in aviation, by learning to fly in the aircraft donated by the workers of the factory she used to work in at the local aero-club. Making up her mind to leave the factory behind, Sebrova earned her pilot’s licence and then became a flight instructor in Moscow. With the outbreak of World War II, she joined Marina Raskova, the founder of the Night Witches, and began training as a military pilot. In 1942 she became commander of the 46th Guards Night Bomber Aviation Regiment and participated in more than 1100 flights and 1000 bombings of enemy targets, having the most flight hours in her regiment. At the end of the War, Sebrova was awarded the Gold Star of the Hero of the Soviet Union, the Order of Lenin, 3 Orders of the Red Banner, Order of the Patriotic War, 1st and 2nd degree, the Red Star and many other medals.

She retired from the Air Force in 1948 and joined the Moscow Aviation Institute as a professor, helping to develop new aerospace technologies.
Mrs. Shaari is a graduate of the University of Malaya (B.A. Hons) and holds a Masters in Transport Planning and Management for the Polytechnic of Central London. Her career in the Ministry of Transport of Malaysia started in 1971, where she progressively moved from Assistant Secretary to Secretary General of the Ministry, before being appointed by the Government of Malaysia as the Representative to the ICAO Council in 2007. Mrs. Shaari has been a member of several boards, including the Malaysian Airline System Berhad, the Malaysian Airport Holding Berhad and the Kuala Lumpur International Airport Hubbing Committee. She has received numerous awards, such as the Transport Personality of the year 2001 and an Honorary Colonel Rank.

Samantha Sharif has over 20 years of experience in leadership roles in New Zealand, Australia and Europe. She is currently the CEO of Aviation NZ. In this role Ms. Sharif’s focus is to lead, inspire and grow the New Zealand aviation industry to deliver on its full growth potential by harnessing partnerships, focussing resources and reducing constraints. Ms. Sharif is also an Independent Director of a number of organisations in the aviation sector, as well as a Board member of the Wellington Regional Strategy Committee and Positively Wellington Venues.

Prior to returning to New Zealand, Ms. Sharif was based in Amsterdam as the CEO and prior to that Director of Global Programmes for CANSO, the global organisation representing the Air Traffic Management industry. In these roles she helped to transform CANSO into a professional, credible and future focussed organisation, with a significant presence on the world stage. She led the development of international partnerships with ICAO, IATA, ACI and many other global and regional stakeholders; as well as opening new CANSO offices in Europe, Asia-Pacific, Middle East, Latin America and Africa.
Gabriela Sommerfeld, CEO of AeroGal (Aerolíneas Galápagos), was the first female CEO of an airline in Ecuador and overall in Latin America. Since assuming her position, she managed to expand the client base, fleet and network of international destinations of the airline. She is also currently the Chair of the Asociación de Empresas Nacionales de Aviación (ADENA), an association that brings together Ecuadorian entrepreneurs in the area of aviation.

Ms. Sommerfeld holds a MBA from the Escuela de Graduados en Administración y Dirección de Empresas (EGADE) Business School of the Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey (ITESM), a very well-renowned private university in Mexico.

Prior to her appointment to the position of Secretary General of AFCAC on 9 January 2012, Ms. Iyabo O. Sosina was Director, Air Transport Regulation in the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA), where she supervised the preparation of the Air Transport Economic Regulations incorporating the Consumer Protection Regulations. She also supervised the automation of the Department as well as the automation or collection from source of sales charge which formed 95% of the organization’s revenue.

Her aviation career began with the International Relations Department of the Nigerian Federal Ministry of Aviation. A pioneer staff of the NCAA, she held various positions and was part of the team whose work led to the commercialization and liberalization of the air transport industry in Nigeria and the institutionalization of consumer protection programmes.

Ms. Sosina has been instrumental in organizing several international and regional conferences and assisted in negotiating more than forty (40) Bilateral Air Services Agreements (BASA) between Nigeria and other countries.

The holder of a Bachelor’s Degree in History/Political Science from the University of Ife, Ile-Ife, Nigeria, Ms. Sosina later obtained her Master of Science Degree in International History from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), University of London. She also has two Diplomas from the IATA Training and Development Institute in Civil Aviation Management and Airport Management.

Ms. Sosina has over the course of her career, received training in general management, air transport economics, aviation law, airport, airline and air navigation management. She is a past member of both the ICAO Facilitation Panel (FALP) and the Technical Advisory Group on Machine Readable Travel Documents (TAG/MRTD) and of several other international and regional committees and working groups.

Ms. Sosina is a recipient of the Merit Award – State House and Merit Award – Federal Ministry of Aviation of Nigeria.
Ms. Sotomayor Yalan is a diplomat, whose career spans more than 40 years. With a degree in Education, specialized in Social Sciences from the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, and having graduated from the Diplomatic Academy of Peru, Ms. Sotomayor Yalan joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and held posts of responsibility on areas such as Chief of the Asia, Pacific, Africa and Middle East department of the Ministry, Director of the Cultural Patrimony Department, Director of Program Evaluation of the Strategic Planning Department, Director of Maritime Sovereignty, Maritime Boarders and Antartic Affairs, among others. She has served her State overseas, in Italy and in Canada, where she is currently the Representative of Peru to ICAO and to the ICAO Council.

Ms. Sotomayor Yalan has participated in a series of diplomatic meetings and conferences of international and regional import, has published on the dissemination of the Peruvian culture and has been inducted in the Order of the Sacred Treasure of Japan.

The current CEO of Jetstar Japan, and one of the few women CEOs in aviation in Asia, Ms. Miyuki Suzuki has with close to 30 years’ experience across the Asia and Pacific region. Through a succession of senior leadership roles, in prominent telecommunications, IT services and media services companies, Ms. Suzuki has transitioned into aviation in 2011, "a unique time to be part of the aviation industry in Japan, with deregulation encouraging fresh investment and making the sector a catalyst for our nation’s prosperity", she commented upon announcement of her appointment.

Focusing mainly on the Asia and Pacific region, Ms. Suzuki has worked in Japan, Singapore, Hong Kong, North America, United Kingdom, New Zealand and the Middle East. Fluent in Japanese and English, Ms. Suzuki has an Honours Degree in History from Oxford University and a certificate in financial markets from the Securities Institute of Australia. Her appointment as CEO has been heralded as a signal of radical change in the traditional gender-based perception of roles in Asia.
With a degree in International Relations from the University of Belgrano and a specialization in Air and Space Law from the National Air and Space Law Institute of the Argentinian Air Force, Paola Tamburelli is the current Director of the Administración Nacional de Aviación Civil (ANA). Her career started with an internship at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, where under the Department of International Convention, Ms. Tamburelli developed a passion for Bilateral Air Services Agreements. Following her specialization degree, she was offered a position with the Under-secretariat of Commercial Air Transport, where she was in charge of international affairs and part of the negotiating team of numerous international instruments. In 2010, she was appointed the Head of the Department of International Agreements of the National Civil Aviation Administration of Argentina. In 2012, she assumed her current position as National Director of Air Transport, the first woman in the history of the ANAC to take up this role. One of the main issues in her portfolio is protection of aviation users, advocating for it before bodies such as the Latin American Civil Aviation Commission, for which she has received the praise of national legislators and consumer protection organizations.

Deriving from personal experience, Ms. Tamburelli was instrumental in concluding agreements between the ANAC and the Argentinian authority for organ transplants, to facilitate air transportation for medical purposes.

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PAOLA TAMMURELLI
Argentina

TAN SIEW HUAY
Singapore
Dr. Torres de Rodriguez is the current Representative of Paraguay to the ICAO Council. She is a civil aviation pilot, awarded the golden medal of her promotion, and holds a Bachelor in Business Administration, a Master’s in Politics and Aerospace Strategy and a Doctorate in Management and Marketing. Her career in aviation began from inside the cockpit and then progressed to instruction and planning of aviation courses (areas of interest include: pilots, aircraft maintenance technician, air traffic controllers and aircraft dispatchers).

In the course of her career, Dr. Torres de Rodriguez has also held the following positions: Chief of Air Commerce Policy and Regulation, Deputy Director of Air Transport and International Affairs, Deputy Director of Administration and Finances, Director of the National Institute of Civil Aviation. Presently, she is the Advisor to the President of the Dirección Nacional de Aeronáutica Civil (DINAC). Dr. Torres de Rodriguez has been awarded the 2014 Medal of Recognition of more than 30 years of service to Civil Aviation.

Prior to being appointed as Representative of Japan on the Council of ICAO, Ms. Naoko Ueda served at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan. In 2003, Ms. Ueda was appointed Deputy Director of the Country Assistance Planning Division, within the Economic Cooperation Bureau. In 2005, she assumed the role of Deputy Director and Unit Chief for Aid Evaluation, which fell within the Aid Planning Division. Ms. Ueda soon after focused her work on development assistance and aid policy planning. Following this, she worked for some years as a Senior Policy Analyst at the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). She subsequently returned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to work in the area of climate change.

As the Representative of Japan on the Council of ICAO, Ms. Ueda greatly hopes to maintain and strengthen the excellent friendships and close cooperation between Japan and other States, as they work toward ensuring the achievement of ICAO’s objectives.
Ms. Solagne Paiva Vieira is the former chief executive of the Civil Aviation Authority of Brazil (Agência Nacional de Aviação Civil - ANAC). She holds a Bachelor’s degree in Economics from the Federal University of Juiz de Fora and has a graduate degree in Accounting and a Master’s degree in Economics, both at Fundação Getúlio Vargas. She was a professor of economics at the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro (PUC-Rio) and at the Candido Mendes University, also in Rio de Janeiro. Having worked with the National Bank for Economic and Social Development (Banco Nacional de Desenvolvimento Econômico e Social - BNDES) since 1993, in positions of progressive responsibility, she was nominated in 2007 as the Director of ANAC, where she implemented a series of regulatory reforms and updates. Having taken over in the midst of the crisis in the civil aviation system that became known as ‘air chaos’, Ms. Vieira’s tenure successfully concluded in 2011.

Sheila Widnall was born July 13, 1938, in Tacoma Washington. She received her Bachelor of Science (1960), Master of Science (1961), and Doctor of Science (1964) in Aeronautics and Astronautics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She was appointed Abby Rockefeller Mauze Professor of Aeronautics and Astronautics in 1986. She served as Associate Provost, Massachusetts Institute of Technology from 1992 to 1993 and as Secretary of the Air Force from 1993 to 1997. She was appointed Institute Professor in 1998.

Professor Widnall was the first woman to be appointed the head of one of the US Military Services. She was appointed Secretary of the Air Force in the summer of 1993, a position she stepped down from on 31 October 1997 to return to her faculty position at MIT. She is a past president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, and has served as a member or director of numerous other boards. Professor Windall was a member of the board of investigation into the Space Shuttle Columbia disaster.

She has received, among others, the Lawrence Sperry Achievement Award in 1972 from the American Institute of Aeronautics; the Outstanding Achievement Award in 1975, from the Society of Women Engineers; the 1993 National Academy of Engineering Distinguished Service Award, the 1996 Durand Lectureship for Public Service from the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics; the 1998 Goddard Award from the National Space Club; the Reed Aeronautics Award from the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics in 2000; and the Spirit of St. Louis Medal from ASME in 2001. She is a Fellow of the American Physical Society, the American Association of the Advancement of Science, the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, the Royal Aeronautical Society and a member of the International Academy of Astronautics, the National Academy of Engineering. She was inducted into the Women in Aviation Pioneer Hall of Fame in 1996.