



Date: 25 JUNE 2020

For Immediate Release

**IFALPA AND IFATCA JOINT STATEMENT ON PAKISTAN INTERNATIONAL AIRLINES
FLIGHT 8303 PRELIMINARY REPORT**

The aviation community grieves for the tragic loss of lives aboard Pakistan International Airlines Flight 8303 on 22 May 2020. Our thoughts are with the families and relatives of those lost, and the survivors who may still have a long road to recovery. We are extending our support to our Pakistani colleagues for whom this is undoubtedly a traumatic experience.

The air transport industry is a complex system that is made up of people, procedures and technology that interact and collaborate to create the safest way to travel. The few accidents that occur are always a consequence of multiple factors, when they combine in unique and unprecedented ways that push a safe system over the edge towards a breakdown.

In order to learn from accidents and to prevent recurrence, IFALPA, the International Federation of Air Line Pilots' Associations, and, IFATCA, the International Federation of Air Traffic Controllers' Associations International Organisations, would like to emphasise that the technical safety investigation by the accident investigation authority must be conducted according to the international standards on accident investigation. As stated clearly in Annex 13 to the Chicago Convention:

"The sole objective of the investigation of an accident or incident shall be the prevention of accidents and incidents. It is not the purpose of this activity to apportion blame or liability."

Such investigation should not be impeded or influenced by administrative, disciplinary or judicial proceedings that would apportion blame or criminal liability.

Whilst the investigation is ongoing, there should be no disclosure of the accident evidence (other than basic factual information that is usually included in a Preliminary Report). None of the actual recordings should be made available for purposes other than the technical safety investigation.

There should also not be premature conclusions, which are often based on incomplete, inaccurate and/or speculative information and which focus on one aspect of what happened. Such premature conclusions will only hamper the ability to learn from these tragic events and could be unfair to one or more of the parties concerned. We urge the media, the public, and the concerned stakeholders to respect the long-established processes and procedures for analysing these events and let the accident investigation authorities perform their investigations professionally and objectively.

IFALPA and IFATCA will closely monitor the investigation to ensure that it is conducted in accordance with the principles described above. We will support all efforts to prevent the recurrence of accidents.