Dr Yiannis N. Paraschis, CEO, Athens International Airport S.A.

Mr. Paraschis is the Chief Executive Officer of the “Athens International Airport S.A.” (AIA) since 2007. He joined AIA shortly after its establishment in 1996, following an international career in Strategic Management Consulting. He served as Deputy Chief Executive Officer from 2001 to 2007.

Mr. Paraschis is the Former Immediate Past Chair of the Governing Board of the world trade association of airports, Airports Council International (ACI) which he served as Chairman the period 2011-2013. He is currently member of the Board of the European trade body, ACI EUROPE, which he has also served as Chairman for the period from 2007 to 2009. Following a series of international distinctions for Athens International Airport and after twenty years of personal contribution to the international aviation industry, Mr. Paraschis was honoured with the “CAPA Airport Chief Executive of the Year 2015” Award in October 2015.

He is the Chairman of the Board of the Athens Airport Fuel Pipeline Company S.A. and participates as a member in various other boards of companies and trade associations such the Foundation for Economic and Industrial Research (IOBE), the Hellenic Federation of Enterprises (SEV), the Association of Greek Tourism Enterprises (SETE) and Marketing Greece SA.

He holds a M.Sc. in Industrial Engineering and a Ph.D. in Operations Research from the University of Hamburg in Germany.
Mrs Angela Gittens, Director General, ACI World

Angela Gittens began her tenure as Director General of Airports Council International (ACI World) in 2008. She was formerly airport CEO for Miami and Atlanta and Deputy at San Francisco International Airport. In other previous roles, 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.

Gittens is a Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society, and 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.

Mr Olivier Jankovec, Director General, ACI EUROPE

Olivier Jankovec became Director General of the European Region of the Airports Council International (ACI EUROPE) in September 2006. The organisation represents over 500 airports in 45 European countries. In 2015, member airports handled over 90% of commercial air traffic in Europe, welcoming more than 1.9 billion passengers, 18.9 million tonnes of freight and 22.8 million aircraft movements. These airports contribute to the employment of 12.3 million people, generating €675 billion each year (4.1%) of GDP in Europe.

Olivier first joined ACI EUROPE in March 2006 as Director of Strategy & Communications. Olivier has more than 20 years of governmental and lobbying experience, having worked for Alitalia (2002-2006), Air France (2000-2002) and the Air Transport Directorate of the European Commission (1994-2000). Immediately prior to joining ACI EUROPE Olivier was the Director of Institutional Relations for Alitalia where he was in charge of governmental affairs at national, European and International levels. During this time, he was also Chair of the Association of European Airlines Policy Committee.

In 2006 and 2007, he participated in the EU’s High Level Group on the future of aviation regulation in Europe and he is also a member of the Advisory Board of the World Tourism Forum.
Mr Henrik Hololei, Director General for Mobility and Transport, DG Energy & Transport, European Commission (video - message presentation)

Henrik is an economist by training and holds degrees from Tallinn Technical University and Aarhus University in Denmark.

He held various positions in the Estonian Government Office between 1995 and 2004. He was mainly responsible for coordinating the work for the Estonian accession to the European Union. In 2001-2002, he was Minister of Economy.

In 2004, he moved to the European Commission as Head of Cabinet of Vice President Siim Kallas until 2013, when he became Deputy Secretary General. In October 2015, he became Director-General for Mobility and Transport in the European Commission.

Married, one daughter.

Mr Philippe Blanchard, Partner, Brunswick – Moderator

Philippe Blanchard heads the Brussels office of Brunswick Group LLP, one of the world’s most prestigious strategic communications and advisory firms. Philippe advises clients on strategic communications and public affairs for issues campaigns, regulatory engagement and transactions. He works with a diverse range of industries, including financial services, transport, energy, ICT and food.

Philippe was previously head of public affairs EMEA for Hill & Knowlton and started his career as an in-house adviser in the Brussels office of aeronautics and defense group The European Aeronautic Defence and Space Company NV (EADS). Philippe’s clients at Brunswick have included AB Inbev, Bank of America, Delhaize, ICE, Moody’s, Nord Stream, Paypal, Pfizer, RBS, HSBC, Bell and Lafarge.
Mr Declan Collier, Chief Executive, London City Airport

Declan Collier joined London City Airport as Chief Executive Officer in March 2012. Prior to his appointment, he was Chief Executive of the Dublin Airport Authority (DAA) and Chairman of Aer Rianta International (ARI) since April 2005. During this time he oversaw the successful delivery of a £1.0 billion capital investment programme to modernise the aviation gateways to Ireland, a successful expansion of the DAA’s international airports business and growth in the financial performance of the group. Prior to joining the DAA, Declan worked with ExxonMobil, where he held a range of senior management and executive positions in Ireland and the UK. In his last role at ExxonMobil, he had responsibility for the management of a number of key global businesses in the alternative fuels sector, in addition to the management of the company’s European district heating businesses.

He is the President of the World Board of Airports Council International (ACI), the representative body of airports worldwide and Past President of Airports Council International (ACI) (Europe) the representative body for European airports. He serves on the Board of the Airport Operators Association (AOA) UK, the representative body of UK airports. He is a Council member of the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) and is a Board director of London First.

He is a Non-Executive Director of Allied Irish Banks Group UK Ltd (AIB) where he is Chair of the Remuneration Committee. He was a Non-Executive Director of Allied Irish Banks, plc from January 2009 until August 2012. He is Chairman of the Dublin Theatre Festival and Chairman of the Irish Theatre Trust. A native of Dublin, he has a Masters Degree in Economics from Trinity College Dublin.

Dr Stefan Schulte, CEO, FRAPORT AG

Dr. Stefan Schulte is Chairman of the Executive Board of Fraport AG. He is the Chairman of the Executive Board of the Fraport Group, which features the business segment External Activities & Services.

Organizational units reporting directly to him include: "Global Investments and Management", "Airport Expansion South", "Corporate Development, Environment and Sustainability" and "Corporate Communications". Dr. Schulte has served on the Fraport board since 2003. As executive board member for finance (chief financial officer) he was initially responsible for controlling and finance, IT services, and acquisitions and investments. In April 2007, Dr. Schulte was appointed vice-chairman of Fraport's executive board, responsible for the organizational units Traffic and Terminal Management, Airport Expansion; Security, Real Estate and Facility Management; as well as Legal Affairs. Dr. Schulte has been chairman of the executive board since September 2009.
Dr. Schulte is the chair of the audit committee of Airports Council International/ACI World, the global federation of airport operators, as well as a member of the board of ACI Europe, the European trade body for airports. From June 1, 2016, Dr. Stefan Schulte took up the honorary position of President of the German Aviation Association (BDL). He is also a member of the supervisory board of Deutsche Post AG and holds various offices with foundations and associations in the Frankfurt/Rhine-Main region and beyond.

Stefan Schulte was born in Wuppertal on April 9, 1960. He is married and has two children.

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**Mr Pablo Mendes de Leon, Director of International Institute of Air & Space Law Leiden University**

Pablo Mendes de Leon is Professor of Air and Space Law and Director of the International Institute of Air and Space Law of Leiden University, which is one of the leading international scientific research and teaching institutes in the world, specialised in legal and policy issues regarding aviation and space activities. The Faculty of Law of Leiden University founded the institute in 1986. In addition to his duties as Director of the International Institute of Air and Space Law of Leiden University, Pablo Mendes de Leon maintains a vast range of memberships in organisations that work to combine law and practice of aviation law and policy. For instance, he is President of the European Air Law Association, Visiting Professor at the National University of Singapore and the University of Bordeaux, France, a judge at the District Court of Haarlem, Membre titulaire de l’académie de l’air et de l’espace, Toulouse, France, Member of the Dutch Aviation Accident Board, a Board Member of the magazines Air and Space Law, Journal of Air Law and Commerce and the Italian ANIA Insurance Newsletter and the Director of the Series of Publications in International Aviation law and Policy with Kluwer Law International. He is the author of a large number of publications on topical issues regarding aviation law and policy.
Dr Michael Kerkloh, CEO & President ADV, Flughafen München GmbH and President, ACI EUROPE

Since September 2002 Dr Michael Kerkloh (64) is at the helm of FMG, the Munich Airport operating company, as President and CEO. Under his leadership, Bavaria’s gateway to the world has moved up to join the ranks of Europe’s top air transportation hubs, with annual traffic exceeding 42 million passengers in 2016.

Dr Kerkloh has very successfully promoted a strategic partnership with Lufthansa German Airlines and in a unique joint venture both airport and airline have built terminal 2 and a state-of-the-art satellite to serve the growing demand of air traffic in Munich. Munich Airport has not only been chosen by travelers as Europe’s best airport but was also appointed Europe’s first “5-star-Airport”. In 2017 Munich Airport won the Skytrax award for the “World’s Best Terminal”.

Kerkloh graduated in Economics at the University of Frankfurt and completed a doctorate in Political Science. He started his career in aviation at Frankfurt airport and was later appointed managing director of Hamburg airport. From 2013 until 2016 he was president of the German airports Association (ADV). In 2017 Kerkloh was elected president of Airport Council International (ACI) Europe and now represents the interests of more than 500 airports in 45 European countries.

Mr Yiannis Retsos, President, SETE-Greek Tourism Confederation & Managing Director, ELECTRA HOTELS & RESORTS

Yiannis A. Retsos was born in Athens in 1969. He is a graduate of School of Law, University of Athens and holds a postgraduate degree in Hotel Management, from Cornell University, specializing in Hospitality Real Estate Finance.

He is the Managing Director and one of the major shareholders of Electra Hotels & Resorts, which operates five hotels in Athens, Thessaloniki and Rhodes.

Yiannis A. Retsos was elected President of SETE - Greek Tourism Confederation in May 2017. From April 2011 until July 2017, he was the Chairman of the Hellenic Hotelier Federation. During the period 2009 – 2011, he was the Chairman of the Athens-Attica & Argosaronic Hotel Association.

Yiannis A. Retsos has been involved with the tourism public affairs since 1999.
Mr Thomas Woldbye, CEO, Copenhagen Airports

Thomas Woldbye was appointed CEO of Copenhagen Airports in May 2011. After joining CPH Thomas Woldbye has headed a full revamp of CPH’s strategy with focus on all parts of the airport activities aiming at making CPH an even more attractive airport. Named World Class Hub the strategy centers on Extraordinary Customer Experiences for all customer segments, Efficient Operations and Competitiveness. He has initiated the capacity plan “Expanding CPH” preparing the airport for the future with focus on strengthening the competitive advantages and almost doubling the size of the airport step by step in co-operation with airlines, public authorities etc. During the last 3 years CPH has received a number of awards e.g. for the second time the Sky Tracks: Best Airport in Northern Europe, Air Transport Research Society (ATRS): Europe’s most efficient airport 8 times in the last 10 years and World’s Best Security.

Before joining CPH Thomas Woldbye worked with the A.P. Møller-Mæsk group for 27 years, starting as a management trainee. Of that period he spent about 20 years outside Denmark. After finishing his traineeship in 1985 and until 2002, he held a number of junior management positions and later senior management positions in the corporate APMM HQ in Copenhagen, as well as in Indonesia, Singapore, China, Hong Kong and Europe. Apart from two years as P.A. to the chairman and C.E.O., Mr. Maersk McKinney Møller, he was primarily involved in the management of A.P. Møller’s worldwide container line operation; Maersk Line. From 2002 and until 2011 Thomas Woldbye lived and worked in The Netherlands. Initially as Group Senior Vice President in A.P. Møller – Maersk and later, in 2004, he was appointed Group CEO of the Norfolkline Group (part of A.P. Moller-Maersk) with head office in Den Haag. Thomas Woldbye has supplemented his in-company training with a Bachelor’s degree in Finance from Copenhagen Business School and later management training at London Business School as well as IMD, Switzerland.