

# WALA XIV ANNUAL CONFERENCE

## MANAMA, BAHRAIN | MAY 29-31, 2024

### DAY 1 Wednesday 29th May

09:00-12:00

#### CITY TOUR

Departing from Gulf Hotel Lobby

15:30-17:30

#### 3rd PRE CONFERENCE SEMINAR

Fostering Investment in Airports: Legal & Regulatory Pain Points

- **By invitation only** (Airpot CLO & Sponsors Priority)
- Dress code: Bussines Casual
- Venue: Gulf Hotel, Al Shiraa 4 Meeting Room

Sponsored by **Lefosse**

Brazil: Lessons learned

**Post-pandemic airports accountability: a wake-up call for airport CLOs**



**Eduardo CARVALHAES NETO**

Partner at Lefosse Advogados, Brazil

18:00-20:00

#### Welcome Cocktail

All Delegates Invited  
Venue: Gulf Hotel

### DAY 2 Thursday 30th May

#### AIRPORT LAW CONFERENCE

Aligning civil aviation, airports and urban air mobility for the 21st Century

Conference Sessions Venue: Gulf Hotel

8:30

#### Registration Opens

9:30-9:45

#### Welcome Session

*Speaker*



**Mohamed Yousif AL BINFALAH**

CEO Bahrain Airport Company  
(BAC)

*Speaker*



**Diego R. GONZALEZ**

Legal Counsel Aeropuertos  
Argentina & President of WALA

*Conference Chairman Introduction*



**Michael SIEBOLD**

Partner MH Management  
GmbH, WALA Board member

9:45-10:15

TALKING WITH GULF AIRPORTS CEO'S

#### Gulf countries CEOs perspective

Main challenges faced and key challenges in the horizon. Operating other airports globally?  
Disputes between airline-airport when sharing a common ownership

*Moderator*



**Gustavo DI CIO**

MD, AbiaxAir

*Speaker*



**Sheikh Aïmed AL HOSNI**

CEO Oman Airports

*Speaker*



**Ayman Abdulaziz ABOABAH**

CEO Riyadh Airports

*Speaker*



**Mohamed Yousif AL BINFALAH**

CEO Bahrain Airport Company  
(BAC)

10:15-10:45

OPENING KEYNOTE SPEAKER

## The Changing Global Regulatory Landscape and the Leadership Role of the Gulf Region.



**Marcelo L. GARCIA ROSALES**  
LL.M., Chief Aviation Regulation,  
Policy & Governance, NACO, The  
Netherlands

10:45-11:15

## Coffee Break

Sponsored by

Charles  
Russell  
Speechlys

11:15-12:00

SESSION 1 | ENVIRONMENT, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE (ESG) – PART 1

## Airports Legal Perspective

Moderator



**Marcelo L. GARCIA ROSALES**  
LL.M., Chief Aviation  
Regulation, Policy &  
Governance, NACO  
The Netherlands

Speaker



**Candela LOPEZ LINETTI**  
Legal Manager, Corporación  
América Airports, Argentina

Speaker



**Emilija Evtimova SPASESKA**  
Legal Affairs Manager, TAV,  
North Macedonia

Speaker



**Isabelle LELIEUR**  
Lawyer, Name Partner at  
Lelieur Avocat, France

12:00-12:30

SESSION 2 | AIRPORTS, AIRLINES AND CONSUMERS

## New trends in their cross-legal relationships

Moderator



**Abdulhaq MOHAMMED**  
Partner at Trowers & Hamlin,  
Bahrain/Singapore

Speaker



**Laura PIERALLINI**  
Name Partner - Studio Pierallini,  
Italy

12:30-14:00

## Lunch

14:00-14:30

SESSION 3 | INSIDE NORTH AMERICA AIRPORTS

## Why is it so hard to invest? Is there an opportunity for international airport operators?

Moderator



**Pablo O. NÜESCH**  
General Counsel, Airports  
Council International – North  
America, United States

Speaker



**Peter KIRSCH**  
Partner at Kaplan, Kirsch &  
Rockwell, USA

14:30-15:00

## Industry presentation | SITA

Moderator



**Elie, EL FEHALI**  
Director Legal - Middle East &  
Africa, SITA, Lebanon

Speaker



**Karim HARB**  
Commercial Director, SITA,  
Lebanon

15:00-15:30

## Coffee Break

Sponsored by

Charles  
Russell  
Speechlys

15:30-16:15

## SESSION 4 | DOING AIRPORT BUSINESS-LOCAL AND FOREIGN PERSPECTIVES



**Patricia O'SHEA**  
Dublin Airport Authority plc.  
Group Head of Legal



**Khalid A. ALASSEERI**  
Chief Legal Officer, Riyadh  
Airports, Saudi Arabia



**Shirin PISHBIN**  
Senior Associate at Trowers  
& Hamlin, Bahrain

16:15-16:45

URBAN AIR MOBILTY - LEGAL FORUM (PART 1)  
How UK AIRPORTS operators are being challenged by UAM industry?



**Sam FOLLEY**  
Partner at Trowers & Hamlins LLP, UK

16:45-17:00

WALA recognitions and Day 2 closing remarks

END OF DAY 2

19:30 - 22:30

**OPTIONAL NETWORKING DINNER**  
*Meeting Place: Gulf Hotel Lobby*  
*Dress code: Casual*

DAY 3 Friday 31st May, 2024

9:00

Registration Opens

10:00-10:30

KEYNOTE SPEAKER  
GCC-ASEAN Air Transport Agreements



**Prof. Dr. Alan Khee-Jin, TAN**  
National University of Singapore

10:30-11:10

SESSION 5 | UNIVERSITIES AT WALA  
Challenges of teaching civil aviation law in the 21st century

Moderator



**Prof. Dr. Triant FLOURIS**  
Metropolitan College, Greece

Speaker



**Prof. Dr. Vincent CORREIA**  
Co-Director, Institute of Air and Space Law (IASL), Faculty of Law, McGill University, Canada

Speaker



**Prof. Dr. Attila SIPOS**  
Assistant Professor College of Law, University Of Sharjah, United Arab Emirates

Speaker



**Prof. Dr. Alan Khee-Jin, TAN**  
National University of Singapore

11:10-11:30

SESSION 6 | ENVIRONMENT, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE (ESG) – PART 2



**Pablo O. NÜESCH**  
General Counsel, Airports Council International – North America, United States



**Solange LEANDRO**  
Partner, Watson Farley & Williams, United Kingdom

11:30-12:30

Coffee Break



12:30-13:00

SESSION 7 | AIRPORT, ENVIRONMENT & CITY  
**Eco-friendly Airports in Urban Areas**

Moderator



Dr. Abdullah AL MANDHARI  
Vice President, Legal Affairs,  
Oman Airports

Speaker



Prof. Dr. Attila SIPOS  
Assistant Professor College of Law,  
University Of Sharjah, United Arab  
Emirates

13:00-13:30

SESSION 8 | INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT CASE LAW: UPDATE  
**CAA, Air Carrier & Airport Operator: potential legal implications of the multiplicity of state roles in the airport ecosystem. Sovereign Immunity, Civil Liability, Negligence. A recent case from the Federal Court of Australia.**

Moderator



Diego R. GONZALEZ  
Legal Counsel Aeropuertos  
Argentina & President of WALA

Speaker



Simon MCPHEE  
Chief Corporate Services Officer &  
General Counsel, Perth Airport,  
Australia

13:30-14:00

**The European Commission’s Action Plan to Provide for a Regulatory Framework for the Operation of Drones**



Michael TEGETHOFF  
Legal Affairs, Munich Airport,  
Germany

URBAN AIR MOBILITY - LEGAL FORUM (PART 2)

**Why is WALA actively advocating for UAM? Taking legal barriers seriously**

Recommended reading for attendees this session will be available



Diego R. GONZALEZ  
Legal Counsel Aeropuertos  
Argentina & President of WALA

**Conference closing remarks**

14:00

**Farewell Lunch**

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