

08PRL12

IFALPA calls on Brazilian Government to return to agreed international standards and principles of flight safety investigation in the Gol/Legacy mid air collision.

Chertsey 12 October: Just over a year ago the tragic mid air collision between a GOL 737-800 and an Embraer Legacy brought the spotlight of attention on Brazil's air transport system. There has been widespread comment in the media and elsewhere about this tragic accident as well as the subsequent accident in Sao Paulo and what this portends for the nation's airline industry. The International Federation of Air Line Pilots' Associations (IFALPA) calls on the Brazilian government to return to agreed international standards and principles in this and future aircraft investigations. IFALPA has a number of serious concerns with the government's present actions including;

The indictment and possible criminal prosecution of the pilots of the Legacy aircraft and a number of air traffic controllers. This course of action is unacceptable. Moreover, the findings and report of the independent technical investigation by CENIPA have yet to be published.

A legislative enquiry along with a Federal Police investigation running in parallel with the independent accident investigation by CENIPA risks obscuring the benefits of a proper investigation.

Accordingly, IFALPA calls on the Brazilian Government to suspend the legislative inquiry and the Justice Ministry to adjourn criminal proceedings. IFALPA reaffirms its previous calls that the Brazilian Government applies the internationally agreed upon accident investigation principles laid out in ICAO Annex 13 and that, subsequently any lessons and recommendations made in the CENIPA report, that will improve air safety in Brazil, are swiftly applied.

(see IFALPA press releases 07PRL09, 07PRL10, 08PRL07 & 08PRL09)

Notes to Editors

The International Federation of Air Line Pilots' Associations represents in excess of 100,000 pilots in more than 95 countries world-wide. The mission of IFALPA is to be the global voice of airline pilots, promoting the highest level of aviation safety and security world-wide and providing services, support and representation to all of its Member Associations. See the Federation website www.ifalpa.org

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