



OPENING STATEMENT OF IVAN BASSATO, EVP AIRPORT MANAGEMENT  
AEROPORTI DI ROMA SPA, AT THE MEETING OF THE JOINT TRANSPORT AND  
COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF OIREACHTAS,  
HELD ON 28 SEPTEMBER 2020

Honourable Members of this Committee,

I would like to thank you for inviting me to intervene in this session today. It is a honour for me to have the opportunity to share with you Aeroporti di Roma's views on the future of travel and the aviation sector.

The pandemic has posed an unprecedented challenge to airports, which have found themselves in need to rapidly evolve their approach in order to comply with the paradigm shift in travel and tourism.

Aeroporti di Roma's primary commitment today is to create the necessary conditions to relaunch traffic in maximum safety.

We have been working relentlessly to implement effective protection measures and a strong prevention plan. Not only have we installed multiple screening tools, engaged in a series of sanitation activities and supported the Italian Health Authorities testing operations by establishing a testing area at Fiumicino's arrivals hall and a large drive-thru testing facility at the long-term stay parking of the airport, but we also are the first airport in Europe to have trialed a system of "100% Covid-tested flights" – on the Rome-Milan route, in partnership with Alitalia and the Health Authorities of Region Lazio.

Our long-term goal, in this respect, is to use the expertise we developed to contribute to the creation and implementation of new global travel protocols, focussing on expanding the 100% Covid-tested flights" system; indeed, we regard the use of large scale pre-departure rapid testing as one of the safest alternatives to current restrictions on non-EU flows (especially mandatory self-quarantine), as well as a protocol that would simultaneously increase passengers' confidence.

I am proud to say that the effectiveness of our health safety plan has been recognized by international bodies such as RINA, ACI and Skytrax, which rated Fiumicino with the highest score of 5 stars for its measures and protocols, and by primary international media that have endorsed the COVID-testing system available at Rome airports.

To adapt to the new normal is a big challenge for all of us; I am confident that, with efforts and international cooperation, we will succeed.

Thank you for the time you have dedicated to me today.

Ivan Bassato

**Aeroporti di Roma S.p.A.**

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