Associations issue statement on Commission guidelines to resume travel

By **Jane Hobson** on May, 13 2020 | Airline & Terminal News



The <u>European Commission</u> released today its guidelines to help Member States gradually lift travel restrictions and allow tourism and aviation businesses to reopen. On behalf of the <u>Arline Catering Association</u> (ACA) and the <u>Airport Services Association</u> (ASA), Fabio Gamba, the Managing Director of ACA and Director General of ASA, issue a statement of support of the Commission to safely resume travel and reboot Europe's tourism industry - once the virus has passed and in a coordinated manner.

"ACA and ASA affirm that the Commission is right to call for Europe to start moving again," reads the statement. "Member States now need to move forward and kick-start travel and tourism to reawaken Europe's economy. If air traffic does not restart very soon, it may not restart at all, because the companies that provide all the essential services to airlines are bleeding dry. Without us, no [aircraft] can take off."

The statements continues: "Airport services and airline catering companies are among the hardest hit by this crisis. These are the people who handle your baggage, board your [aircraft] and prepare the food for your trip. The safety of passengers and employees remains paramount and will always come first. We have put effective measures in place to protect the health and safety of travelers and our people. Aviation is and remains the safest way to travel. ACA and ASA welcome the current guidelines and hope to see more affirmative action being taken in the coming weeks."