

IAAPA Board Update: Key Outcomes from Our April 2026 Meeting

Dear IAAPA Members,

This past weekend, your representatives on the IAAPA Global Board of Directors came together in Orlando, Florida for our annual Spring Meeting.

Originally, this meeting was scheduled to take place in conjunction with IAAPA Expo Middle East 2026 in Abu Dhabi. However, due to the current situation in the region, we made the decision to postpone the Expo and instead convene at our global headquarters in Orlando.

Over the course of three days, the Board of Directors met alongside several key groups, including the Finance Committee, Governance Committee, and the Officers Group—comprising the Chairman, First Vice Chair, Second Vice Chair, Immediate Past Chair, Treasurer, and the President & CEO.

A central focus of the Board meeting was a dedicated workshop with an external association expert on high-performing boards. This session allowed us to reflect on how we can further strengthen governance and enhance the effectiveness of the Board in serving you, our members. Encouragingly, the Board already performs strongly across many areas, but there is a shared commitment to continuous improvement and to delivering even greater value to the global membership.

As part of our regular Spring Meeting agenda, the Board reviewed and approved the annual audit, which was issued with a *clean (unqualified) opinion*, confirming that IAAPA's financial statements are sound and in good order. We also reviewed current financial performance and engaged in forward-looking scenario planning, including potential global economic impacts related to ongoing geopolitical developments.

In addition, the Board received an in-depth update from the IAAPA research team on our global market penetration analysis. Conducted every two years by region, this work helps us better understand the size of our industry and identify opportunities to expand IAAPA's reach and relevance.

Regional leadership also plays a vital role in these meetings. In line with our governance framework, we heard comprehensive updates this year from the Asia Pacific and Latin America & Caribbean regions, highlighting achievements, opportunities, and key challenges.

We also reviewed progress on our **Vision 2035** initiative—an important forward-looking project led in collaboration with external experts and chaired by Chris Perry. As we approach the final stages of this work, discussions focused on how best to share these valuable insights with you and the broader industry. We expect the results of this in-depth report to be published over the summer.



Finally, the Board formally initiated the annual review of IAAPA's strategic priorities. Following extensive input from Board members, we are refining our long-term priorities and multi-year initiatives. The updated framework will be brought back to the Board for approval and will form the foundation for our 2026–2027 global and regional business plans. As always, these plans will be shared with our Regional Advisory Boards and with you, our members.

On behalf of IAAPA, thank you to all Board members for their dedication and leadership.

If you have any questions or would like to share your perspective, please don't hesitate to reach out to our Chairman, Luciana Periales, or to me directly.

And if you are interested in becoming more involved, I encourage you to apply for IAAPA's Global Board of Directors. Applications remain open through the end of May.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement.

We are all IAAPA,

Luciana Periales
Chairman of the Board

Jakob Wahl
President & CEO