Telecommunications Satellite Organization, now known as ITSO. The Intelsat Global Service Corporation is located in Washington, D. C., and Intelsat Global Services & Marketing Ltd, the sales arm of the international firm, has its headquarters in London. Intelsat also has offices in Australia, Brazil, China, France, Germany, Hawaii, India, Peru and South Africa. There were 148 member countries in March 2003.

*Headquarters:* 3400 International Drive, NW, Washington, D.C., 20008–3006, USA.
*Website:* http://www.itso.int
*Director-General:* Ahmed Toumi (Morocco).

# INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION (IATA)

Founded in 1945 for inter-airline co-operation in promoting safe, reliable, secure and economical air services, IATA has over 230 members from more than 130 nations worldwide. IATA is the successor to the International Air Traffic Association, founded in the Hague in 1919, the year of the world's first international scheduled services.

*Main offices:* IATA Centre, Route de l'Aéroport 33, PO Box 416, CH-1215 Geneva, Switzerland. 800 Place Victoria, PO Box 113, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H4Z 1M1. 77 Robinson Road, #05-00 SIA Building, Singapore 068896.
*Website:* http://www.iata.org
*Director-General:* Giovanni Bisignani (Italy).

# INTERNATIONAL ROAD FEDERATION (IRF)

The IRF is a non-profit, non-political service organization whose purpose is to encourage better road and transportation systems worldwide and to help apply technology and management practices to give maximum economic and social returns from national road investments.

Founded following the Second World War, over the years the IRF has led major global road infrastructure developments, including achieving 1,000 km of new roads in Mexico in the 1950s, and promoting the Pan-American Highway linking North and South America. It publishes *World Road Statistics*, as well as road research studies, including a 140-country inventory of road and transport research in co-operation with the US Bureau of Public Roads.

*Headquarters:* 2 chemin de Blandonnet, CH-1214 Vernier/GE, Switzerland.
*Website:* http://www.irfnet.org
*Director-General (Geneva):* Wim Westerhuis (Netherlands).
*Director-General (Washington, D.C.):* C. Patrick Sankey (USA).

# INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS (ICFTU)

*Origin.* The founding congress of the ICFTU was held in London in Dec. 1949 following the withdrawal of some Western trade unions from the World Federation