



> euroAtlantic airways has signed a contract with Air India after studying the emerging Asian markets.

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The Chairman of the Board of Directors of euroAtlantic airways **Tomáz Metello** announced that the first week of operations has been completed for Air India, the upshot of the negotiations held in recent months with this Indian state company. The contract, renewed every six-months, allows the development of new forms of cooperation between a European air company and another from the Indian sub-continent; technical crews and the management of Portuguese cabins are working alongside other Indian cabin staff.

Tomáz Metello also commented about this contract that – it is an innovative opportunity for euroAtlantic, deriving from a development strategy approved a year and a half ago after in-depth studies of the new emerging markets undergoing accelerated economic development with a great demand for aircraft on the world market. At the time it received its first passengers in Bombay euroAtlantic can recall the message of the **President of the Republic Professor Aníbal Cavaco Silva** on his recent State Visit to India when he stated - “the ever growing role of the Indian economy in the global context and the historical links between Portugal and India are more than enough reason to view this country with particular regard”. Incidentally, the first flight by euroAtlantic airways for Air India connected the cities of Bombay and Dubai with a return via Delhi. Air India is one of the two Indian State companies established since 1932 has a fleet of 42 planes and firm orders for 68 aircraft, operating to around ninety five destinations. The company founded by **Tomáz Metello** and in which the **Pestana Group** holds an interest has achieved its first strategic objective with this contract in Asia in a country with the fourth largest GDP (ppc) in the world with 1.1 billion consumers, the fourth largest economy in the world.

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