



Direction générale
de l'énergie
et des transports



COMMISSION
EUROPÉENNE

Airport access for Business Aviation

Directorate General for Energy and Transport
Directorate Air Transport
Unit Infrastructures and Airports

Content

- Background
- Legal and policy framework
- Reflexion – towards a revision of the Slot Regulation
- Final remarks

● Background

- Business aviation (BA) is growing and highly diversified sector
- Growing almost twice as fast as rest of traffic (and only slightly slower than LCCs)
- More than 100 000 links (Eurocontrol vol. 4)
- Majority of the city-pairs with limited scheduled alternatives
- Flexibility, door-to-door service
- Increasingly competing for infrastructure with scheduled airlines



● Legal and policy framework

Regulation (EEC) No 95/93 (“Slots Regulation”)

- Definition of Business Aviation – article 2 (I)
- Principle of “grandfather rights”
- These rights refer to series of slots (minimal 5)
- Regular services have priority over ad-hoc flights

● Legal and policy framework (2)

- Slots allocation procedure – article 8
- Preference to scheduled services and **programmed non-scheduled services** (the latter may be the case of BA where there is regular usage of slots)
- Article 8 (7) – ad hoc slots



● Legal and policy framework (3)

Communication from the Commission - An agenda for sustainable future in general and business aviation COM/2007/0869 final

- First attempt to study the sector at the EU level
- Comprehensive consultations, including a public hearing and a discussion paper
- Communication adopted by the Commission on 11th January 2008

● Legal and policy framework (4)

- Clarifying the definitions:
 - » Guidelines on interpretation of the « **commercial air transport** » definition
- Proportionality of regulations
- Capacity- issues:
 - » Business aviation increasingly **competing with airlines** for access to airport infrastructure
- Capacity – solutions:
 - » **Better planning** of existing and future infrastructure (EU observatory on airport capacity)
 - » Development and implementation of **modern technologies**
 - GNSS approaches (SESAR)
 - Upgrade of FIS services



● Towards a Revision of the Slots Regulation

- **Communication on the application of Slots Regulation COM(2008) 227 final**

- » Stakeholders identified difficulties in following areas:
- » **Independence of the coordinator**
- » **New entry**
- » **Transparency of schedule data**
- » **Local guidelines**
- » **Secondary trading**
- » **Consistency between slots and flight plans**

- **Community Observatory on Airport Capacity**

- » platform for all stakeholders to express their specific needs

● Questions to be tackled

- How to open the market (current administrative system, market based mechanism or combination of both)
- Definition of Slots ownership
- Secondary trading – legal certainty
- Environmental aspects and Regional development

● Final remarks

- Slots – scarce and limited
- Commission – strike a balance between different interests
- The revision process – at its very beginning
- All the proposals aiming at better use of existing capacity are welcomed.



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Jana Hájková, E-mail: jana.hajkova@ec.europa.eu