



“ A declaration about the Principles of the Future Euro-Arab Aviation Relations”

Joint Declaration of the Arab Civil Aviation Commission (referred to as ACAC) and the Arab Air Carriers Organization (referred to as AACO), of the one part, and the Directorate General for Energy and Transport (referred to as EC), of the other part

1. Both sides welcomed the very positive developments in EU-Arab aviation cooperation and notably the progressive implementation of a common aviation area between all the Mediterranean partners and the European Union. It has been highlighted that such a common aviation area in the Mediterranean will pave the way to a more intense relationship with all the Arab countries. Representatives of Arab countries not included in the Euromed aviation project will also be offered the opportunity, through ACAC, to participate in certain activities organized by such project at their own expenses.
2. Both sides expressed a strong wish for taking the current cooperation in the field of civil aviation to a new level in a wide range of areas. In particular, the two sides intend to strengthen their future technical exchanges and cooperation in areas such as aviation safety, aviation security, air traffic management, environmental protection, application of competition law and economic regulation of the air transport industry.
3. The two sides will encourage and facilitate exchanges of capabilities and experiences as well as cooperation in the field of civil aviation between relevant authorities as well as between aviation-related institutions, organisations and industries of both sides.
4. Both sides will cooperate to support the development of air transport between European and Arab countries with a view to removing obstacles for doing business and implementing regulatory convergence to guarantee a common level playing field.
5. As a first significant step, both sides recognized the necessity to bring into conformity with Community law the air services agreements existing between Member states of the EU and ACAC. Both sides welcome the results already obtained with several key countries but stress the need to pursue such process as a matter of priority. Representatives of ACAC and AACO confirm their acceptance of the principle of Community designation subject to the guarantee of a reciprocal approach in this field. In particular, the Directorate General for Energy and Transport encourages the recognition of a regional reciprocity allowing Arab airlines to be owned and controlled by Arab interests from various countries. Should any problem arise in the application of such principle, the EC is prepared to facilitate mediation.
6. Both Parties reaffirm the necessity to facilitate the operations of their airlines. To this purpose, they encourage the implementation, in the appropriate framework, of reciprocal provisions enabling flexible code share arrangements involving their air carriers operating between EC and ACAC countries.



7. Both sides recognize the urgency of the global environmental challenge and the importance of a proactive approach with regard to aviation. Both sides agree to work closely together, notably with the forthcoming Arab joint environmental bureau, in order to promote sustainable solutions to the environmental challenges that face aviation. It has been underlined that the investment into more fuel efficient aircraft is a step in the right direction to improve the emissions footprint of airlines. Both sides note also the added value of the inclusion of aviation in a cap and trade emissions scheme and agree to cooperate to the fullest extent possible in this area, with the ultimate objective of achieving an agreement at global level on measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from aviation.

Done at , 2008,

For the Directorate General of Energy and Transport

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Date:

16/11/2008

For the Arab Civil Aviation Commission

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