

ACI EUROPE

6 square de Meeûs
1000 Brussels, Belgium
www.aci-europe.org

Emissions trading right approach towards ever more sustainable aviation

For immediate release

20 December 2006

Brussels, 20 December 2006: The European airport industry welcomes today's important decision by the European Commission's to include aviation in the existing EU CO2 Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS).

ACI EUROPE is a longstanding advocate of emission's trading for aviation, as a responsible, pragmatic and swift course of action to control the increase in aviation emissions and halt its growing contribution to climate change.

Olivier Jankovec, Director General of ACI EUROPE, said: "Today's decision is the right approach to face up to aviation's contribution to climate change. However, we will now need to review the Commission's proposal in detail to accurately assess its actual impact. He added that: "It is of the utmost importance that the design elements of the ETS should not prevent air transport being able to grow and develop. Crucially, air transport must also be treated in exactly the same way as other industries under the existing ETS and should in no way be discriminated against".

"Europe's airports applaud the efforts of Commissioner Jacques Barrot for advocating a balanced, realistic approach", said Jankovec, adding: "Going forward with an intra-EU emissions trading scheme, as a first step, is a realistic way to ultimately ensure a global approach."

ENDS

* **Note to editors**

Download the ACI EUROPE climate change position paper from our website: www.aci-europe.org > 'Documentation' > 'Environment' section.

For more information, please contact **Stephen Hogan**, Communications Manager, ACI EUROPE at e-mail: stephen.hogan@aci-europe.org, mobile: +32 (0)486 54 14 71, or tel: +32 (0)2 552 09 82.

Airports Council International (ACI) is the only worldwide professional association of airport operators. ACI EUROPE represents some 400 airports in 45 European countries. Member airports handle 90% of commercial air traffic in Europe, welcoming over a billion passengers each year.