The principle of fair competition is well established within the internal aviation market where market distortive practices are subject to Union law, including Union competition rules. The Commission has no knowledge of any anticompetitive behaviour in the internal market by the three airlines mentioned.

In the 2015 Aviation Strategy\(^1\), the Commission emphasised the importance of fair conditions of competition in international aviation. The Union requires corresponding rules to be inserted into bilateral air services agreements with third countries. In the absence of such a bilateral fair competition framework, the recently adopted Regulation\(^2\) on safeguarding competition in air transport provides the framework for addressing practices distorting competition by a third country or a third-country entity.

In accordance with the requirements and procedures provided for in the relevant instruments, and where appropriate, the Commission will take steps to address market distortive practices in the internal market or practices distorting competition adopted by a third country or a third-country entity.

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\(^1\) COM(2015) 598 final.