

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

2008/2134(INI)

5.11.2008

OPINION

of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

for the Committee on Transport and Tourism

on an agenda for sustainable future in general and business aviation
(2008/2134(INI))

Rapporteur: Daniel Caspary

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SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Industry, Research and Energy calls on the Committee on Transport and Tourism, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

1. Recognises the need for a tailored approach towards general and business aviation due to its different nature compared with the commercial aviation industry; welcomes the Commission's Communication, which gives a systematic overview of the sector;
2. Emphasises the importance of a proportionate regulatory approach, which takes into account the needs of small and medium-sized enterprises active in the sector;
3. Urges the Commission to clarify the definitions of the structural components of general and business aviation and to harmonise the interpretation of legally binding definitions contained in international, Community and national regulations;
4. Stresses the need for more research in the framework of the Seventh Framework Programme on new types of aircraft, which are more energy efficient and environmentally friendly; underlines further the need for research on noise-mitigating technologies as well as on air traffic management;
5. Notes that smaller aircraft are not included in the future Emission Trading System (ETS) but that a voluntary carbon-offset mechanism is being developed by the sector; regrets that the design of the ETS discriminates against business aviation by allocating free emission allowances to commercial airlines but in practice forcing business aviation operators to purchase close to 100% of the allowances which they require under the scheme on the market;
6. Urges the Commission to ensure that future regulation is compatible with the rules of the EU's main trading partners; furthermore, calls on the Commission to pursue with great efforts better market access in third countries which will allow EU companies to increase their global market share and stimulate EU industrial production;
7. Stresses the importance of fair access to airport infrastructure and airspace for business aviation operators; recalls that the establishment of the Single European Sky is urgent in order to generate its environmental benefits and efficiency gains for operators and passengers;
8. Highlights the increase in capacity constraints in major airports for airspace users in this sector and therefore urges the Commission and the Member States to find the appropriate means for optimising and increasing the capacity of regional and local airports.

RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

Date adopted	4.11.2008
Result of final vote	+: 41 -: 2 0: 1
Members present for the final vote	Jerzy Buzek, Jorgo Chatzimarkakis, Giles Chichester, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Den Dover, Lena Ek, Nicole Fontaine, Adam Gierek, David Hammerstein, Rebecca Harms, Mary Honeyball, Romana Jordan Cizelj, Pia Elda Locatelli, Eugenijus Maldeikis, Eluned Morgan, Reino Paasilinna, Atanas Papanizov, Aldo Patriciello, Francisca Pleguezuelos Aguilar, Anni Podimata, Miloslav Ransdorf, Vladimír Remek, Herbert Reul, Amalia Sartori, Andres Tarand, Patrizia Toia, Nikolaos Vakalis, Adina-Ioana Vălean, Dominique Vlasto
Substitute(s) present for the final vote	Pilar Ayuso, Etelka Barsi-Pataky, Ivo Belet, Daniel Caspary, Zdzisław Kazimierz Chmielewski, Juan Fraile Cantón, Neena Gill, Robert Goebbels, Cristina Gutiérrez-Cortines, Gunnar Hökmark, Pierre Pribetich, Esko Seppänen, Silvia-Adriana Țicău, Vladimir Urutchev, Lambert van Nistelrooij