

**EUROMED TRANSPORT FORUM  
AVIATION WORKING GROUP**

Fourth Meeting

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*Brussels, 17 January 2008*

**OFFICIAL REPORT**

The Fourth Meeting of the Aviation Working Group was held in Brussels on the 17<sup>th</sup> of January 2008. The list of participants is attached (See Annex I).

The Meeting adopted the agenda attached to this report (see Annex II).

This official report reflects the main issues discussed during the meeting.

**1. FIRST YEAR ACTIVITIES OF THE EUROMED AVIATION PROJECT**

The activities achieved by the Project in 2007, i.e. Meetings, First Visits, Survey Missions, Seminars, Website and News Letter, were recognised by the participants as particularly relevant and of good quality.

The Project has collected and produced a lot of valuable information & reports which will be very useful in the two coming years as they are the basis for future actions.

The European Commission took note of the satisfaction of the beneficiary countries and invited them to start thinking with the Core Team of a possible follow-up of the Euromed Aviation Project after its end in January 2010.

The ICAO Mid representative confirmed that the main conclusions of the Survey Mission were in line with their own observations and urged the Core Team to consider the other technical assistance programmes so as to avoid the overlapping of efforts.

He also stressed the role of military forces in the region and the necessity of taking them into consideration.

The release of ICAO Safety & Security Audits by the MEDA States was again addressed by the Project Core Team.

The Team stressed the importance of having these existing documents so as to capitalise on them and to propose consistent actions to undertake in line with identified MEDA needs and ICAO programmes.

## **2. UPCOMING ACTIVITIES (2008 - 2009)**

A draft Action Plan was presented for the years 2008 and 2009 by the Core Team.

The plan is based on the terms of reference of the Project, the outcomes of the survey missions and the final conclusions of the seminars.

It is composed of three main parts:

- Training,
- On site technical assistance,
- Seminars

A global consensus among the beneficiary countries was that the plan was too ambitious and must focus on the essential and crucial elements.

In particular, the training plan, if fully implemented, will mobilise too many people from the Administrations which have limited human resources.

The training plan must be downsized and extended to the very end of the Year 2009.

It is also suggested to start the technical assistance a few months later after the launch of the training plan to benefit of the training and also to smooth the workload of the beneficiary National Administrations.

The technical assistance must also last till the end of the Year 2009.

The continuation of seminars is approved.

The next ones so far are:

- Security Seminar in cooperation with ECAC (20-21 February 2008 in Paris)
- Airlines preparation to Market open-up (Place and dates not yet defined)
- Third ATM seminar (Marrakech & Brussels follow-up) (Place and dates not yet defined)

An updated action plan will be defined again and be submitted for comments to the National Coordinators early April 2008.

The objectives are to start the training plan in June 2008 (just before summer holidays & Ramadan) and the technical assistance in October 2008.

## **3. CONCLUSIONS**

The Group agreed to the establishment of an Advisory Group, as part of the Euro-Med Aviation Working group, which will follow the progress of the Euromed Aviation Project and provide steering guidance to the Core Team.

The Group adopted the recommendations attached to this report (see Annex III).

## **5. COORDINATES OF THE FORUM**

The Secretariat of the Forum and of its Working Group is provided by the European Commission (Directorate General Energy and Transport-DGTREN)

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## **6. ANNEXES**

- I. List of effective participants
- II. Agenda of the Meeting
- III. Conclusions of the Meeting