

SAFETY SEMINAR COLOGNE – 17/18 December 2007

FINAL CONCLUSIONS

The attendees of the Euromed/EASA Safety Seminar which took place in Cologne on 17th & 18th December 2007 have reached the following conclusions:

1- They welcome the Euromed Aviation Project and its objectives.

2- The European Union has developed a sound and efficient system in aviation safety. The EU has the political will and the technical means to implement and apply its aviation safety policy. It has been noted that the EU must still enhance its standardization process within its Member States.

3- The Safety situation in the MEDA States is considered satisfactory as they are compliant with ICAO SARPs even if the safety standards are not equal from one country to another.

4 – The main issues encountered in the Region are:

- Insufficient empowerment of the civil aviation authorities
- Shortage of human resources in these authorities
- Low level of cooperation between MEDA States

5- Globally, the improvement requires:

- Financial and technical reinforcement of authorities backed by a political will
- Increase of number of appropriate trainers and trained inspectors
- Implementation of coordination mechanism between the MEDA States.

- Increase cooperation with the European Community (EC, EU member States, EASA, Euromed Aviation Project)

6 – Some countries have already started converging their regulatory framework with the EU aviation regulations. Others recognize that EU regulations may be a solution and express their interest to do so. Others consider it is too premature for the moment to take such a decision in absence of an impact assessment.

7- The expectations from the Euromed Aviation Project are:

- Provide mechanisms (Workshops, Forum, ..) for sharing experience and enhancing cooperation between the MEDA States at regional and sub-regional levels.

- Provide mechanisms for sharing experience between the European Community and MEDA States

- Define and implement training & technical assistance tailored to the specific needs of each country within the Euromed Project budgetary constraints.

- Make an impact assessment of the convergence and non convergence of the Mediterranean Countries with EU aviation safety regulations.