

European Economic & Social Committee

Consultative Commission on Industrial Change

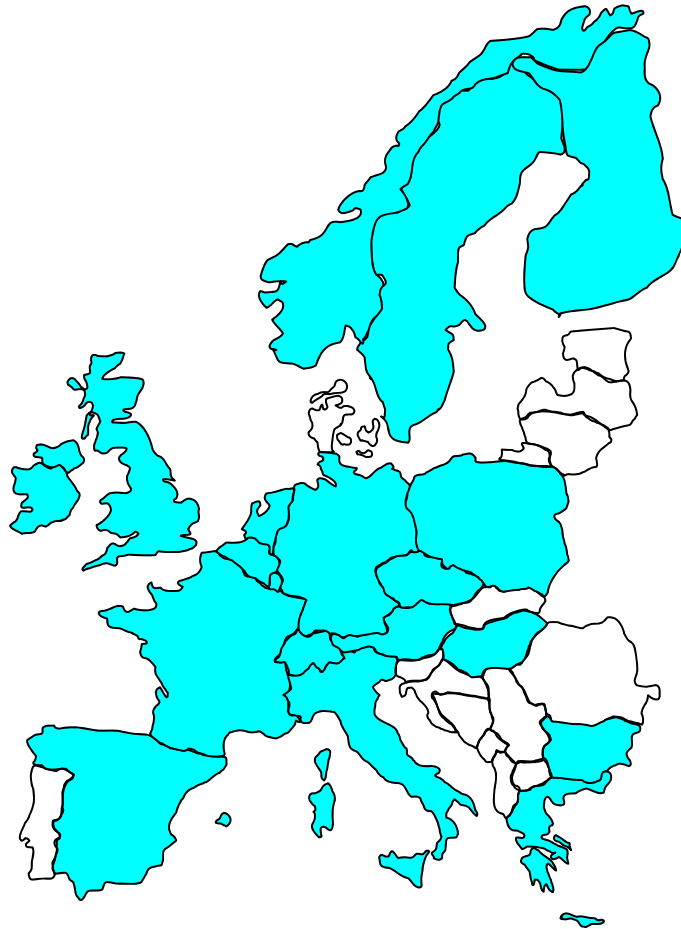
Brussels, 12thth April 2012

**Public Hearing on the Aviation Guidelines:
Looking for an equal level playing-field**

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www.epf.eu

EPF
members
April 2012



33 member
associations in 19
states

EPF's purposes

An international non-profit organisation

- Promoting public transport users' interests at European level
- Committed to sustainable mobility and improved standards of service provision
- Focus on effective co-modality

Broad alignment with long-term vision of Transport White Paper, 2011, (COM(2011) 144)

Our approach

- Emphasis on greatest good for greatest number.
- Think co-modally: avoid sectoral special-pleading – ‘What’s best for the passengers?’.
- A proportionate, rational, evidence-led approach.
- Work constructively with decision-makers and operators.
- Primary focus on land-based connectivity as transport sector where market failure is most acute

Recognising the importance of air travel

- ***Economic:*** Significant driver of growth
- ***Social:*** Connectivity and social cohesion
- ***Environmental:*** Modern equipment can be relatively undamaging to the environment
- ***Practical:*** May be no realistic short-term alternatives

Whilst anticipating potential draw-backs

- **Economic:** Significant growth driver
 - Safeguard other modes from revenue abstraction
- **Social:** Connectivity and social cohesion
 - Avoid benefitting the rich at expense of poor
- **Environmental:** Modern equipment can be relatively undamaging to the environment
 - Appraise impacts, case-by-case
- **Practical:** May be no realistic short-term alternatives
 - Don't jeopardise sustainable long-term options

Levelling the playing field

- Nurturing of high speed rail needs extending to other sustainable, land-based services too:
 - The importance of networks in transport provision
 - The risk to users posed by ‘market creaming’
- Safeguarding long-term service provision:
 - ‘Scorched earth’: here today, gone tomorrow
- Case-by-case appraisal of impact costs:
 - eg land-based infrastructure, labour-market issues, noise pollution

Summary of key concerns

- Evaluate *every* project, case-by-case, across modes
- Appraise holistically: Internalise external costs
- Reflect contribution to broad policy goals in appraisal:
 - e.g. environmental /energy policy priorities, balanced regional development, peripherality and social cohesion
- Safeguard transport system for sustainable long-term
- Facilitate co-modality (links to agglomerations/hubs)
- Demonstrate benefit to wider community :
Will passengers, generally, be better off for it?

Thank you

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