# Air transport safety: third countries aircraft using Community airports

1997/0039(SYN) - 17/02/1997 - Legislative proposal

OBJECTIVE: To contribute to the improvement of air safety by checking the safety of third countries' aircraft using Community airports. SUBSTANCE: The proposal for a directive applies to third countries' aircraft landing at Community airports, apart from State aircraft and aircraft not engaged in commercial air transport. The proposal requires Member States: - to carry out ramp inspections on aircraft suspected of non-compliance with international safety standards: the broad lines of the procedure to be followed appears in an annex containing a standard report form, with the details left up to the discretion of the Member States - to ground dangerous aircraft: the measures to be taken to ensure that an aircraft is grounded are set out in detail, while recognizing the right of appeal of affected operators. The proposal also permits the Commission to address the problems which may have surfaced after the assessment procedure has been applied and a safety hazard has been identified. It gives various possible levels of response according to the severity of the hazard. The proposal also sets out: - all the information which the Member States will collect in order to facilitate the assessment of aircraft, including information that will generally be available on aircraft or operators when an abnormal situation arises, information concerning ramp inspections, follow-up information following initial ramp inspections, and information from sources other than the competent authorities; - how this information should be exchanged to ensure Community-wide coverage for the whole system. Provisions are also made to protect sources of information, and in particular the voluntary contribution of crew of the inspected aircraft.