

Basic information	
2007/0057(CNS) CNS - Consultation procedure Decision	Procedure completed
EC/Panama agreement: air services Subject 6.40.10 Relations with Latin America, Central America, Caribbean islands Geographical area Panama	

Key players				
European Parliament	Committee responsible		Rapporteur	Appointed
	TRAN Transport and Tourism		COSTA Paolo (ALDE)	08/05/2007
Council of the European Union	Council configuration		Meetings	Date
	General Affairs		2808	2007-06-18
	General Affairs		2850	2008-02-18
European Commission	Commission DG		Commissioner	
	Energy and Transport		BARROT Jacques	

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
30/03/2007	Legislative proposal published	COM(2007)0151 	Summary
09/07/2007	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
27/08/2007	Vote in committee		Summary
29/08/2007	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A6-0306/2007	
25/09/2007	Decision by Parliament	T6-0387/2007	Summary
25/09/2007	Results of vote in Parliament		
18/02/2008	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
18/02/2008	End of procedure in Parliament		
16/04/2008	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2007/0057(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	International agreement
Legislative instrument	Decision
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 300-p2/3-a1/2 EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 080-p2
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	TRAN/6/48380

Documentation gateway				
European Parliament				
Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE392.044	03/07/2007	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A6-0306/2007	29/08/2007	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T6-0387/2007	25/09/2007	Summary
European Commission				
Document type	Reference	Date	Summary	
Legislative proposal	COM(2007)0151 	30/03/2007	Summary	

Additional information		
Source	Document	Date
National parliaments	IPEX	
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act	
Decision 2008/0305 OJ L 106 16.04.2008, p. 0006	Summary

EC/Panama agreement: air services

2007/0057(CNS) - 18/06/2007

The Council adopted a Decision approving the signing of an agreement with Panama on air services. The agreement is the result of negotiations under a mandate by which the Commission can negotiate with any third country with a view to bringing Member States' existing bilateral aviation agreements into line with Community law.

EC/Panama agreement: air services

2007/0057(CNS) - 18/02/2008 - Final act

PURPOSE: to conclude the Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Panama on certain aspects of air services.

LEGISLATIVE ACT: Council Decision 2008/305/EC on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Panama on certain aspects of air services.

CONTENT: on 5 June 2003, the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations with third countries on the replacement of certain provisions in existing bilateral agreements with a Community agreement. The Commission has negotiated, on behalf of the Community, an Agreement with Panama on certain aspects of air services in accordance with the mechanisms and directives in the Annex to the Council Decision authorising the Commission to open negotiations with third countries on the replacement of certain provisions in existing bilateral agreements with a Community agreement.

The Agreement was signed on 1 October 2007 subject to its possible conclusion at a later date.

The objective of the new agreements is to give all EU air carriers non-discriminatory access to routes between the Community and third countries and to bring bilateral air service agreements between Member States and third countries in line with Community law.

In summary, the Agreement:

- replaces the traditional designation clauses with a Community designation clause (Article 2). This permits all Community carriers to benefit from the right of establishment;
- addresses the issue of safety, within the context of Community designations (Articles 4 and 5);
- addresses the matter of aviation fuel taxation (Article 4) (a matter which has been harmonised by Council Directive 2003/96/EC);
- resolves conflicts between the existing bilateral air services agreements and Council Regulation (EC) No 2409/92 on fares and rates for air services which prohibits third country carriers from being price leaders on air services for carriage wholly within the Community (Article 5);
- resolves potential conflicts with EC competition rules (Article 6).

EC/Panama agreement: air services

2007/0057(CNS) - 25/09/2007 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution drafted by Paolo **COSTA** (ALDE, IT) by 480 votes in favour to 8 against with 10 abstentions and approved the conclusion of the agreement between the EC and Panama on certain aspects of air services.

EC/Panama agreement: air services

2007/0057(CNS) - 30/03/2007 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: i) to sign a provisional application of an Agreement between the Community and the Republic of Panama on certain aspects of air services and ii) to conclude the Agreement.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

BACKGROUND: since 2003, when the European Court of Justice delivered the "Open Skies" cases, the Commission had been granted a mandate by the Council to open negotiations with third countries to replace certain provisions in existing bi-lateral agreements; the latter being contrary to basic EU law. The objective of the new agreements is to give all EU air carriers non-discriminatory access to routes between the Community and third countries and to bring bilateral air service agreements between Member States and third countries in line with Community law.

CONTENT: the purpose of this proposal is to sign and conclude such an agreement on certain aspects of air services between the Community and the Republic of Panama. In summary, the Agreement negotiated by the Commission:

- replaces the traditional designation clauses with a Community designation clause. This permits all Community carriers to benefit from the right of establishment;
- addresses the issue of safety, within the context of Community designations;
- addresses the matter of aviation fuel taxation (a matter which has been harmonised by Council Directive 2003/96/EC);
- resolves conflicts between the existing bilateral air services agreements and Council Regulation (EC) No 2409/92 on fares and rates for air services which prohibits third country carriers from being price leaders on air services for carriage wholly within the Community; and

- resolves potential conflicts with EC competition rules.

In accordance with the standard procedure for the signature and conclusion of international agreements, therefore, the Council is asked to approve the proposed Decisions.