

Negotiations on a Second Stage EU-U.S. Air Transport Agreement

Joint Statement from the European and U.S. delegations

Delegations from the United States and the European Community and its Member States met in Brussels on 25-26 June for a third round of negotiations on a second stage agreement as provided in Article 21 of the Air Transport Agreement. The discussions followed constructive exchanges in the EU-U.S. Second Aviation Forum on Liberalisation and Labour ("Labour Forum") and EU-U.S. Joint Committee meeting, which also took place in Brussels, on 22-23 June and 24 June, respectively.

Both delegations indicated their desire to conclude the talks before the end of 2010. The delegations discussed further proposals on investment, environment, and other commercial and regulatory matters for possible inclusion in a second stage agreement. A further round of negotiations will be held in Washington D.C. in the week of 5 October 2009 to build on the progress already made. The two delegations shared the view that, in particular, the social dimension of transatlantic aviation relations should be addressed as part of the negotiations.