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Communication from the Aviation Industry to the Council of Transport Ministers meeting in Luxembourg on October 16, 2001.

The European Social Partners in the civil aviation sector had an emergency meeting in Brussels on Friday October 12, 2001. Their joint statement is attached.

In summary the Air Transport European Social Partners:

- □ Urge the Councils of Transport and Finance Ministers to recognise the severe negative consequences of the current crisis in the air transport industry as a result of the tragic events of September 11, 2001. The consequent war environment is creating a unique, unprecedented and unpredictable economic and social environment.
- □ Stress that the package of measures proposed by the Commission in its Communication of October 10, 2001 is not adequate to address the deepening crisis in the sector and totally fails to address the social and employment consequences.
- Observe that the Commission exhibits little evidence of a joint and consolidated response to a situation of war and does not include every dimension of the crisis in its attempt to respond to the crisis.
- □ Urge the Council and the Commission to increase their collaboration with all industry stakeholders.
- □ Firmly believe that like the US Government, the European Union should adopt effective, realistic emergency measures to rescue the European air transport industry and to maintain an international level playing field.
- □ Urge the Commission to review its approach to the implementation of EU competition rules to provide support to the industry rather than to add to its current difficulties in the light of this war situation.
- □ Stress that aid and compensation should be granted to the Community air transport industry in support of employment.

Brussels, 12 October 2001

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