

Secretary General



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Dear Dr. Ruete

In the context of the revision of the Trans-European Networks Strategy, DG TREN's services launched a public web consultation in early 2005 on the "TEN Transport Policy and Projects in the Future".

In response to this consultation the AEA drew the Commission's attention to the fact that aviation did not figure on the list of priorities identified by the Commission. We therefore submitted proposals for four projects that we felt should be included under 'Horizontal Measures': security measures for all modes of transport, the second phase of the SESAME strategy, interoperability of ATM systems and air/ground data link systems.

We note with great satisfaction, subsequent to our letter dated 8<sup>th</sup> April 05, that the High Level Group, led by former Transport Commissioner Loyola de Palacio, has accepted our suggestions. In the Final Report published in December 2005 she recommends the development of solutions to ensure the inter-operability of Air Traffic Management systems, and states that neighbouring countries of the EU should be associated in the development of the second phase of the SESAR (formerly SESAME) project for a Single European Sky. The Report also advocates the introduction, application and control of security measures and the introduction of security audits.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the Rapporteur and to the European Commission for including these vital aviation measures in the TEN-T programme. We look forward to cooperating closely with DG-TREN to translate these recommendations into concrete action.

Yours sincerely,

Ulrich Schulte-Strathaus

Copy: Mr. George Paulson, Eurocontrol

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