



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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REPORT

From : General Secretariat

To : COREPER / Council

No. Cion prop. : 16502/12 AVIATION 176 ISR 17

Subject : Proposal for a COUNCIL DECISION on the signature, on behalf of the European Union, and provisional application of the Euro-Mediterranean Aviation Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the State of Israel, of the other part
- Adoption

COMMON GUIDELINES

Consultation deadline for Croatia: 10 December 2012

I. Introduction

This draft Agreement is the result of the mandate granted by the Council and the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council, to the Commission on 8 April 2008, in order to open negotiations with Israel on a comprehensive air transport agreement. On the basis of this mandate, the Commission concluded the negotiations successfully and the draft Agreement was initialled on 30 July 2012.

The main objective of the Euro-Mediterranean Aviation Agreement between the European Union and Israel is a gradual market opening in terms of access to routes and capacity, on a reciprocal basis, and the promotion of regulatory cooperation and harmonisation based on Union legislation. It also aims at establishing a level playing field for economic operators and promotes air services based on fair competition among carriers.

On 22 November 2012, the Commission submitted to the Council a proposal for a Council Decision on the signature and provisional application of the Euro-Mediterranean Aviation Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the State of Israel, of the other part in order to allow for the signature of the Agreement.

II. Work within Council

The text of the Commission proposal, including the draft Agreement, was examined by the Aviation Working Party. The Presidency has proposed to follow the established practice of the Council to modify the draft Council Decision in order to involve Member States' representatives in the adoption process and thereby also making Member States' competences apparent in the context of this mixed agreement. Clarifications on the establishment of the Union positions within the Joint Committee set up by the Agreement have also been introduced in the draft Decision. The Presidency text was accepted by delegations, and thereafter revised by the Legal Linguistic Services¹.

III. Conclusion

COREPER is invited to examine and approve the changes introduced by the Working Party and to forward to the TTE Council, for adoption, the draft Decision as well as the attached draft Agreement as they appear in documents 16826/12 and 16828/12, so that the signature and the provisional application of the Agreement can proceed.

¹ 16826/12 (Decision on the signature)
16828/12 (Agreement)