

5th February 2007

Mr. Kieran Baker
Commission for Aviation Regulation
3rd Floor
Alexandra House
Earlsfort Terrace
Dublin, 2

Dear Mr. Baker,

I refer to Commission notice 2/2007 dated February 1st about slot allocation at Dublin Airport.

While laudable that the Commission should seek this level of consultation, it is entirely predictable that there will not be unanimity among the Airport users. However, it is equally predictable that without co-ordination, peak time conditions at Dublin Airport in 2007 will be considerably worse than the intolerable situation which existed last year. Without the improvement which co-ordination can bring, the sad inevitability is that passengers will be subjected to further degradation of an already unacceptable situation.

Were further confirmation needed for what is already known to most frequent users of Dublin Airport, this is clearly provided in the Jacobs report on the capacity analysis assessment. The Commission's tentative view that Dublin Airport needs slot co-ordination from the summer of 2007 is correct, and should be confirmed.

Notwithstanding the "suggested" notice period for change in the level of designation, the gravity of the peak time overcrowding situation is such that early summer introduction is essential. As ITIC has previously pointed out, if the overcrowding levels are allowed to persist, or even worse, deteriorate, the likelihood of a serious incident or incidents within the Airport terminal increases to an unacceptable level.

The common good of the broad family of airport users including, and most importantly, all those travelling through Dublin Airport, must prevail. The Commission should, as intended, publish its final decision by February 12th, and that decision should be for the early co-ordination of Dublin Airport.

Yours sincerely

Eamonn McKeon
Chief Executive