

Introduction



- Traditionally we are used to discuss bilateral or multilateral air services agreements, ranging from a more restrictive to a more liberal regime.
- Also, a number of countries link air transport liberalization to broader commercial or free trade agreements.

5/26/2010

Introduction



- The European Union is taking the aero-political discussion to a new dimension, with a much broader agenda...
- This has been the case with the much followed EU-US air transport negotiations.
- And it is also a clear trend in EU's relations with Middle East countries.

5/26/2010

EU & the Middle East



Most of you may have heard that Morocco has signed an open aviation agreement with the EU in 2006 and that Jordan has initialled a similar agreement in March 2010.

Furthermore, the EC has the mandate to negotiate with 3 other Mediterranean countries (Algeria, Lebanon and Tunisia)

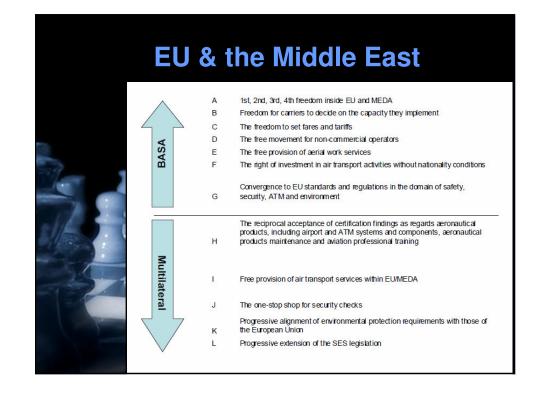
5/26/2010 4



In 2007 it was launched the Euro-Med Aviation project, a comprehensive program with a proposed roadmap that addresses five main components:

- 1. Aviation market
- 2. Security
- 3. Safety
- 4. Environment
- 5. Air traffic management (ATM)

5







The ultimate objective of the Road Map is to implement the Euro-Mediterranean Common Aviation Area (EMCAA), a common market between the EU and the Mediterranean partner countries with harmonised operational rules.

As a result, we are not only talking about full market opening in terms of access, capacity and fares, but the extensive application of European legislation on aviation safety, security, environment and Air Traffic Management areas!!

5/26/2010



EU & the Middle East

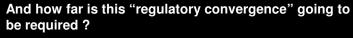


The EuroMed initiative may not be fully applicable to other regional blocks, such as the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) States.

Notwithstanding, most Arab countries are looking forward to have comprehensive aviation agreement and «regulatory convergence» is a growing trend in the region.

5/26/2010

EU & the Middle East



- Licenses, fares, market access?
- Air passenger rights ?
- Allocation of slots ?
- Ground handling?
- Computer Reservation Systems?
- Noise & Emissions ?
- Security (already)
- Safety (already)
- Insurance?
- Air Traffic Management Single European Sky (already)
- Strict competition and state aid rules ?
- AND SO ON TO THE ACQUIS COMMUNITAIRE???

5/26/2010

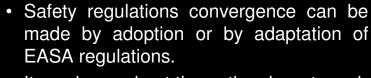
Confidential

10





EU Safety Regulations

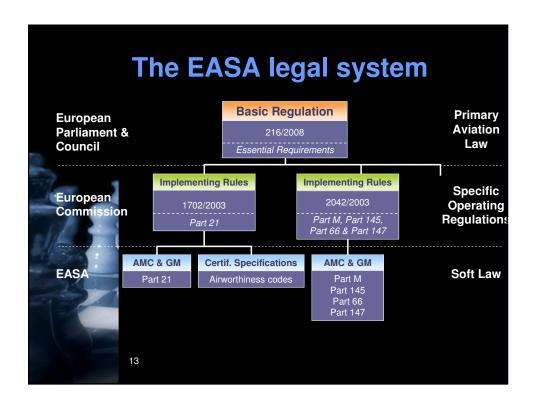


 It can be made at the national or at a sub regional level.

 But EASA regulations are foreign law that come from a very complex legal and institutional setup which creates many challenges...

5/26/2010

12



Some of the Challenges

- EASA regulations may differ or go beyond ICAO standards.
- Third parties have not a saying in the modification of the regulations.
- In most of the cases, regulations may only be adapted or made compatible by states (tailor made to EU).
- Need to review institutional issues such as legal competencies and enforcement mechanisms.
- Difficulties to have proper/timely information about amendments.
- Difficulty of interpretation and need to have access to EASA's interpretation of regulations.

