

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT : ABU DHABI : UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

2007 CIVIL AVIATION POLICY

SUPPORTING THE LEADER'S VISION

دائرة النقل
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT



SUPPORTING THE LEADER'S VISION

I HAVE GREAT PLEASURE IN PRESENTING THE 2007 CIVIL AVIATION POLICY. THIS BUILDS UPON THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL'S POLICY AGENDA 2007-2008 OBJECTIVES FOR THE TRANSPORT SECTOR. THE POLICY FOCUSES ON ENSURING THE DELIVERY OF SUSTAINABLE AND COMPETITIVE AVIATION SERVICES IN A SAFE, SECURE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE MANNER.

AS WE STRIVE TO SUPPORT AND FOSTER THE GROWTH OF AVIATION WE WILL MEET MANY CHALLENGES. WE WILL OVERSEE IT'S UNDERLYING COMPLEXITIES AND ARE CONFIDENT THAT WE WILL SUCCEED IN OUR ENDAVOURS. WE WILL WORK CLOSELY WITH INDUSTRY AND THE COMMUNITY TO MAXIMISE THE VALUE OF AIR TRANSPORT TO THE EMIRATE OF ABU DHABI.

I THANK THOSE ORGANISATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS POLICY. THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE HAS ENCOURAGED US TO DEVELOP A POSITIVE, CLEAR AND PROGRESSIVE VISION.

HIS EXCELLENCY ABDULLA RASHED AL OTAIBA

CHAIRMAN
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

SEPTEMBER 2007

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Department of Transport Mission

In considering the objectives of general welfare, economic growth and stability, safety and the security of air commerce in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, the Department of Transport (DoT) will hold safety and security as the highest priorities. The DoT's policies and programmes will contribute to providing safe, efficient, and convenient transportation consistent with those and other Abu Dhabi objectives, including the efficient use and conservation of the resources of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi.

Economic Development

Mission

Ensure that Abu Dhabi aviation is part of a world class transport system that supports social and economic ambitions.

Strategic Objectives	Policies
<p>Promote Abu Dhabi as a main gateway to the Emirates</p>	<p>The DoT will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In coordination with the GCAA, adopt a proactive role in the negotiation of bilateral (or multilateral) air service agreements and promote Abu Dhabi as a major regional gateway • Support the strategic business plans of Etihad Airways, Abu Dhabi Airports Company. • Support Abu Dhabi's trade and economic interests; • Recognize “open skies” as an aspirational goal to be sought on a case-by-case basis; • Negotiate capacity for air services ahead of demand; • Recognize the contribution an Abu Dhabi based airline industry makes to the economy; • Encourage major foreign carriers to commit to a long-term presence in Abu Dhabi; • Continue to attract more services to Al Ain Airport to support regional development; • Promote the development of air cargo; • Support the development of a broad based airline industry that responds to all economic and social groupings; • Maximize the opportunity to improve the rate of return on airport investment; and, • Seek to liberalize the industry through multilateral forums such as the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) and World Trade Organisation (WTO).
<p>Coordinate the development of the airport and airspace system to accommodate growth</p>	<p>The DoT will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take an active role in coordinating the airport expansion programs of industry partners and stakeholders to ensure that infrastructure will not be a constraint. Coordination with major stakeholders will ensure the harmonious and balanced development of the sector; • Ensure that national assets are safeguarded and that there is compatible land use planning in the vicinity of airports;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor, in coordination with other government authorities, the long term strategic development plans of Abu Dhabi and Al Ain airports and approve plans that are consistent with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the Abu Dhabi Metropolis: 2030 Vision development plan in the region to avoid proliferation of non-compatible uses of land around the airports; ○ the Transport Master Plan to facilitate access of passengers and cargo to the airports; ○ the Tourism Master Plan to ensure air transport system capacity; ○ any other strategic plan in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi related directly or indirectly to the long-term development of the airports; and, ○ a United Arab Emirates Airspace Master Plan.
<p>Promote an efficient, liberalized, competitive, and non-discriminatory environment for the provision of airport services</p>	<p>The DoT will;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • foster competition when it can be sustained; • protect consumers and public interest and intervene when necessary; • ensure that airlines and airport service providers are free to set their own prices without regulatory intervention; • not support anti competitive behaviour; and, • monitor facilitation and service levels and intervene when necessary.
<p>Promote a financially feasible, self sufficient and transparent aviation sector</p>	<p>The DoT will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promote the development of Al Ain International Airport as a key strategic asset; • promote transparency and accountability for local and international stakeholders; • require a Certificate of Financial Fitness from the national carriers serving the Emirate of Abu Dhabi and the adequacy of their insurance, including liability insurance; and, • encourage private sector participation in the sector.

Labour

Mission

Ensure the ethical, safe and efficient management of labour resources.

Strategic Objectives	Policies
<p>Encourage a national approach to training and development</p>	<p>The DoT will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote systematic training (technical and management) within its own organization and throughout the civil aviation industry; • Review training plans, manpower requirements and human resource performance indicators of airlines and airports; • Identify sector-wide training needs and related employment issues; • Represent the interests of the sector in government and wider society; and, • Investigate the possibility of developing a world class aviation management training capability with both local and international institutions and service providers.
<p>Ensure sufficiency of manpower to meet future needs</p>	<p>The DoT will review long-term staffing requirements for the sector in liaison with operators and Federal and Emirate agencies.</p>
<p>Encourage and accelerate the employment of Abu Dhabi citizens</p>	<p>The DoT will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaise with Federal and Emirate agencies (including, but limited to the Ministry of Labour, Tanmia, Civil Service Department) to ensure that the DoT itself, and the civil aviation industry as a whole, offer competitive and rewarding employment opportunities for UAE Nationals, especially for women; and, • Benchmark employment conditions

Safety and Security

Mission

Support the highest standards of safety and security.

Strategic Objectives	Policy
Support the technical regulator	The DOT will support the GCAA as the technical regulator and monitor standards in Abu Dhabi.
Establishment of an independent Accident Investigation Unit	The DoT will promote, in compliance with ICAO Annex 13, the establishment of an independent accident investigation organisation.
Consider the implications of an outcome based approach to regulation	DoT will encourage outcome based safety regulation.

Air Navigation and Communications

Mission

Promote the efficiency and effectiveness of air navigation and communications services.

Strategic Objectives	Policies
Assess air traffic activity	The DoT will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • monitor air traffic activity levels, including aircraft operations; and, • evaluate the impact of Air Traffic Services on airlines, travellers, and airports.
The use of state of the art technology	The DoT will support the implementation of a modern ATM system to ensure efficiency and convenience for air transport operators and the travelling public, and to optimize airport capacity.
Promote the coordination of the use of Abu Dhabi airspace	The DoT will support the establishment of an airspace coordination body that includes representatives of all civil, government, and military airport users.
Optimise airspace utilisation	The DoT will promote the development of a United Arab Emirates Airspace Master Plan.

The Environment

Mission

Promote aviation activities that are undertaken in a responsible, safe and sustainable manner.

Strategic Objectives	Policies
<p>Create the appropriate institutional framework</p>	<p>The DoT will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • oversee implementation of a comprehensive International Standards Organisation 14001 Environmental Management System (ISO 14001 EMS); and, • develop a regulatory framework to ensure compliance with international standards.
<p>Ensure regulatory compliance, environmental protection, and environmental health and safety</p>	<p>DoT will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • require service providers to develop and implement EHS systems; • require ADAC to conduct an annual compliance audit, develop follow-up action plans to address any non-compliance issues, and report results to DoT; and, • inspect ADAC's environmental records and reports upon request.
<p>Promote sustainable practices and technologies</p>	<p>DoT will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promote environmentally friendly design practices and principles; and, • coordinate the proposed utilization of sustainable design practices, technologies, and programmes with other relevant agencies, such as the EAD and the Emirates GBC.
<p>Develop an incentive programme</p>	<p>DoT will, in collaboration with EAD and other agencies, develop an incentive programme to promote the utilization of sustainable design technologies (for example, LEED green building design) and management programmes.</p>