

IBAC Technical Report Summary

Subject: Airport Economics & User Charges Policies

Meeting: Airport Economics Panel, 4th Meeting (AEP/4) 25-28 June 2002

IBAC File: ICAO Panel Report

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Summary: IBAC participated, with Observer status, for the first time in this Panel. Terms of Reference for the Panel are attached hereto.

It was readily evident that the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and the Airports Council International (ACI) have long established their presence, voice and respective influence in this Panel, to the extent that the deliberations and focus of the Panel is virtually exclusively related to airline operations and major airports. Indeed, the terms “airlines” and “users” of airports have become virtually synonymous.

In light of the above, Panel deliberations did not impinge exclusively on bizav and did so rarely indirectly.

IBAC's few interventions were aimed at amending terminology and language in ICAO documents with a view to achieving recognition of business aviation as a “user” (and payor) and also as a party to consultations between airport operators and users regarding investment plans and landing fees as well as other charges.

In this vein, IBAC drew the attention of ANSEP to a paragraph in the Statement by the ICAO Council to Contracting States on Airport Charges under the heading “ Balance of interests of airports and airlines”. This paragraph infers a exclusive duality of this balance of interests, potentially to the detriment of other users viz bizav.

Implication for Business Aviation:

There is limited scope for this Panel, within its approved Terms of Reference, to respond to the interests of bizav. Conversely, the opportunity is presented to impart to the experts involved in ANSEP an appreciation and understanding that civil aviation transcends airline operations and that bizav is a user and customer of airports.

Decisions Required:

IBAC POC to note above and review extent of IBAC engagement in the ANSEP.

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