



**CHAMBERS
IRELAND**
IN BUSINESS FOR BUSINESS

Thursday, 30th July 2009

Mr. Cathal Guiomard
Commissioner for Aviation Regulation
Third Floor
Alexandra House
Earlsfort Terrace
Dublin 2

Re: Chambers Ireland's Air Transport Users Council response to CP3/2009: Draft Determination of Maximum Levels of Airport Charges at Dublin Airport

Dear Mr. Guiomard,

Chambers Ireland's Air Transport Users Council (ATUC) would like to make the following observations in response to CP3/2009 draft determination of maximum airport charges at Dublin Airport.

As the capital city airport, Dublin is of vital economic importance to the country both from a tourism and business perspective. In addition to maintaining the array of destinations currently available from Dublin airport, new services must be established, particularly in the context of Open Skies and future demand for increased services to and from Asia. Such essential services cannot be developed without supporting infrastructural investment both airside and landside.

This infrastructure cannot be provided without sufficient funding to enable it. Furthermore, according to your own data and that of Airports Council International, Dublin Airport's current charges are amongst the lowest in comparison to other European capital city airports.

Whilst simultaneously ensuring value for money in return for capital investment at Dublin Airport, and ensuring a rise in service delivery commensurate with a rise in airport charges, we believe that we need a regime that recognises the costs of previous investments made while facilitating future investments. For example, a second runway in Dublin Airport will open up additional slotting capacity and competition while further

incentivising Asian airlines to fly direct to Dublin. We need a charging regime that facilitates investment and future proofs Dublin Airport's infrastructure requirements.

Finally we note that while some airlines continually complain about the charging regime in Dublin Airport, they themselves are continually introducing and or increasing ancillary charges for baggage, web check in, credit card payments and so forth.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Seán M', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Seán Murphy
Chambers Ireland's Air Transport Users Council