

Record of Consultations

Representatives of the United States and representatives of the European Community and its Member States met in Brussels on 10-11 January 2007 to discuss steps forward on the negotiated text of the first stage comprehensive EU-U.S. Air Transport Agreement that would replace the existing bilateral agreements and govern aviation relations between the United States and the European Union. The talks were held in a friendly and constructive atmosphere.

The United States delegation explained the December 2006 withdrawal of the Department of Transportation's rulemaking proposal concerning actual control of U.S. air carriers. The EU delegation expressed its deep regret and disappointment that the DOT's rulemaking process had not reached a successful conclusion.

Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to the goal of concluding an EU-U.S. agreement that would open access to markets and maximise benefits for consumers, airlines, labour, and communities on both sides of the Atlantic.

To that effect, and on the basis of the text negotiated in Washington in November 2005, the two delegations agreed to identify areas where improvements might be made.

It was agreed that a further round of consultations would take place in Washington in the week of 5 February 2007 in order to examine and discuss proposals.

For the Delegation of the United States:



John Byerly

For the Delegation of the European
Community and its Member States:

Daniel Calleja

Signed in Brussels on 11 January 2007