

Amendment by France of public service obligations in respect of scheduled air services between Le Puy-en-Velay and Paris (Orly)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2007/C 174/07)

1. France has decided to alter, with effect from 14 January 2008, the public service obligation pursuant to Article 4(1)(a) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2408/92 of 23 July 1992 on access for Community air carriers to intra-Community air routes, in respect of scheduled air services between the airports of Le Puy-en-Velay (Loudes) and Paris (Orly) ⁽¹⁾. These obligations replace those published in *Official Journal of the European Communities* C 227 of 1.9.1995 and amended in *Official Journal of the European Communities* C 258 of 15.9.2001.

2. The new public service obligation is as follows:

Minimum frequency

The minimum level of service provided must be two return trips a day, morning and evening, from Monday to Friday, excluding public holidays, 220 days a year.

The service must be non-stop between Le Puy-en-Velay (Loudes) and Paris (Orly).

Type of aircraft used

The service must be operated with a pressurised aircraft having a seating capacity of at least 19.

Timetables

During the week, the timetables must allow passengers to make a round trip within the day and to spend at least seven hours and thirty minutes in Le Puy-en-Velay and eight hours in Paris.

Fares

The maximum cost of a one-way ticket is EUR 223 (as at January 2008). This fare excludes *per capita* taxes and duties other than the value added tax levied by the State, local authorities and airport authorities, and identified as such on the air ticket. It will be revised each year on the basis of the index of the cost of transport services published by the National Institute for statistics and economic studies (Institut national de la statistique et des études économiques).

If an abnormal and unforeseeable increase in the cost factors affecting the operation of the routes takes place for which the carriers are not responsible, this maximum fare may be raised in proportion to the increase. It will be notified to the carriers operating the services and will apply within an appropriate period after being communicated to the European Commission for publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Continuity of service

Except in cases of *force majeure*, the number of flights cancelled for reasons directly attributable to the carrier must not exceed 3 % of the number of flights scheduled in any year. The carrier must give six months' notice before discontinuing the services.

Community carriers are hereby informed that the operation of air services without regard to the abovementioned public service obligations may result in administrative and/or criminal penalties.

3. Slots are currently reserved at Paris (Orly) airport for the scheduled Paris (Orly) — Le Puy-en-Velay service pursuant to Article 9 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 95/93 of 18 January 1993 on common rules for the allocation of slots at Community airports ⁽²⁾. Carriers interested in this route can obtain information on the slots from the Paris airports coordinator.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 240, 24.9.1992, p. 8.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 14, 22.1.1993, p. 1. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 793/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 138, 30.4.2004, p. 50).