



9 January 2012, Brussels

## ELFAA statement on Commission decision on Malev

**The statement below may be attributed to John Hanlon, Secretary-General of the European Low Fares Airline Association:**

“The European Low Fares Airline Association (ELFAA) today welcomed the European Commission’s decision regarding illegal state aid received by the Hungarian airline Malev. Besides distorting competition to the detriment of air travellers, the continuing use of taxpayers’ money to bail out failing airlines is an irresponsible use of government funds, particularly in these times of fiscal austerity, and cannot be allowed to continue. ELFAA urges the Commission, not only to ensure no further aid is extended to Malev, but to closely monitor the numerous other cases of illegal state aid to airlines within Europe and to undertake full and swift investigations into them.”

### **Notes to the editor:**

ELFAA represents the fastest-growing European airline sector. Its members carry over 180 million passengers a year and account for over 43% of scheduled intra-European traffic.

Today, ELFAA comprises 9 airline members which include: easyJet, Flybe, Jet2.com, Norwegian, Ryanair, SverigeFlyg, transavia.com, vueling and Wizz Air.

ELFAA’s primary objective is to ensure that European policy and legislation promote free and equal competition to enable the continued growth and development of low fares into the future, thereby allowing a greater number of people to travel by air.

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