



THURSDAY, 8 JANUARY 2009

ELFAA concerned about Commission pre-judging Alitalia state aid complaint

ELFAA notes with surprise the reported reaction of a spokesman for Transport Commissioner Tajani to ELFAA's state aid complaint to the European Commission regarding measures taken by the Italian Government to provide unlawful financial support to CAI / Alitalia.

While the Commissioner's spokesman, Mr Fabio Pirrotta says that the complaint has not yet been received, he goes on to say "at first sight, the measure does not seem to be state aid."

In response, John Hanlon, Secretary General of ELFAA, says: "The Commission has a legal duty to fully investigate formal complaints and we are concerned that the Commission is prejudging our complaint."

NOTES TO THE EDITOR:

ELFAA airline members include: clickair, easyJet, flybe, Jet2.com, Myair.com, Norwegian, Ryanair, Sky Europe, Sverige Flyg, transavia.com and Wizz Air.

ELFAA airline members carry over 150 million passengers every year, using a combined fleet of some 500 of the most technologically-advanced, environmentally-efficient aircraft.

Low fares airlines currently account for over 35% of scheduled intra-European traffic.

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