



## **Media Release**

**Immediate Use  
31 January 2008**

### **Response to Consultation on Replacing Air Passenger Duty**

The British Air Transport Association (BATA) has welcomed today's publication of the much anticipated consultation document about options for replacing Air Passenger Duty (APD) with an Aviation Duty.

Roger Wiltshire, Secretary General of BATA said:

"Today's document is important as it gives us the first signs of how realistic Government understanding is around this issue and some idea of details and practicality.

"However, whatever mechanism is adopted it should not penalise the industry by increasing the level of tax take. According to the Government's own figures, the £2 billion paid in APD already more than covers aviation's environmental costs. In addition, the EU Emissions Trading Scheme is also being introduced within the next few years and BATA believes that emissions trading is the best approach for all concerned. Any replacement for APD must take the impact of ETS into account.

“We will need to analyse the practical implications for the industry and travelling public and we will continue to engage positively with the consultation process.”

**ENDS**

### **Notes to Editors**

- 1) BATA represents UK registered airlines covering the scheduled, charter and freight sectors. Its members account for 85% of UK airline output.
- 2) For more information and to arrange interviews contact Roger Wiltshire, Secretary General on 07767 660 658 or 020 7222 9494.
- 3) The Government announced on 9 October 2007 that it intends to replace APD with a new per plane duty which will take effect from 1 November 2009.
- 4) The consultation document ‘Aviation Duty: A Consultation’ was published on 31 January 2008 and is available in PDF format at:  
[http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/media/E/2/consult\\_aviation310108.pdf](http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/media/E/2/consult_aviation310108.pdf)
- 5) The deadline for responses is 24 April 2008
- 4) The Pre Budget Report of December 2006 announced a doubling of APD with effect from 1 February 2007.
- 5) APD rates will be frozen at their current rates for 2008/09.