



## **Media Release**

**Immediate Use  
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### **Response to Proposed Changes to Air Passenger Duty**

Responding to the plans to replace Air Passenger Duty (APD) with a per flight tax as outlined in the 2007 Pre Budget Report, Roger Wiltshire Secretary General of the British Air Transport Association (BATA) said:

“BATA has noted with interest what the Chancellor has proposed.

We look forward to finding out more detail about the Government’s proposals and will welcome the opportunity to engage fully in the consultation process.

However, we do not believe that there is any justification for an increase in the amount raised by taxation on aviation. According to the Government’s own figures, the industry already more than covers its environmental costs.

We are also aware that the EU Emissions Trading Scheme is being introduced in a similar timescale to that outlined for the changes to taxation. BATA strongly believes that emissions trading is the best approach for all concerned and that any tax regime introduced by the UK government must take the impact of ETS into account.”

**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 2007.
- 4) The previous Pre Budget Report in December 2006 announced a doubling of APD with effect from 1 February this year.
- 5) APD rates will be frozen at their current rates for 2008/09