

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2005 - RESOLUTION 1**

### **ESTABLISHING A BALANCE BETWEEN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

Whereas the European Union aims to create a society which combines a successful economy, a high level of employment, high standards of education, social cohesion throughout the EU, and environmental protection;

Whereas in February 2005, European Commission President José Manuel Barroso proposed a new start for the Lisbon Strategy focusing the European Union's efforts on two principal tasks – delivering stronger, lasting growth and ensuring more and better jobs;

Whereas transport is essential for economic development and social cohesion, and air transport provides flexible and rapid connections that cannot be provided by other modes of public transport;

Whereas all public and private motorised transport has an impact on the local and global environment, and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are increasing for all modes of public and private transport including road, rail and air, despite significant improvements over recent years in the environmental performance of much transport equipment including aircraft;

#### **ERA declares that:**

The European Union should adopt an approach to the regulation of all modes of intra-European transport that balances the requirement for economic growth with transport's environmental impact; this balanced approach should cover all modes of transport and should include:

- investment in research and development to ensure the production of more environmentally efficient equipment,
- investment in infrastructure to reduce congestion and consequential environmental impact,
- investment to improve operational efficiency, and
- emissions trading, or other economic instruments for those modes of transport for which emissions trading is not viable.

