

No. Ref: 12/ZDP/DE/2023
29.12.2023

In support of Articles 2, 14.2, 35, 36 of Law No. 03/L-051 for Civil Aviation, amended by Law No. 08/L-063 on amending and supplementing the laws related to the rationalization and establishment of accountability lines of Independent Agencies, Article 24 of Law No. 06/L-113 on Organization and Functioning of State Administration and Independent Agencies, and Law No. 08/L-197 on Public Officials, the Agreement on the Establishment of the European Common Aviation Area (ECAA), the Bilateral Agreement on air transport between Switzerland and Kosovo,

Acting in response to requests received at the CAA from air operators with an Air Operator's Certificate (AOC) of the Republic of Albania and the State of Switzerland (Helvetic Confederation),

The General Director of the Civil Aviation Authority (hereinafter "CAA") issues this:

DECISION

1. It is allowed to perform air transport activities for scheduled and non-scheduled flights of passengers, cargo and/or mail, to and from Kosovo in the ECAA countries, for:
 - a. air operators with an Air Operator's Certificate (AOC) of the Republic of Albania, as a participating state of the ECAA Multilateral Agreement and also of interstate economic and geostrategic interest, as well as
 - b. for air operators with an Air Operator's Certificate (AOC) of the State of Switzerland (Helvetic Confederation), as a state with which Kosovo has bilateral agreements and also of interstate economic and geostrategic interest.
2. Air operators from point 1 of this Decision can obtain an approval of the flight schedule for the requested destinations, only after proving to the CAA that they have the approval from the competent authority in the country of destination, for the planned flights.
3. This Decision enters into force on 01.01.2024 and is valid until 31.12.2024.

Justification

Taking into account the public interest of the country, now that Kosovo is at the crossroads with the opportunity to exploit the economic potential according to the principle of the liberalization of flights and air travel, and especially now that from January 1, 2024, the lifting of the visa regime for citizens of the Republic of Kosovo and the demand for travel has increased very much.

In the absence of a national carrier, Kosovo has so far suffered from high ticket prices, increased competition between airlines leads to more competitive prices and a wider range of travel and options for consumers.

Also, respecting the principle of unrestricted movement, the possibility of maintaining a market monopoly by air operators will be limited, and additional opportunities for investment in Kosovo will be created with both economic and social benefits. This is not only a benefit for Kosovo citizens and diaspora, but it also makes Kosovo a more attractive destination for international visitors.

The liberalization of flights and the increase of airlines serves as a strong catalyst for economic growth, promoting the growth of tourism, trade, and business activities, the opportunity for investment in Kosovo and the employment of local personnel also provides economic benefits that will be distributed within the country.

Taking into account Articles 14.2, 35, 36 of Law No. 03/L-051 for Civil Aviation, amended by Law No. 08/L-063 on amending and supplementing the laws related to the rationalization and establishment of accountability lines of Independent Agencies, Article 24 of Law No. 06/L-113 on Organization and Functioning of State Administration and Independent Agencies, and Law No. 08/L-197 on Public Officials, the Agreement on the Establishment of the European Common Aviation Area (ECAA), the Bilateral Agreement on air transport between Switzerland and Kosovo, and the public interest in adding airlines with competitive prices, the Director General has established as in the enacting clause of this Decision.


Alban Ramabaja
Acting Director General



The decision is sent to:

- Minister of MESPI;
- Secretary of MESPI; and
- CAA Archive.