Background:

The workshop will examine the development of gateway infrastructure for aviation, crucial to the functioning of the global economy. It will focus on financing airport infrastructure through airport charges in light of the competitive interaction between airports and airlines. The workshop brings together airlines, airports and regulators to explore ways to improve the functioning of the aviation industry to ensure adequate airport infrastructure.

The relationship between airports and airlines will be explored to identify how best they and the broader community can benefit from airport development. Alternative solutions to financing airport infrastructure will be examined in order to achieve a better understanding of what drives airport infrastructure development, the circumstances in which pricing and investment should be regulated and how this might be most successfully done.

Airlines, airports and regulators are be invited to exchange views on appropriate approaches to ensuring that in the future airport charges foster infrastructure and airline development that best serves the interests of air passengers.

The workshop is supported by Fraport, Lufthansa, ACI North America and ACI Europe.
Moderator: Jeff Shane, Hogan and Hartson LLP, former Under Secretary for Policy, US DoT

09:00 – 09:30 Introduction: Hans-Martin Niemeier, University of Applied Sciences, Bremen

09:30 – 11:00 Session 1 Views of Regulators
Hartmut Spickermann, Federal Ministry of Transport, Germany
Nick Fincham, Civil Aviation Authority, United Kingdom
Catherine Lang, Federal Aviation Authority, USA
Ulrich Stockmann, MEP, Rapporteur on airport charges Transport and Tourism Committee

Issues for consideration:
- What are the strengths and weaknesses of the regulatory framework in different countries governing airport infrastructure development and airport charges?
- How do scarcity of capacity and rules for allocating capacity affect regulation of charges?
- Does ownership have an impact on the success of different approaches to competition and regulation?
- How might the approach to regulation evolve?

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee Break

11:30 – 13:30 Session 2 Views of Airports
Stefan Schulte, Fraport AG
Normand Boivin, Aéroports de Montréal
Ben DeCosta, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport
Dominic Schuster, Sydney Airports Corporation Limited
Jos Nijhuis, Amsterdam Airport Schiphol

Issues for consideration:
- Factors to take into account in financing airport infrastructure development through airport charges?
- In what ways does ownership (private / public) affect the development and regulation of airports?
- What is the appropriate investment level into airport infrastructure in the context of hub competition?
- Accounting for planning delays in the financing of investment through airport charges?

13:30 – 14:30 Lunch

14:30 – 16:00 Session 3 Views of Airlines
Karl-Rudolf Rupprecht, Deutsche Lufthansa AG
Candan Karlitekin, Turkish Airlines
Tim Clark, Emirates
David Hamm, Delta

Issues for consideration:
- What are the prerequisites airlines expect from an airport operator in a dynamic market environment?
- How will airlines respond to regulatory policy measures?
- Airport charges for infrastructure upgrades – optimal pricing scheme from the airline point of view?
- To what extent will transformations in ATM technology reduce the need for ground infrastructure?

16:00 – 16:30: Coffee Break

16:30 – 17:30 Concluding Remarks and Discussion David Thompson, Independent Expert

Summarising specific issues based on the views expressed with a special focus on:
- Market imperfections – the regulator’s role
- Barriers to airport infrastructure investment – and how much capacity is needed?
- Partnerships between airports and airlines – an ongoing challenge for both sides

Reception