

Open Skies Consultative Commission

Slovenian Chairmanship

**STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE
OPEN SKIES CONSULTATIVE COMMISSION**

**Evolution of the procedure for the
distribution of
active quotas for the year 2007**

With reference to:

- Article III, Section I, paragraph 7 of the Treaty on Open Skies,
- Annex L, Section II of the Treaty on Open Skies,
- Article X on the responsibilities of the OSCC,
- OSCC Decision No. 12/04,

The Chairperson of the Open Skies Consultative Commission (OSCC):

Looking forward to the distribution of quotas for the year 2007, on the basis of the experience gained in recent years, and with a view to improving the distribution process,

Taking into account the statement by the Chairperson of the First Review Conference on the Implementation of the Treaty on Open Skies made in paragraph 9 dealing with the mechanism of quota distribution, "that the OSCC may further review this mechanism after January 2006",

Has suggested the following practical actions to introduce a period of informal consultations in advance of formal quota distribution process set out the above references:

1. States Parties may begin the whole process of active quota distribution, in an informal way, earlier. States Parties may submit, informally, a draft list of those States Parties over which they wish to conduct observation flights and number of such flights during the next calendar year by 15 September 2006, either by OSF34, by e-mail or by

fax to all States Parties. All requests will be incorporated into a matrix, as used in previous years;

2. States Parties hold discussions on active quota distribution between experts on 5 and 6 October 2006.

The formal 3-week negotiation period referenced in Article III, Section I, paragraph 7 of the Treaty on Open Skies commences, as usual, on 1 October and OSF34s should be submitted by this date. The mechanism and timetable for distribution of active quotas is set out in OSCC Decision No. 12/04.

These initiatives could serve as an experiment aimed at improving the quota distribution process, which is a very important phase of the implementation of the Open Skies Treaty. The OSCC could review the effectiveness of this Chairperson's Statement in advance of the distribution of active quotas for 2008.