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Mr President, Mr Chairman



Wolfgang Mayrhuber, CEO of Lufthansa and AEA Chairman for 2006, met with European Commission President Manuel Barroso on October 10th.

The Chairman took the opportunity to discuss with the President a number of issues of pressing importance for the European airlines. On the agenda was the Commission's airports policy package, environmental issues and security-related matters.

Mr Mayrhuber also thanked Mr Barroso for his personal engagement in the negotiations with the Russian government over fees charged to airlines overflying Siberia en route to the Far East.

The airlines, said Mr Mayrhuber, were more than happy to endorse President Barroso's initiative to revitalise the Lisbon Agenda for European competitiveness. This was a two-way process, since the airlines were as essential facilitator for European business, but at the same time they relied on the Commission to develop a regulatory framework allowing them to compete on equal terms with their global rivals.

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