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## PRESS RELEASE

**«The latest signs for passenger traffic at the Cyprus airports are encouraging. Hermes Airports intensifies efforts along with other stakeholders for further development of air services to Cyprus»**

The latest results for passenger traffic for May at the two international airports of Cyprus are satisfactory and give some cause for optimism. Based on official figures from Hermes Airports, during the period 01 until 31 May, there has been a notable increase in passenger traffic of 5.5% in comparison to the corresponding period last year. This improvement in traffic is due mainly to the Easter holidays, the increase in flight capacity to and from Russia and the United Kingdom, as well as a certain low cost airline resuming its summer routes to and from Pafos.

Commenting on the results for the total passenger traffic for May, the Chief Executive Officer of Hermes Airports, Mr. Craig Richmond said: “Even if the results so far create a feeling of relief, we have no illusions about the difficulties we have to face. We know very well that this year’s projections suffered a serious blow in March due to the painful economic developments; however, we believe that with everyone’s collaboration we could even turn things around completely”.

In the framework of efforts to increase tourist flow to Cyprus, Hermes Airports has already announced new incentive schemes for airlines and duly informed both the directly interested parties, i.e. the airlines, as well as the stakeholders in the Cyprus tourist industry.

More precisely, the three new schemes offered by Hermes provide incentives to the airlines as follows:

1. Discount on landing fees for additional flights
2. Discount based on the load factor for selected routes at Larnaka Airport
3. Marketing support



In addition, Hermes continues to offer the three previous incentive schemes, which include:

1. Support on new routes
2. Support on winter incremental passengers
3. Long term – volume related agreements

Details of the new incentive schemes have been sent to all the interested airlines, however they are also available on the Hermes Airports website at [www.hermesairports.com](http://www.hermesairports.com) with all the necessary information and details.

Moreover, representatives of Hermes Airports were recently in Budapest to take part in the “Routes Europe” annual networking conference for representatives of airlines, airports and state officials. At the conference, during which the key speaker was the Minister of Commerce, Industry and Tourism, Mr. Yiorgos Lakkotrypis, the representatives of Hermes Airports had the opportunity to meet with a large number of airlines and tourism stakeholders, to strongly promote our country’s tourist product and demonstrate the significant benefits of expanding to Cyprus.

Hermes Airports is fully aware of the extremely difficult circumstances Cyprus is currently going through. As the operator of the country’s international Airports, Hermes will do whatever it takes and, always in co-operation with all stakeholders in the tourism industry, will try its very best to increase the tourist flow to our country and support the economy of Cyprus.



The Minister of Commerce, Industry and Tourism, Mr. Yiorgos Lakkotrypis during his speech at the «Routes Europe» conference.