

## More than 40 Airlines in the Sky since the Liberalization of Morocco

The implementation of the policy of liberalization of air transport and framed open Moroccan sky in 2004 has helped to attract 46 airlines companies, said on Wednesday the Minister of Equipment and Transport, Mr. Karim Ghellab.

Mr. Ghellab, was expressing during a press conference at the international airport Mohammed V, on the sidelines of the board of the National Office of Airports (ONDA), also welcomed the satisfactory and honourable results made by Royal Air Maroc (RAM) through this policy.

The only year 2007 registered a record growth rate of 17 pc in the international movement of passengers with more than 12 million users, said, for its part, the General Director of the ONDA, Abdelhanine Benallou, stressing that the turnover of the office has exceeded 2 billion dh, an amount equivalent to investment transactions, a first in the history of the ONDA.

It has also clarified that the current year has experienced the creation of 52 lines and 161 new weekly flights are planned.

The year 2008 will also experience the kick-off at the international airport Mohammed V of the proposed redevelopment of Terminal 1 in accordance with the standards of quality, of safety and security and in keeping with the architecture and technology of Terminal 2, said Benallou. Abundant in the same direction, Mr. Ghellab said that the ministry , the ONDA and the RAM are working together to make the Mohammed V airport a hub, a junction point between the different continents, stressing that the number of Passengers in transit are increasing to over 40 pc of all users. A rate which could reach the 70 pc in 2012, he said.

Regarding the airport of Benslimane, the minister said that in addition to freight operations, services of private transport, training and maintenance assigned to it, it could also be used to discharge a part of too full from the international airport Mohammed V. As at the airport of Marrakech-Menara, works of extension and planning will expire this month.

Source: MAP

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