

RESOLUTION
ON THE LEVEL OF THE AIRPORT CHARGES AT SOFIA AIRPORT

№ 3-173/28.10 2022

On the grounds of Article 122j of the Civil Aviation Act (CAA), in my capacity as a legal representative of the Airport Operator by virtue of Article 122f (1) of the CAA, after consultations held on the modification of the airport charges and following the procedure laid down in Chapter X "C" of the CAA, taking into account the opinions of the airport Users, to whom this Resolution is addressed, as well as based on:

A) The Methodology of determination the amount of the airport charges at airports with annual traffic of more than 5 million transported passengers or at airports with the greatest number of passengers carried on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria (Sofia Airport), published in Appendix 1 to Article 1 (3) of the Charges Regulation for the usage of public airports and for the provision of air navigation services in the Republic of Bulgaria;

B) The proposal to the airport Users and the representatives of Users' associations regarding the modification of the airport charges along with justification of the proposed amendments, sent with letter reg. № 100-7754/31.08.2022;

C) Consultations held with the airport Users and the representatives of Users' associations as defined in Article 122g (3) of the CAA, reflected in the minutes of 27.09.2022 with Ref. № 100-9080/12.10.2022;

D) Information as per Article 122h of the CAA provided to the airport Users and the representatives of Users' associations, as well as information regarding the annual monetary allowance for the National Supervisory Authority, according to the Directorate General "Civil Aviation Administration" letter reg. № 18-00-588/27.07.2022 (SA reg. № 100-6666/27.07.2022).

I DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

I. I determine the level of the airport charges at Sofia Airport as follows:

1. Landing Charge

1.1. Landing charge shall be levied per each tonne or a part of it, rounded to the next full tonne of the maximum take-off weight of the aircraft.

1.2. The charge is the same for flights on international services and flights on domestic services.

1.3. The unit rate per tonne of the aircraft's maximum take-off weight is differentiated into **5 groups** (weight ranges) as follows:

Group 1 – Aircraft up to 3 t	–	€ 5,06
Group 2 – Aircraft over 3 t up to 25 t	–	€ 9,26
Group 3 – Aircraft over 25 t up to 65 t	–	€ 7,81
Group 4 – Aircraft over 65 t up to 100 t	–	€ 7,11
Group 5 – Aircraft over 100 t	–	€ 6,96

1.4. The charge for each weight range for the period 01.01.2023-31.12.2027 includes maintenance allowance of the National Supervisory Authority at the rate of **€ 0,22 per tonne** maximum take-off weight, for which the airport operator issues a separate invoice on behalf of the General Directorate "Civil Aviation Administration", according to Art. 5, para. 4 of the Ordinance on charges for the use of airports for public use and for air navigation services in the Republic of Bulgaria.

1.5. The following incentive discounts for Sofia Airport traffic development shall apply to the Landing Charge:

1.5.1. New scheduled intercontinental passenger route:

Year 1 12 months from the first flight on the route	99% reduction
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1.5.2. New scheduled passenger route in Europe:

Year 1 12 months from the first flight on the route	80% reduction
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1.5.3. New seasonal passenger route:

Season 1 Within the first season of the flight schedule (winter or summer)	60% reduction
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1.5.4. Routes meeting criteria of public and general interest:

Scheduled passenger flights on routes to Varna and Burgas:	80% reduction
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All discounts under clause 1.5 shall be provided under the terms and conditions, criteria, and procedures described in the Incentive Discount Programme for Traffic Development of Sofia Airport 2023-2027.

The above discounts do not apply to the costs for maintenance of the National Supervisory Authority.

2. Parking Charge

2.1. Parking charge shall be levied per each tonne or a part of it, rounded to the next full tonne of the maximum take-off weight of the aircraft per each started hour following the charge-free period of stay.

2.2. The unit rate per tonne per hour is differentiated into **4 groups** depending on the period (day or night) and the type of the facility used (parking stand):

Operational Stand - „day”* € 0.318	Operational Stand - „night”** € 0.104
„Long-Term Bay” - „day”* € 0.032	„Long-Term Bay” - „night”** € 0.023

* „Day” is the period between 06:00 am and 10:59 pm local time

** „Night” is the period between 11:00 pm and 05:59 am local time

2.3. Continuous stay on an operational stand for more than 8 days is charged with a 50% increase of the Parking Charge.

2.4. Parking charge shall not be due for aircraft stay up to:

2.4.1. 3 hours after landing - for passenger aircraft;

2.4.2. 6 hours after landing - for all-cargo aircraft;

2.5. The airport operator shall publish a list of the numbers of apron stands for an operational stay of aircraft and designated zones for the long-term bay. The rules for the use of long-term bay are published in the Aeronautical Information and Publication (AIP) for the Republic of Bulgaria.

2.6. The parking charge for the period 01.01.2023-31.12.2027 includes “0” (zero) maintenance allowance of the National Supervisory Authority.

2.7. The following incentive discounts for Sofia Airport traffic development shall apply to the Parking Charge:

2.7.1. Home-based aircraft of air carriers with a scheduled flight programme departing from Sofia Airport:

More than 3 home-based aircraft of the same carrier	15% discount on the charge for operational stand - day and night
More than 6 home-based aircraft of the same carrier	30% discount on the charge for operational stand - day and night

All discounts under clause 2.7 shall be provided under the terms and conditions, criteria, and procedures described in the Incentive Discount Programme for Traffic Development of Sofia Airport 2023-2027.

3. Passenger Charge

3.1. Passenger charge shall be levied for every departing passenger on an international route or domestic route commencing travel from Terminal 1 and/or Terminal 2 at Sofia Airport or connecting from one flight to another:

International Routes - Terminal 1

Adults	EUR 10.04
Children	EUR 5.11

International Routes - Terminal 2

Adults	EUR 10.43
Children	EUR 5.30

Domestic Routes

Adults	EUR 7.87
Children	EUR 4.03

3.2. Children under the age of 2 years and transit passengers shall be exempted from the charge.

3.3. The passenger charge for the period 01.01.2023-31.12.2027 includes maintenance allowance of the National Supervisory Authority at the rate of **€ 0,18 per departing passenger** (with the exception of passengers exempt from passenger charge), for which the airport operator issues a separate invoice on behalf of the General Directorate "Civil Aviation Administration", according to Art. 5, para. 4 of the Ordinance on charges for the use of airports for public use and for air navigation services in the Republic of Bulgaria.

3.4. The following incentive discounts for Sofia Airport traffic development shall apply to the passenger charge:

3.4.1. For transfer passenger traffic on scheduled services:

For passengers arriving on an international or domestic flight and departing on an international flight	60% reduction on the applicable passenger charge
For passengers arriving on an international flight and departing on a domestic flight	

The above discount do not apply to the costs for maintenance of the National Supervisory Authority.

3.4.2 For the number of departed passengers of the same Air Carrier on an annual basis (the amount in EUR per departing passenger is representing the respective discount from the applicable passenger charge):

Annual volume of departing passengers			2023		2024	2025	2026	2027
			Jan- Mar	Apr- Dec				
Band	From	To	EURpdp	EURpdp	EURpdp	EURpdp	EURpdp	EURpdp
Band 1	300 001	500 000	1.50 €	1.50 €	1.50 €	1.50 €	1.50 €	1.50 €
Band 2	500 001	700 000	1.75 €	1.75 €	1.75 €	1.75 €	1.75 €	1.75 €
Band 3	700 001	900 000	2.00 €	2.00 €	2.00 €	2.00 €	2.00 €	2.00 €
Band 4	900 001	1 100 000	2.25 €	2.25 €	2.25 €	2.25 €	2.25 €	2.25 €
Band 5	1 100 001	1 200 000	2.50 €	2.50 €	2.50 €	2.50 €	2.50 €	2.50 €
Band 6	1 200 001	1 400 000	6.50 €	5.50 €	5.00 €	4.50 €	4.00 €	3.50 €
Band 7	1 400 001	1 600 000	7.00 €	6.00 €	5.50 €	5.00 €	4.50 €	4.00 €
Band 8	1 600 001	1 800 000	7.50 €	6.50 €	6.00 €	5.50 €	5.00 €	4.50 €
Band 9	1 800 001	>	8.50 €	7.50 €	7.00 €	6.50 €	6.00 €	5.50 €

All discounts under clause 3.4 shall be provided under the terms and conditions, criteria, and procedures described in the Incentive Discount Programme for Traffic Development of Sofia Airport 2023-2027.

4. Passenger Loading Bridge Usage Charge

4.1. Passenger loading bridge usage charge shall only be charged for the use of this facility.

4.2. The unit rate is differentiated for an initial period of use up to 60 minutes and for each additional started period of 15 minutes.

For an initial period of up to 60 minutes	EUR 146
For each additional period of 15 minutes or a part thereof	EUR 44

4.3 Passenger loading bridge usage charge shall be the same for all aircraft types, flight destinations, and the period of the day or night when the facility is being used

4.4. When the passenger loading bridge is used with interruption, the usage time after landing shall be summed with the usage time before take-off and the charge shall be levied for thus calculated total usage time. The period when the facility is not in use shall not be charged.

4.5. The passenger loading bridge usage charge for the period 01.01.2023-31.12.2027 includes "0" (zero) maintenance allowance of the National Supervisory Authority.

5. Security Charge

5.1. Security charge shall be levied in a different way for aircraft carrying passengers and for aircraft performing all-cargo, technical or other flights without passengers on board.

5.2 The unit rate for aircraft carrying passengers shall be levied for each departing passenger (commencing travel at Sofia Airport or connecting from one flight to another).

Per departing passenger	EUR 6.80
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5.3 The security charge for passenger flights shall be the same for all passenger categories (adults and children) irrespective of the terminal where the departing flight is being handled and irrespective of the flight destination (on international or domestic services).

5.4 The security charge for aircraft carrying passengers for the period 01.01.2023-31.12.2027 includes maintenance allowance of the National Supervisory Authority at the rate of **€ 0,20 per departing passenger**, for which the airport operator issues a separate invoice on behalf of the General Directorate "Civil Aviation Administration", according to Art. 5, para. 4 of the Ordinance on charges for the use of airports for public use and for air navigation services in the Republic of Bulgaria.

5.5. The security charge for aircraft without passengers on board shall be levied for each aircraft performing all-cargo, technical or other flight, which does not carry passengers arriving at or departing from Sofia Airport.

5.6. The unit rate is determined per flight and is differentiated into 2 groups (weight ranges) depending on the maximum take-off weight of the aircraft as follows:

Once per flight	Aircraft with MTOW up to 6 tonnes	EUR 10.00
	Aircraft with MTOW above 6 tonnes	EUR 25.00

5.7. The Security charge for aircraft without passengers on board shall be at the same rate irrespective of the flight destination (on international or domestic services).

6. Noise (Environmental) Charge

6.1 Noise (environmental) charge shall be levied per each tonne or a part of it, rounded to the next full tonne of the maximum take-off weight of the aircraft.

6.2. The noise (environmental) charge shall be charged once per flight taking into account the time of landing and the time of the subsequent take-off of the same aircraft.

6.3. The unit rate is differentiated depending on the individual noise characteristics of the aircraft into 5 groups by noise certificates and into 3-time intervals - day, morning/ evening, and night;

EUR per tonne

Landing time (local time)	Noise category	Take-off time (local time)		
		07:00-21:59	06:00-06:59 22:00-22:59	23:00-05:59
07:00-21:59	Category 1	0.18	0.23	0.37
	Category 2	0.22	0.28	0.46
	Category 3	0.26	0.34	0.54
	Category 4	0.31	0.39	0.63
	Category 5	0.79	0.99	1.60
06:00-06:59 22:00-22:59	Category 1	0.23	0.27	0.42
	Category 2	0.28	0.34	0.51
	Category 3	0.33	0.40	0.61
	Category 4	0.38	0.46	0.70
	Category 5	0.97	1.18	1.79
23:00-05:59	Category 1	0.36	0.41	0.55
	Category 2	0.44	0.50	0.67
	Category 3	0.52	0.59	0.80
	Category 4	0.60	0.68	0.92
	Category 5	1.54	1.74	2.35

6.4. Aircraft with a maximum take-off weight up to 9 tonnes and helicopters shall not be charged with a noise (environmental) charge.

6.5. The noise (environmental) charge for the period 01.01.2023-31.12.2027 includes "0" (zero) maintenance allowance of the National Supervisory Authority.

6.6. The basis for including an aircraft into a specific noise category shall be its noise certificate which depends on the cumulative noise margin* as follows:

Noise category	Description of the category - aircraft parameters
1	Aircraft with MTOW over 9 tonnes, noise-certified in accordance with the Convention on International Civil Aviation, Annex 16, Vol.1, Part II, Chapter 3 and 5, of cumulative noise margin* equal to or greater than 25 dB Effective Perceived Noise (EPNdB).
2	Aircraft with MTOW over 9 tonnes, noise-certified in accordance with the Convention on International Civil Aviation, Annex 16, Vol.1, Part II, Chapter 3 and 5, of cumulative noise margin from 20 to 24.9 EPNdB.
3	Aircraft with MTOW over 9 tonnes, noise-certified in accordance with the Convention on International Civil Aviation, Annex 16, Vol.1, Part II, Chapter 3 and 5, of cumulative noise margin from 15 to 19.9 EPNdB.
4	Aircraft with MTOW over 9 tonnes, noise-certified in accordance with the Convention on International Civil Aviation, Annex 16, Vol.1, Part II, Chapter 3 and 5, of cumulative noise margin from 10 to 14.9 EPNdB.
5	Aircraft with MTOW over 9 tonnes, noise-certified in accordance with the Convention on International Civil Aviation, Annex 16, Vol.1, Part II, Chapter 3 and 5, of cumulative noise margin equal to or less than 9.9 EPNdB, aircraft with MTOW over 9 tonnes, noise-certified in accordance with Chapter 2 that do not meet the provisions of the Convention on International Civil Aviation, Annex 16, Vol.1, Part II, Chapter 3 and 5 and aircraft with MTOW over 9 tonnes for which a noise certificate is not submitted.

*Cumulative noise margin – the total of the differences between the maximum permitted noise level for an aircraft and the noise level indicated in the noise certificate according to the measurements at the three reference points (lateral, flyover, and approach certification points). The maximum permitted noise levels for an aircraft and the reference noise measurement points are defined in Vol. 1, Part II of Annex 16 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation.

II. Entry into force and announcement of the Resolution

1. This Resolution comes into effect as from **1st January 2023**.
2. The amount of the individual charges subject to this Decision shall apply for the period from **01.01.2023 to 31.12.2027** including, or until the date of entry into force of a new decision of the airport operator to change the respective amount of the charge.

2.1. At any time during the period of validity of the decision, it may be amended in whole or in part by a new decision of the airport operator, issued in accordance with Chapter X "C" of the Civil Aviation Act, including, but not limited to the following cases:

- a) **Traffic forecast** – in case of material negative change of the actual traffic of more than - 10% compared with the forecast presented at the consultations (prepared by Steer – external traffic consultant)
- b) **Inflation** – in case the actual annual inflation exceeds by 5 percentage points in aggregate or more for the period 2023-2027 than the forecasted annual inflation:

	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Annual inflation forecast	3.5%	2.1%	1.9%	1.9%	1.9%

- c) **Concession contract** – in case of amendments in the concession contract initiated by the grantor
3. No later than 30th April every year, for the period of validity of the decision, the airport operator will provide airport users with information on the traffic, revenue and expenditure plan, and investment projects for the previous year.
 4. The Resolution shall be announced at least in one daily publication, shall be published on the Sofia Airport's website, and shall be sent to all airport Users and representatives of Users' associations.

III. This Resolution is subject to appeal within 14 days from this announcement, to the Director General of the DG "Civil Aviation Administration".

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SOF CONNECT AD


Jesus Caballero

