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Message from Dave Smith, BACC Chairman

21st February 2008

Fellow BALPA Members ,

BALPA met with the Company this morning to deliver the overwhelming ballot result in favour of strike action in relation to Schedule K. The BACC's resolve is strengthened by the support shown by members who have listened to all views put by both BA and BALPA and have taken the considered view to support the rejection of BA's 'final offer' from the Standing Conference of 14th / 15th January.

The BACC will not squander the resolution of the membership but also understands you expect us to make every effort to find a negotiated settlement, which remains our firm intent. At the meeting this morning both sides raised the matter of conciliation with a third party. Conciliation is a way to facilitate meaningful negotiations, it is not the same as binding arbitration. Should conciliation not progress in a timely and positive fashion the Association will still be able to serve notice of action at any time.

Conciliation will start within 7 days.

Whilst we will be trying our best to avoid having to use the significant mandate we have been given members should, nevertheless, be fully prepared to take strike action if the negotiations prove fruitless and the Company leaves us with no option but to do so.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dave Smith', with a horizontal line underneath it.

Dave Smith
British Airways Company Council Chairman