

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**Today, the first direct, scheduled Naples-Oslo flight, operated by the Norwegian SAS Braathens airline was inaugurated today. Service will be operative as of tomorrow, 29 March**

Today, the new, twice-weekly flight for Oslo which will become operative tomorrow, 29 March, was presented by the **Vice President of the SAS Per Nielson Group** and the Director of the **Norwegian Tourism Board in Italy**, Elisabeth Ones in the presence of **the Regional Transport Councillor, Ennio Cascetta, the Minister and deputy head of mission for the Norwegian Embassy, Espen Rikter-Svendsen, the Norwegian Honorary Consul in Naples, Lars H. Klingenberg and the Gesac Director of Business Administration, Vittorio Mazza.**

**The SAS Braathens** airline, part of the SAS Group, manages flight operations to and from Norway offering daily service from Italy primarily based on **non-stop flights for Oslo from Milan, Rome and, as of 29 March, Naples.** The city of Naples was selected by SAS as the only airport in Southern Italy to serve Northern Europe and is the third city in Italy, after Milan and Rome, where the airline is established operations.

Currently, SAS Braathens is the main Norwegian airline for domestic service. Company headquarters are located in Fornebu, near Oslo. The hub for the SAS Braathens system of routes in the Gardermoen International Airport in Oslo.

**As of tomorrow, thanks to the new, direct, twice weekly service, the Bay of Naples and the Norwegian fjords all the closer.** The scheduled, direct service for Oslo will finally allow Norwegian tourists to reach our Region more easily and, on the other hand, will facilitate even brief but intense visits to the lovely expanses of Northern Europe.

Indeed, direct service to Oslo will considerably reduce travel time for many top tourist destinations including **the North Cape, the Lofoten Islands, Spitzbergen Island and the Norwegian Lapland.** From Oslo, SAS Braathens and other companies of the SAS Group provide immediate service for all Norwegian airports including: *Bergen, Stavanger, Tromso, Trondheim. Alta, Bodo.*

**For the Naples-Oslo route, 134-seat, single cabin version (only Economy class) Boeing 737-400s** will be used:

### **Timetable for non stop Naples –Oslo flights (Wednesday and Saturday):**

SK4636 **NAPLES** – OSLO departure 11.40 arrival 15.00

SK4635 **OSLO** - NAPLES departure 07.20 arrival 10.40

One-way rates start from **68,00 euro**, air fuel charges included, airport taxes excluded.

The flight **will be inaugurated tomorrow** and airline representatives will give passengers on the first flight small, floral bouquets specially created in the colours, red blue and white, of the Norwegian flag.

With the addition of this important flight for Northern Europe, the Naples airport has completed its network of routes as well as the launching of direct flights for Prague, Budapest, Krakow and Moscow which marked an opening towards the strategic Central and Eastern European market  
**For the 2006 spring/summer season, the Naples airport's network of direct international routes will be based upon 27 international destinations, 12 domestic routes and 50 charter flights.**

**Vittorio Mazza**, Gesac Spa Business Administration director, stated: *"This year, the network of international routes includes 27 direct destinations. A significant factor which confirms the important work which has been carried out by the Naples airport over the last few years in synergy with the airlines which have invested their interests in the Naples airport. With the new service for Oslo, an important piece has been put in place in the network thus completing the scenario of direct international flights linking Naples to the most important capitals and cities of Central, Eastern and Northern Europe.*

**Per Nielson**, Vice President of the SAS Group, declared: *"The Norwegians and Scandinavians have always appreciated the beauty of Naples and the entire Region and therefore we are very pleased to announce the start-up of the new Naples-Oslo flight because in providing this direct connection, it will provide significant incentives to spur the flow of traffic between Norway and Southern Italy".*

**The Regional Transport Councilman, Ennio Cascetta** affirmed: *"With this new flight for Oslo, the Capodichino airport has extended its routes to the extreme north of Europe after having only recently obtained easterly routes as far as Moscow with operations due to begin soon and, in the other direction, the American continent with the Naples-New York route, which is scheduled to resume operations. This is the an ulterior confirmation that the Naples airport represents one of our region's most significant economic factors and is continuously growing particularly in the low-cost flight sector".*

Naples, 28 March 2006