

Montijo's air base 'No.6' has been indicated as a possible candidate to serve as the so-called 'plus-one' support runway, to unburden Lisbon's Portela Airport of its excess traffic and as an alternative to building a new airport from scratch.



This week Prime Minister Pedro Passos Coelho admitted that the application procedure for the construction of a new airport had been suspended.

Speaking at Montijo's No.6 base during a visit to meet the infrastructure's search and rescue team he affirmed that "at least for the next decade" the government is looking to avoid building a new airport and find an alternative solution to the capital's aeronautical problem with a complementary airport instead.

"I'm not going to announce here and now a decision with regards to that matter, but evidently given the circumstances in which we live, the Government is studying an alternative that will allow the functioning of Portela Airport for the greatest number of years", the PM said.

However, he added that Lisbon Airport will always need a support runway and said that Montijo was a possibility to be looked at.

"To avoid feeding speculation I will merely say that we are weighing up all scenarios", the Premier offered, elaborating: "To prevent the country from having to pay a hefty amount for a new airport, we hope one won't be necessary for at least the next decade."

source: theportugalnews.com

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