



ABSTRACT

The objective of this research is to identify the factors affecting airlines' airport selection based on a survey to a sample of airlines. To meet this purpose a methodology has been developed which is based on factor analysis; first detailed review of relevant literature reveals a considerable range of factors affecting the decision of airport selection. The theoretical step is complemented by a survey method applied to sample and tested to find the conformity of the sample for the population in selection criteria. Eleven factors were considered relatively important and they are:- *Landing Charges, Aerobridge charges, Capacity, Passenger volume, Operational efficiency, Influence of freight forwarders and airlines' strategic alliances with other airlines, Geographical location of the country, political situation of the country region, density of airports in the country, labor cost and labor availability in the country.* Explanatory factor analysis identified three airport choice categories. They can be listed as following:-

(a) *Charges and operational efficiency at the airport, (b) airports capacity, (c) partnerships and airports assistance.* There were six factors that were proved to be significant by all three analyses, Descriptive Analysis, T-Test Analyzing and Explanatory Factor analysis. They are *Landing charges at the airport, aerobridge charges at the airport, Capacity of the airport, Passenger volume at the airport, Operational efficiency and airlines strategic alliances with other airlines.*

Key words – Landing charges, Aerobridge Charges, freight forwarders, strategic alliances