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To: sforsoffice@sb.gov.hk
From: "fau@cpafau.org.hk" <fau@cpafau.org.hk>
Date: 03/15/2011 08:07PM
cc: pid@legco.gov.hk, sced@cedb.gov.hk, nsmlo@cad.gov.hk, cl_office@labour.gov.hk, Allexco <allexco@cpafau.org.hk>
Subject: Letter to Secretary for Security

Ref : GOV-11/002

15th March 2011

Mr. Ambrose LEE Siu Kwong GBS, IDSM, JP
Secretary for Security,
HKSAR Government
6th floor,
Main and East Wings,
Central Government Offices

Dear Mr. Lee,

As the crisis in Japan developing, we would like to bring your attention to the safety of flight attendants, who are required to travel regularly as well as laying over in Japan.

As you may notice, Cathay Pacific Airways is one of the major airlines carrying thousands of passengers to Japan everyday whereas more than hundreds of cabin crew operating these flights and providing services in this regard. After the massive earthquake in March 11th, there are grave concerns that whether Tokyo and other Japanese cities are suitable for frequent visitors who are required to stay in Japan by their job.

However, the development today has aggravated our worries. The explosion of the nuclear reactor this morning and the possible spread of radioactive particles to Tokyo in short period of time has escalated the threat to residents in Tokyo as well as travellers staying there.

Being cabin crew, we are required to layover in Tokyo for some flights which are putting lives of cabin crew in danger in crisis of this scale. We strongly oppose to any arrangement of further layover in Japan by our Company and demand our Company to arrange turnaround flights only to Japan.

As the CX Management indicated, their decision largely depends on the Travel Advice issued by the SAR government, we have to point out that the current Red Travel Alert is NOT sufficient to protect the safety of Hong Kong residents. We urge the government to reconsider the sufficiency of the current alert and escalate the level of alert if necessary.

Moreover, we also urge the government to uplift the current measures at the Airport to monitor the effect nuclear radiation to the travellers returned from Japan. It is the responsibility of the government to protect the safety of Hong Kong residents in this critical time.

Thank you for your attention. We are looking for your prompt action to handle this crisis.

If you have any queries, please feel free to contact our secretariat office at 23828988.

Regards,

By Order of the ExCo

Dora Lai

Chairman, Cathay Pacific Airways Flight Attendants Union

c.c. Hon. James TO Kun-sun, Chairman, Panel on Security, HK LegCo
Mrs. LAU NG Wai Lan, Rita, JP, Secretary for Commerce and Economic
Development

Mr. LO Shung Man, Norman, AE, JP, Director-General of Civil Aviation

Mr. CHEUK Wing Hing, JP, Commissioner for Labour