



By E-MAIL

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Legislative Council Secretariat  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Citibank Tower,  
3 Garden Road, Central,  
Hong Kong

Attn: Michelle JY LEE  
Clerk to Panel

Dear *Ms Lee,*

**Green Council Submission for Panel on Economic Development:**  
**“Hong Kong International Airport Master Plan 2030”**

Thank you for inviting Green Council officials to contribute comments and suggestions on the Panel on Economic Development regarding the “Hong Kong International Airport Master Plan 2030”. For the Legislative Council’s consideration, I am please to submit, on behalf of the Green Council, the following pre-meeting comments.

**General**

- (a) Upgrading the two existing runways will not solve the long term issue of the estimated increased traffic demand due in 2030; the third runway is an impending improvement that will have to be made. As the construction of the new runway will take more than ten (10) years, the economic loss is not viable meanwhile.
- (b) The construction of the third runway should a major infrastructure investment made by the Hong Kong Government given that the aviation industry contributes approximately 4.6 percent of Hong Kong’s total GDP. Further, the aviation industry’s sustained and/or growing involvement in the finance, tourism and trade industries is essential to Hong Kong’s economic stability and success. As the third busiest airport in the world, Hong Kong could be severely and harmfully limiting itself in economic growth and any potential opportunities if this infrastructure improvement and expansion is not undertaken.
- (c) The Hong Kong International Airport Authority’s (HKIAA’s) commitment to increased consideration and attention to environmental responsibility as well as improved environmental management is allowing the rest of Hong Kong and the world to see exceptional efforts, commitment and availability of technology and resources for sustainable development. In this regard, we are calling for and expecting that a **comprehensive** and thorough Environmental Impact Assessment will be conducted with desirable economic and environmental measures formulated, publicized and properly taken into consideration.



### Specific Comments

- (d) Cathay Pacific Airways has budgeted for the acquisition of eighty-seven (87) new aircrafts with improved and greener aviation technology. With lower noise pollution and better fuel efficiency, the purchase of more efficient aircrafts will provide an environmentally favourable noise and air habitat in the surrounding Lantau Island area.
- (e) In 2010, the HKIAA won the Gold Award in the Public Organizations and Utilities category of the Hong Kong Awards for Environmental Excellence. It is one of the environmental management systems and processes leaders in Hong Kong with its commitment and actions towards sustainable development a model and encouraging for other Hong Kong corporations.
- (f) The Hong Kong International Airport Authority is one of the founding members of The Hong Kong Green Purchasing Charter<sup>1</sup>. Since 2007, it has been committed to significant environmental goals and actions through formulating green purchasing policies leading to the development and implementation of practical and sustainable green purchasing strategies. Its endeavour to be a green airport is evident in its green purchasing, other environmentally responsible processes and activities, and proposed “green infrastructure” planning.
- (g) The construction of a third runway and the renovation of the second runway will provide a magnitude of green building opportunities including the possible recognition of a Building Environmental Assessment Method (BEAM) Plus award for both new and existing buildings from the Hong Kong Green Building Council. We would very much like to see the HKIAA attain this recognition and promote green building technologies and construction materials. With respect to green building construction materials, the HKIAA’s open tender and notices online<sup>2</sup> could spark numerous green suppliers’ interest and involvement, as well as garner the interest and attention of green building sector officials throughout Hong Kong, the region, and internationally.

The above summarizes the Green Council’s position on the Hong Kong International Airport’s Master Plan and related environmental issues. On behalf of and as the CEO of Green Council, I hope you consider the comments and take appropriate action most beneficial for the economic development of Hong Kong. At the same time, I look forward to the opportunity to personally present, elaborate upon, and discuss this submission and/or consider and react to any other relevant issues at the upcoming Meeting

Yours sincerely,

Linda W P Ho  
Chief Executive Officer  
LH/cf

<sup>1</sup> The Hong Kong Green Purchasing Charter is awarded to businesses for green purchasing awareness, appreciation, and competency within their overall business operations. ( For more information please visit: <http://www.hkgpc.org/html/eng/index.aspx>)

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.hongkongairport.com/eng/business/airport-authority/business-opportunities/index.html?invitation-to-tender>