

Submission by Hong Kong Dragon Airlines Limited to Legislative Council Panel on Constitutional Affairs regarding "Re-organisation of the Government Secretariat"

As a major component of Hong Kong's vibrant aviation industry, Dragonair supports the proposals regarding restructuring of the Government Secretariat. Of particular interest to us is the proposal to position the aviation portfolio within the new Commerce and Industries Bureau (CIB), under the auspices of the new Deputy Financial Secretary.

We believe that this shift, from the existing Transport and Housing Bureau, is most appropriate for the modern-day aviation industry. Aviation has grown to become a key component of Hong Kong's economy. As a true Hong Kong brand and an aviation success story, Dragonair looks forward to any proposal that will integrate the industry further with other economic and industrial activities. This is not only good for us as an airline but for the Hong Kong aviation industry as a whole.

Dragonair has a bright future ahead of it, given that Mainland China plays such a major role in our network. The aviation industry on the mainland is expanding in all areas, including fleet, capacity, passengers, cargo and infrastructure. It is imperative that Hong Kong makes the most of the opportunities offered by the mainland. Similarly, other parts of Asia also promise much potential for growth.

It therefore makes sense that Hong Kong's aviation industry should be closely aligned with other economic activities so that cohesive, comprehensive policies can be developed. Aviation shares many of the same issues, concerns and aspirations as sectors such as maritime transport, logistics and tourism. We believe that the creation of the Maritime, Aviation, Logistics and Tourism Branch within the CIB would place aviation in the ideal context. The establishment of the post of Deputy Financial Secretary will help cement this, and we believe will lead to coordinated economic policy and improved, more informed decision making.

In addition, Dragonair wishes to express the hope that the accumulated knowledge, expertise and experience of those who have been managing the aviation portfolio to great success to date will continue to contribute. Although aviation is part of a broad spectrum of economic activities, it does have its very particular characteristics and issues and it is necessary that a deep understanding of these is retained under any new look.



We appreciate the opportunity to be able to offer our considered thoughts on the proposed restructuring of the Government secretariat. We are fully behind any move that will strengthen the aviation industry in Hong Kong, as well as the Hong Kong economy as a whole.

Hong Kong Dragon Airlines Limited 14 May 2012