

Cathay Pacific Services Limited
Submission to the Legislative Council Panel on Economic Development
On the Third Runway Project in the Hong Kong International Airport

Cathay Pacific Services Limited (“CPSL”) supports the initiative proposed by the Airport Authority Hong Kong (“AAHK”) to develop a three-runway system in the Hong Kong International Airport (“HKIA”).

HKIA has been the world’s busiest cargo airport since 2010. Over the past 15 years, the compound annual growth of air cargo throughput at HKIA is 7% on average, growing from 1.63 million tonnes of air cargo throughput in 1998 to 4.12 million tonnes last year.

The key drivers to Hong Kong’s success as an airfreight transshipment hub of choice are the advantageous geographic location, world-class efficiency and unmatched connectivity of the city.

In recent years, we see robust infrastructural development among the neighbouring airports in China and other parts of Asia. Hong Kong, on the other hand, is facing an anticipated runway capacity challenge which limits airlines ability to secure the preferred take-off and landing time slots. We believe the third runway project is essential to maintain the long-term competitiveness of Hong Kong.

CPSL recognises the importance of sustainable development of Hong Kong and we welcome the completion of the Environmental Impact Assessment study conducted by AAHK. We agree that it is important to strive for a balance between the environmental considerations and economic benefits of developing a new runway.

We believe AAHK will put all efforts in implementing effective measures to mitigate the environmental concerns.

Cathay Pacific Services Limited
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