

Position Paper on Three-Runway System

We write to show our support to the Hong Kong International Airport's proposed third runway. The project is crucial to the long-term economic growth of Hong Kong by reinforcing our competitiveness as an international aviation hub. The project will enable Hong Kong to maintain its position as an aviation hub and is critical in maintaining the prosperity of Hong Kong.

The advantages of the third runway project are multi-fold. They include:

- (1) generating economic benefits because the air traffic movements flights per hour can be increased from the existing 68 to 102;
- (2) meeting long-term growth demand;
- (3) meeting the future needs of passengers, exporters, importers and airlines; and
- (4) creating jobs for Hong Kong during and after the construction.

We understand the concerns about the environmental impact of the project. Issues such as potential marine environmental impacts, including possible disruption to the habitat of Chinese pink dolphins; as well as the potential hazards to the ecosystem, and the sustainability of Hong Kong's fishing industry should be addressed. The financial viability of the project would also need to be examined carefully.

We believe that development and conservation are not necessarily mutually exclusive and trust that the parties concerned could work together in resolving the above issues and identify a way forward for Hong Kong to proceed with the third runway project. This includes the implementation of proper mitigation measures on the environmental front. Having said that, the Alliance supports the construction of the third runway project.

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