

**Submission from International Air Traffic Controller Association (IFATAC)
to Subcommittee to Follow Up Issues Relating to the Three-runway System at the
Hong Kong International Airport
3 May 2016**

Regional Growth

- Asia Pacific region fastest growth in world for new aircraft orders and number of flights.
- HKIA flight and passenger numbers have more than doubled since airport opening in 1998.
- AAHK Masterplan 2030 forecasts continuous growth at HKIA in excess of the Asia Pacific region forecast from IATA.

Hong Kong International Airport

- Current facilities – runway and terminals – will reach maximum capacity by 2018. Further growth without airport development will be very limited and result in flight delays and terminal overcrowding.
- Many other major cities have two airports – Hong Kong has only one, so further development of HKIA is essential.
- 3RS project will permit increased number of flights, more passengers and generate more business.

Environment

- More flights does not mean more noise and disturbance. Modern aircraft are 75 % quieter than those of the Kai Tak era and the aviation industry has a worldwide carbon neutral emissions pledge from 2020.
- Hong Kong Civil Aviation Department does not permit old generation noisy aircraft to operate at HKIA and is now restricting the number of flights by aircraft that do not comply with the latest noise limitation standards.
- Mitigating measures for night flights continue to be refined to further reduce noise disturbance to areas adjacent to flight paths.

Business

- Increasing passenger numbers boost Hong Kong business and tourism trades whilst the high cargo throughput supports a thriving logistics management sector.

- International business demands global interconnectivity, not only in data and products, but also in personnel. This results in a need for increased frequency of flights to major destinations as well as new services to developing second and third tier cities. Without further development of the airport, these demands cannot be met, with a consequent loss of business and overall productivity to Hong Kong as a whole.