

Speech from Ir Spencer Li, President, Innovation and Technology Association

Dear Chairman,

On behalf of Innovation and Technology Association, I would like to express our support on building the Third Runway for the betterment of the economic development of Hong Kong.

Innovation and Technology Association is always looking for new technological advancement to create positive benefits to the community. The sustainability of a major infrastructural project requires the achievement of economic success, social success and high environmental quality at the same time. In this large scale third runway project, AAHK has considered a lot of constructive ideas and methods to reduce the impact to the environment during the construction phase. I must appreciate the efforts of consolidated efforts from government, AAHK, commercial sectors and the public during the consultation and EIA process.

One of reasons why Hong Kong is so successful is sustainability. Following factors must be always be considered and assessed in a continuous way. It is not a one stop process but a continual process.

These factors are :

1. the interests and concerns of the stakeholders. A comprehensive coverage of different stakeholders must be included;
2. the wider sustainability issues such as social, economic and environmental impacts at a scale beyond the Project and the narrow interests of AAHK;
3. the adoption of new technology must be taken. Although there are a lot of design issues like using new types of aeroplane, reduction of noise during the construction stage. AAHK must be open-minded to study any new technology in the near future to create better results for Hong Kong. Related recommendation for new technology adoption should be voiced out accordingly. However, consultancy and construction companies must be well informed about any new recommendation;
4. the public must be well informed about the progress and changes also.

Once more, in order to maintain the sustainability, AAHK and Hong Kong Government must consider whether there is enough manpower for this project.

There are a few questions must be asked. Can Construction Industry Council train enough new blood to supply the skill labour ? Any supporting facilities and incentives can be provided to maintain a stable and professional manpower?

Last but not the least, I would like to urge AAHK and HK Government to communicate more with the public for the future project plan even the project is finally approved.

This concludes my report.