

19 February 2021

Clerk to Bills Committee
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong

[By email: bc_01_20@legco.gov.hk]

Dear Bills Committee Chairman and Members,

Statement of Support to Bills Committee on Waste Disposal (Charging for Municipal Solid Waste) (Amendment) Bill 2018 from Cathay Pacific Airways Limited

Cathay Pacific Airways Limited fully supports the WASTE DISPOSAL (CHARGING FOR MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE) (AMENDMENT) BILL 2018. We support quantity-based charging for municipal solid waste, and the use of designated garbage bags and proposed gate fee as a means of achieving such charging. We also support the future consideration of fair and transparent producer responsibility schemes.

Cathay Pacific is committed to reducing waste in all aspects of our operations and giving careful consideration of resources use. Showing our support to the Bill and its “polluter-pays” principle, we partook in the Hong Kong International Airport MSW charging pilot scheme, a trial scheme on waste charging organised for the airport community by the Airport Authority Hong Kong in 2018. We see the passage of the MSW charging bill as a critical step towards the Government’s vision of achieving “Waste Reduction • Resources Circulation • Zero Landfill” under its new *Waste Blueprint for Hong Kong 2035* (Waste Blueprint which was announced on 8 February 2021).

We strongly believe the MSW charging scheme will provide the necessary incentives and impetus for waste reduction and recycling. This measure will bring Hong Kong in line with many of its Asian peers like Singapore, South Korea and Taiwan which have already implemented similar measures and experienced a direct reduction in household waste.

Diverting waste from landfill will also ultimately reduce Hong Kong’s greenhouse gas emissions and thus contribute towards the Government’s target of achieving carbon neutrality by 2050.

Conclusion

Cathay Pacific Airways urges the honourable members of the Bills Committee and all members of society to support the passage of this Bill during this term of the Legislative Council and for early implementation of the MSW charging scheme. For queries related to this submission, please contact our sustainability team at sustainability@cathaypacific.com.

Yours sincerely,



Grace Cheung
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Corporate Affairs Department
Cathay Pacific Airways Limited