

**Expansion of Hong Kong International Airport into a  
Three-Runway System**

**Fourth Meeting of Professional Liaison Group**

**Notes of Meeting**

The fourth meeting of the Professional Liaison Group (PLG) was held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2017. At the meeting, Airport Authority Hong Kong (AAHK) and their consultants presented an update on the Expansion of Hong Kong International Airport into a Three-Runway System (3RS Project), reported on the progress updates of the Marine Traffic Route and Management Plan for High Speed Ferries of SkyPier (SkyPier Plan), the Coral Translocation Plan, the Marine Ecology Enhancement Fund (MEEF) and the Fisheries Enhancement Fund (FEF), environmental monitoring and audit (EM&A) results and details of the non-dredge reclamation method, namely Deep Cement Mixing (DCM). Members visited the Marine Traffic Control Centre (MTCC) after the meeting where they were briefed on the operations of the Maritime Surveillance System. Members subsequently visited the marine works area where DCM is being carried out.

*Members present:*

Ms. Evelyn Chan	International Air Transport Association
Dr. Helen Chiu	American Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong
Ir. Gordon Cho	Dashun Policy Research Centre
Mr. Dee Hwa Chong	Ichthyological Society of Hong Kong
Prof. Jackson Ho	Hong Kong Airline Service Providers Association
Dr. Brian C W Kot	Department of Applied Biology and Chemical Technology, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
Mr. Ken Lau	Airports Council International, Asia-Pacific Region
Mr. Steven Molyneux-Webb	Civic Exchange
Ms. Shadow Sin	Ocean Park Conservation Foundation Hong Kong
Ir. Kenny Wong Siu Wai	The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers
Ir. Prof. Steve Wong	The Environment & Sustainability Committee, The Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce

*Members absent with apologies:*

Mr. Grant Abel	Ocean Park Hong Kong
Prof. Li Cheng	Department of Mechanical Engineering, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
Mr. Ken Ching	Eco-Education and Resources Centre
Prof. Chu Ka-hou	School of Life Sciences, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Ms. Helen Cochrane	Environment & Energy Committee, The British Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong
Ms. Suzanne Gendron	Ocean Park Conservation Foundation Hong Kong
Ms. Yvonne Ho	International Air Transport Association
Prof. Alexis Lau	Division of Environment, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
Ir. Lee Ping Kuen	The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers
Dr. Lui Sun Wing	The Hong Kong Association for the Advancement of Science and Technology
Dr. Cynthia Yau	Marine and Fisheries Ecologist

*In attendance:*

Ir. Kevin Poole	Airport Authority Hong Kong (AAHK)
Mr. Peter Lee	Airport Authority Hong Kong (AAHK)
Mr. Martin Putnam	Airport Authority Hong Kong (AAHK)
Mr. Lawrence Tsui	Airport Authority Hong Kong (AAHK)
Mr. Eden Ngan	Airport Authority Hong Kong (AAHK)
Mr. Eric Ching	Mott MacDonald (MM)
Ms. Julia Chan	Mott MacDonald (MM)
Dr. Thomas Jefferson	Clymene Enterprises (dolphin expert)
Dr. Bernd Würsig	Clymene Enterprises (dolphin expert)
Dr. Jasmine Ng	Environmental Resources Management (ERM)

## **1.0 Welcome and Introduction**

1.1 Airport Authority Hong Kong (AAHK) welcomed members and thanked them for attending the meeting. AAHK provided an overview and updates on the latest 3RS Project progress. Environmental consultants assisting in various aspects of 3RS project implementation were also introduced. Particular emphasis was made on the PLG meeting being a two-way communication platform with members encouraged to raise questions and make comments at any time during the presentation.

## **2.0 Presentation by AAHK's Consultants – MM, the dolphin experts and ERM**

2.1 MM and the two dolphin experts presented the latest progress on the 3RS Project including:

- Progress update of the SkyPier Plan
- Progress update of coral translocation
- Implementation status of the EM&A Programme

2.2 ERM presented the latest information on the MEEF and FEF including:

- Progress for the two funds and the setting up of dedicated web pages for MEEF and FEF at the 3RS Project dedicated website

## **3.0 Questions and comments from PLG members**

3.1 Members raised questions during the visit to the MTCC after the presentation and the discussion items are summarised as follows.

3.2 A question was raised regarding the strength of DCM. The AAHK team responded that the dosage and mixing for the DCM clusters was carefully controlled to ensure that the design strength was achieved. Design strengths varied according to the ground to be improved and DCM was the only form of ground improvement being employed in the Contaminated Mud Pits (CMPs). DCM and other forms of ground improvement were being used in areas outside the CMPs. AAHK added that the installation of DCM columns would take place prior to the reclamation works.

- 3.3 A question was raised on the number of DCM columns that would be installed for the 3RS Project. AAHK replied that some 250,000 DCM columns would be installed.
- 3.4 A question was raised on how the DCM contractors mitigate noise disturbance to Chinese White Dolphins (CWDs). AAHK replied that while equipment on board the DCM barges are required to install acoustic decoupling devices, DCM contractors are further required to deploy qualified dolphin observers on the working barges, to monitor the surrounding waters for CWDs; and to suspend and resume construction activities if CWDs are sighted in accordance with the procedures as stipulated in the Dolphin Exclusion Zone (DEZ) Plan.
- 3.5 A question was raised if there were cases where DCM activities were halted due to sighting of CWDs. AAHK indicated there was one record of a dolphin sighting within the DEZ of a DCM barge in the month of February 2017. The contractor followed the DEZ Plan and suspended their DCM works immediately upon sighting of the dolphin. Then after the dolphin has left the DEZ and the DEZ was continuously clear of dolphins for a period of 30 minutes, the contractor subsequently resumed operations according to procedures in the DEZ Plan.
- 3.6 A question was raised on the timeliness of the data from the Maritime Surveillance System (MSS). AAHK indicated that the data from MSS is real-time, available round-the-clock every day, and is also available on mobile platforms, to facilitate contractors' and site staffs' monitoring actions.
- 3.7 A question was raised on the approval status of the applications for Marine Ecology Enhancement Fund (MEEF) and the Fisheries Enhancement Fund (FEF). AAHK mentioned that for the applications received by February 2017, processing was in progress and results would be announced in July 2017.

#### **4.0 Conclusion**

- 4.1 AAHK thanked PLG members for their attendance, expert insights and recommendations.

Airport Authority Hong Kong  
May 2017