

**Expansion of Hong Kong International Airport into a
Three-Runway System
Third Meeting of Professional Liaison Group**

Notes of Meeting

The third meeting of the Professional Liaison Group (PLG) was held on 7th September 2016. At the meeting, Airport Authority Hong Kong (AAHK) and consultants presented an update on Three-Runway System (3RS) Project progress, details on the route diversion for SkyPier High Speed Ferries (HSF) to Zhuhai / Macau, environmental monitoring and audit (EM&A) results, and progress updates on the Marine Ecology Enhancement Fund (MEEF) and the Fisheries Enhancement Fund (FEF).

Members present:

Dr. Helen Chiu	American Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong
Prof. Chu Ka-hou	School of Life Sciences, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Prof. Jackson Ho	Hong Kong Airline Service Providers Association
Ms. Yvonne Ho	International Air Transport Association
Dr. Brian C W Kot	Department of Applied Biology and Chemical Technology, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
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
Ms. Shadow Sin	Ocean Park Conservation Foundation Hong Kong
Ir. Kenny Wong Siu Wai	The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers
Dr. Cynthia Yau	Marine and Fisheries Ecologist

Members absent with apologies:

Mr. Grant Abel	Ocean Park Hong Kong
Ms. Evelyn Chan	International Air Transport Association
Prof. Li Cheng	Department of Mechanical Engineering, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
Mr. Ken Ching	Eco-Education and Resources Centre
Ir. Gordon Cho	Dashun Policy Research Centre
Mr. Dee Hwa Chong	Ichthyological Society of Hong Kong
Ms. Helen Cochrane	Environment & Energy Committee, The British Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong
Mr. Ken Lau	Airports Council International, Asia-Pacific Region
Ms. Suzanne Gendron	Ocean Park Conservation Foundation Hong Kong
Mr. Simon Ng	Civic Exchange
Ir Prof. Steve Wong	The Environment & Sustainability Committee, The Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce

In attendance:

Mr. 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. Craig A. Reid	Environmental Resources Management (ERM)
Dr. Jasmine Ng	Environmental Resources Management (ERM)
Mr. Eric Ching	Mott MacDonald (Mott)
Dr. Thomas Jefferson	Clymene Enterprises (dolphin experts)
Dr. Bernd Würsig	Clymene Enterprises (dolphin experts)

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. 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 – Mott, the dolphin experts and ERM

2.1 Mott and the two dolphin experts presented status updates on the route diversion for HSFs of SkyPier, EM&A results and details of the Coral Translocation Plan:

- Details on the SkyPier HSF route diversion including implementation of SkyPier Plan, monitoring and update on effectiveness
- EM&A monitoring works, details on baseline monitoring results including Chinese White Dolphin (CWD) and water quality, and EM&A Event and Action Plans
- Details on the Coral Translocation Plan including formulation, implementation and monitoring
- Implementation status of EM&A Programme

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

- Proposed funding arrangements, management structure and tentative establishment timelines for the MEEF and FEF

3.0 Questions and Comments from PLG Members

3.1 Members raised questions during and after the presentation and discussion items are summarised below.

- 3.2 A question was raised if there was any stranding or carcass of CWDs observed during the CWD baseline surveys. The dolphin experts responded that no stranding or carcass of CWDs had been observed during the CWD baseline surveys. According to AFCD data from 1996-2015, it did not indicate any trend on the mortality rates of CWDs.
- 3.3 A question was raised on whether the diversion for SkyPier HSFs travelling between SkyPier and Zhuhai / Macau would have any impact on the traveling time for passengers of affected SkyPier HSFs. AAHK responded that there would inevitably be an increase in traveling time for the passengers to/from Zhuhai and Macau. To off-set the increase in travelling time, more resources were deployed at the SkyPier to expedite the handling and processing of passengers and baggage through SkyPier for example, through enhanced baggage handling and check-in services.
- 3.4 A question was raised if there was any plan to increase the number of locations for Passive Acoustic Monitoring (PAM). The dolphin experts responded that the feasibility of placing additional PAM device has been reviewed. Physical constraints for instance such as strong water current in the area to the north of Lung Kwu Chau makes the placement of an additional PAM there not feasible.
- 3.5 A question was raised if there was any emerging trend of CWD abundance identified based on the baseline CWD data. The dolphin experts responded that the baseline CWD data collected over the past six months were consistent with the AFCD's long term CWD monitoring data which showed evidence of a decreasing trend of CWD abundance in Northeast Lantau (NEL) and Northwest Lantau (NWL) over the past several years. However an increasing number of CWDs were observed in West Lantau (WL) and Southwest Lantau (SWL) in recent years which may indicate the CWDs are shifting away from NEL and NWL into WL and SWL. The dolphin experts also shared that there were past cases of CWD population shifting away from on-going construction works area and eventually returning after the construction works were completed provided that the area is protected from disturbance.
- 3.6 A question was raised on the density and behaviour of the CWDs in the Airport West area close to the future marine access of the 3RS works area in the northwest waters of the airport and whether the restricted area in the western waters of the airport would be maintained during the 3RS construction. The dolphin experts responded that feeding and foraging activities of the CWDs had frequently been observed in the Airport West area during the CWD surveys at the EIA phase. AAHK supplemented that all of the CWD mitigation commitments – intended to reduce potential marine construction phase impacts on CWDs – would be implemented in all nearby 3RS works areas, including the establishment of dolphin exclusion zones in accordance with the Dolphin Exclusion Zone Plan and mandatory installation of acoustic decoupling on construction vessels and so on. AA also clarified that the exact location of the nearby 3RS works marine access point is under discussion with a view to minimizing

potential nuisance to CWDs. AAHK clarified that the restricted area in the Airport West area (outside of the 3RS works boundary) would be maintained during 3RS construction works with the area designated a 'Dolphin Protection Area' within which 3RS works marine traffic and SkyPier HSF traffic shall not enter such area under normal circumstances.

- 3.7 A question was raised on the commencement date of the SkyPier HSF route diversion. AAHK responded that the diversion commenced on 28th December 2015.
- 3.8 A comment was raised on whether the design of airport facilities of the 3RS Project could be shared in the upcoming PLG meetings. The suggestion was well noted and AAHK would consider doing so.

4.0 Conclusion

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

Airport Authority Hong Kong
September 2016