



PLANNING AHEAD

Airport development is capital investment-intensive and requires a long lead time with considerable advance planning. In view of the impending "capacity crunch", we must act promptly to map out the future development strategy for Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA) in order to secure our competitiveness.

Over the years, we have continuously invested in the infrastructure of HKIA and planned for its future expansion. Hitherto, about HK\$18 billion has been invested in capital expenditure since airport opening, and a further HK\$9.3 billion has just been committed to the Phase 1 of Midfield Development.

Planning and development of airport infrastructure around the world requires a long lead time, due invariably to the complicated planning process, extended public consultation and approval procedures required, let alone the often highly complicated construction works involved. In Japan, Narita Airport Authority took 16 years, from 1986 to 2002, to plan and construct a second runway. In Germany, Frankfurt has taken 13 years to plan and build the Frankfurt Airport's fourth runway, which is expected to be completed in late 2011.

THE MASTER PLANNING PROCESS

Since the commissioning of HKIA in 1998, we have adopted a forward looking approach in addressing the airport's long-term needs. This is done through the preparation of a 20-year Master Plan, which is reviewed and updated every five years.

We regularly review market changes and ensure that airport facility enhancements are planned in time to meet the needs of the aviation industry. The master planning process is highly structured. A step-by-step approach of the process is summarised in Figure 2.1.

We have so far published two master plans, namely Master Plan 2020 and Master Plan 2025. Both planning documents have guided the development of our airport to date, including some of the major projects undertaken in recent years (see Figure 2.2).

2.1 Master Planning Process



2.2 Figure Major Projects Undertaken in Recent Years

| | Completion Year |
|--|-----------------|
| Enhancements to the airfield facilities for A380 operation | 2006 |
| Terminal 2 | 2007 |
| Addition of 10 cargo stands and taxiways | 2008 |
| SkyPier | 2010 |
| North Satellite Concourse | 2010 |
| Capacity and services enhancements to Terminal 1 including its Central Concourse, Arrival and Departure processing facilities, and baggage handling system | 2011 |





MASTER PLAN 2030

Through the preparation of the Master Plan 2030, we hope to map out the development needs that help HKIA achieve sustainable growth while retaining its long-term competitiveness and position as an international aviation hub. On the basis of the airspace and runway capacity analysis completed by the National Air Traffic Services (NATS) in 2008, we have evaluated the optimum airport layout plan and land use development strategy to accommodate the air traffic forecast demand up to 2030 and the potential growth beyond, including a preliminary engineering feasibility and environmental assessment of building a third runway and its supporting facilities and infrastructure. To ensure a transparent, professional and objective planning process, we have commissioned nine independent consultants – experts in their respective fields – to research into different strategic aspects of airport development, which have been consolidated into the Master Plan 2030.

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The master planning process also involves consulting the airport community through the Airport Infrastructure Planning and Development Users Working Group (AIPDUWG). AIPDUWG has 25 members covering the core airport-related community including Hong Kong based airlines, airport support services providers, airport community associations (for example, the Board of Airline Representatives in Hong Kong, the Airline Operators Committee, etc.) and relevant Government departments. Since October 2008, AIPDUWG has met periodically to discuss potential operational and technical issues related to HKIA's further development. AIPDUWG's comments and suggestions have been duly incorporated into the Master Plan 2030.

Figure 2.3 Consultants Appointed for the Development of HKIA Master Plan 2030

