



珠江三角洲五大機場
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PRESS RELEASE

PRD airports to cooperate on flight diversions, emergency support

(29 November 2002) – The five Pearl River Delta airports today signed a Letter of Intent on flight diversions and emergency support during their semi-annual A5 Forum meeting in Macau.

Representatives from Guangzhou Baiyun International Airport, Shenzhen Baoan International Airport, Macau International Airport, Zhuhai Airport and Hong Kong International Airport signed a Letter of Intent to cooperate in such areas as flight diversions during emergencies and typhoons; communication procedures; provision of essential services to diverted flights and passengers; and use of resources and technical assistance.

The Letter of Intent is the first major document signed since the Forum was formed last year. It will strengthen the safety standards of the five airports and enhance services to diverted flights and their passengers. This will contribute to the competitiveness of participating airports and even help the region's economic development by minimising disruptions to transport during bad weather or emergencies.

This is the third meeting for the A5 Forum, which was established to examine and promote areas of common interest, enhance competitiveness and contribute towards the economic development of the Pearl River Delta.

Following the two earlier meetings in July 2001 and March 2002, five task forces were set up to work specifically on Emergency Support; Joint Promotion; Hassle-free Passenger and Cargo Processing; Training and Development; and Security. In addition to the Letter of Intent on emergency support, members in Macau reported good progress in recent months in other areas:

- Inter-airport emergency alerting procedures were activated for the first time during Typhoon Hagupit in September. Procedures were also published and form part of some airport's emergency response procedures manual.
- A5 airports sent representatives to observe the annual Exercise CLK held at Hong Kong Airport on 22 November.



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- The successful A5 exhibition booth at the Air Cargo Forum 2002 attracted much interest locally and overseas.
- Phase one of A5 internet web page with hyperlinks to all five airports has been completed. Phase two will provide more detailed airport information and an airport data exchange platform.
- Progress was made in reference to the IATA Simplified Passenger Travel (SPT) Programme to develop hassle-free processing for passenger travel.
- Efforts continue to address current constraints in cargo flow between Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau including streamlined customs procedures and the exchange of information between airports.
- Visits have been arranged between the A5 airports to familiarise each other with facilities, services and management.
- Moves are underway to establish cooperation programmes on human resources management and development.
- A5 representatives have inspected Guangzhou Baiyun Airport's self-developed security system in operation. Hong Kong Airport will host a similar visit shortly.
- Airport information and data exchange has been enhanced to ensure timely collection of up-to-date market information.

The first A5 Forum was hosted by Hong Kong International Airport in July 2001, and the second by Shenzhen Baoan International Airport on March 2002. The fourth meeting is planned to be held in April 2003 and will be hosted by Guangzhou Baiyun International Airport.