CHAIRMAN’S STATEMENT

Through the continuous development of our passenger and cargo services, the expansion of our cross-boundary multimodal transport network and the growth of commercial and other facilities around the airport, HKIA is poised to transform from a city airport into an airport city in the coming years.
DEAR STAKEHOLDERS,

During the fiscal year ended 31 March 2019, we celebrated the 20th anniversary of Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA).

Since moving to Chek Lap Kok, we have become one of the world’s busiest airports. In 2018/19, HKIA once again broke records, with passenger numbers and flight movements increasing 2% and 1.3%, respectively, to 75.1 million and 428,870. Total cargo volume reached 5.06 million tonnes.

Over the past two decades, HKIA has made significant contributions to Hong Kong, driving its growth as an international city. Our extensive global connectivity helps businesses—from tourism and trading to logistics and professional services. We are a major employer, directly and indirectly creating hundreds of thousands of jobs. The airport also facilitates social and cultural exchanges between Hong Kong and the world.

BUILDING AN AIRPORT CITY

In February 2019, the Central Government promulgated the Outline Development Plan for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA), which designates Hong Kong as the GBA’s international aviation hub.

The national plan actually has endorsed our development direction so far. Through the continuous development of our passenger and cargo services, the expansion of our cross-boundary multimodal transport network and the growth of commercial and other facilities around the airport, HKIA is poised to transform from a city airport into an airport city in the coming years.

The core project underpinning this transformation is the three-runway system (3RS), which will allow HKIA to meet long-term demand for aviation services. During the year, the 3RS project made solid progress. We completed a 6-kilometre-long seawall and began land reclamation inside its boundaries. Other 3RS components are progressing as planned, and we are confident the 3RS will be completed within budget and on schedule in 2024.

Other major elements of the airport city include SKYCITY—an integrated commercial development comprising retail, dining, entertainment, hotels and offices—that is scheduled to open in phases between 2020 and 2027. In addition, a premium logistics centre in the South Cargo Precinct will open in 2023. We are also exploring the development potential of AsiaWorld-Expo and the topside of the Hong Kong Boundary Crossing Facilities.
In line with the GBA plan, we are strengthening our role as a training centre for the aviation industry. In 2018/19, our Hong Kong International Aviation Academy has been certified by the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) to develop ICAO-compliant courses and become an ICAO Regional Training Centre of Excellence, further enhancing the development of civil aviation in this part of the world.

**A “DOUBLE GATEWAY”**

HKIA’s expansion is in line with the Hong Kong Government’s Lantau Tomorrow Vision, which positions Lantau as a “Double Gateway” to the world and the GBA.

The opening of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (HZMB) and the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link in 2018 strengthened HKIA’s connectivity with the Mainland, providing further impetus for the airport’s traffic growth.

To capitalise on the vast potential of the GBA market, we are constructing an Intermodal Transfer Terminal, which through a direct connecting bridge with the Boundary Crossing Facilities will eliminate the need for air passengers using the HZMB to clear immigration in Hong Kong. The environmental impact assessment of the bonded bridge was approved during the year, and construction has begun.

We are also expanding our footprint in the GBA by enlarging our cross-boundary transport network and adding more upstream check-in facilities on the Mainland.
Building an airport city is a massive, complex undertaking. We are committed to making it a success.

TOGETHER FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE

HKIA’s success is built on the dedication and professionalism of the 73,000 members of the airport community. On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank them for their hard work and dedication.

I would also like to thank the members of the Board for their guidance and support.

Building an airport city is a massive, complex undertaking. We are committed to making it a success.

Jack So Chak-kwong
Chairman
Hong Kong, 3 June 2019