

**Chinese White Dolphins Conservation Measures during the
Construction Phase of the Three-Runway System Project
as proposed by the Airport Authority Hong Kong**

1. In the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report, the Airport Authority Hong Kong (AAHK) has proposed the adoption of green techniques and a series of mitigation measures so as to achieve “development alongside environmental conservation” as far as possible. These measures include:

Engineering Techniques

- (a) The use of non-dredge land formation method known as “deep cement mixing” for foundation improvement;
- (b) diversion of aviation fuel pipelines by horizontal directional drilling in the deep sub-sea bedrock stratum; and
- (c) diversion of submarine electricity cables by water jetting.

Commencement of Construction (i.e. around 2016)

- (a) All the high speed ferries operating at Skypier will navigate through the waters north of Sha Chau and Lung Kwu Chau Marine Park when they travel to and from Hong Kong, with a speed limit of 15 knots while travelling through the waters north of Sha Chau and Lung Kwu Chau where CWDs are frequently sighted. (Although such measure will marginally prolong the boat ride (around 10 minutes), AAHK will implement appropriate measures (e.g. speeding up the baggage handling procedure) to ensure minimal impact on passengers’ total connecting time between the flights, the connecting ferry rides and the final destinations);
- (b) avoidance of bored piling during the peak CWD calving season (i.e. March to June);
- (c) establishing a 250-metre 24-hour dolphin exclusion zone in the peripheral areas of the marine works. Relevant works will be suspended immediately upon sighting of any CWDs in the vicinity of the construction area of the reclamation works;

- (d) restricting the maximum speed of all construction vessels passing through the works area to 10 knots, which is same as the statutory speed limit in a marine park; and
- (e) acoustic decoupling of the construction equipment mounted on barges to minimise the impacts on CWDs.

2. AAHK has also committed to implement the Environmental Monitoring and Audit programme during the construction phase so as to ensure that the proposed mitigation measures are effective and comply with the relevant statutory requirements.

3. In addition, AAHK will establish an Environmental Enhancement Fund to support various environmental enhancement measures with a view to improving marine ecology and resources in the waters at north Lantau and to promote the colonisation by fauna within the region. AAHK will also set up a marine research programme and promote environmental education and eco-tourism in relation to local marine ecology and CWDs.