

In 2004, Hong Kong's air traffic grew significantly alongside with the economic recovery. As expected, with more flights operating to and from Hong Kong, aircraft noise has become more a concern of the public. The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) has developed a "Balanced Approach" to address aircraft noise problems in an environmentally responsive and economically responsible manner. This internationally agreed approach gives equal weight to four principal elements of noise management around airport: (i) reduction of noise at source; (ii) keeping noise sensitive receivers away from airport by appropriate land-use planning and management measures; (iii) noise abatement operational procedures; and (iv) prohibiting the use of certain types of noisy aircraft during night time. CAD will continue to embrace this "Balanced Approach" to manage the aircraft noise problem.

We will maintain regular contact with the local communities as well as the concerned District Councils to exchange views on matters related to aircraft noise. Information on measured noise data and related issues have been regularly uploaded to our web page: http://www.cad.gov.hk/english/ac_noise.html.

In our daily operations, we fully support all green measures in saving resources. In particular, we will continue to explore measures for reducing electricity consumption at our Air Traffic Control Complex as well as other offices of CAD.

This report is our sixth Environment Report since 1999. In this report, we have reviewed our performance in the year of 2004 and have set our targets for 2005.

Director-General of Civil Aviation
Mr. Norman Lo Shung-man, JP

