



# Foreword

Air transport has become one of the major pillars of Hong Kong's economy. While we strive to maintain a safe, orderly and expeditious flow of air traffic, we are mindful of the environmental impact of air transport. We continue to manage the aircraft noise problem using the "Balanced Approach" developed by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). The goal is to address the problem in the most cost-effective manner through an exploration of the following:

- Reduction of noise at its source
- Keeping noise-sensitive receivers away from the airport as far as possible.
- Noise abatement operational procedures for take-off and approach – including the preferred usage of runways and routes least likely to be heard by people in neighboring communities
- Aircraft operating restrictions

We are fully aware of the importance of communicating with local communities and concerned District Councils on matters relating to aircraft noise, and are committed to maintaining dialogue with them. To provide the public with more information, aircraft noise data and information on the performance of noise mitigating measures are regularly uploaded to our web-page at [http://www.cad.gov.hk/english/ac\\_noise.html](http://www.cad.gov.hk/english/ac_noise.html).

We also fully support any green measures in our daily operations by saving resources and reducing waste. In particular, we watch out our electricity consumption regularly and implement measures that improve electricity efficiency at our operational centres and offices.

In this report, we have reviewed our performance in the year 2008 and outlined our targets for 2009. As always, readers are invited to offer their comments and feedback to help us improve further.

**Director-General of Civil Aviation**

**Mr Norman Lo Shung-man, JP**