



25 Feb. 2008

No. 827

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# Momberger Airport Information

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## AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT (Caribbean & Central America)

### JAMAICA

**Prime Minister Bruce Golding has announced that a new international airport complete with customs and immigration services will be constructed in Portland parish**, located on Jamaica's northeast coast, as part of the Government's thrust to diversify the tourism product and take advantage of value-added options in the industry. He said the Urban Development Corporation (UDC) and Civil Aviation Authority have been instructed to conduct feasibility studies for the planned airport, while the National Works Agency will look at upgrading and realigning existing roadways, where necessary. #827.1

**The Cabinet has granted its development unit permission to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on pre-feasibility studies for developing the Vernamfield aerodrome in central Clarendon parish.** The study will expand on two previous ones by looking into using the area - which has been inactive since the U.S. Air Force's lease to operate the airfield expired in 1999 - **for cargo shipment, warehousing, aircraft maintenance, sea-to-air cargo transfer, and a duty-free shopping zone.** Local construction firm Surrey Paving & Aggregate would carry out the studies together with U.S. consultant Simat Hellieson & Eichner, for which all funding would come from private sources. As a result, the approval of such studies would not fall under the Government's procurement guidelines. Once negotiations between the development unit and firms are completed, the MoU will be submitted to the Cabinet for approval. #827.2

### ARUBA

**Schiphol International B.V. and Aruba Airport Authority N.V. have revised and extended their co-operation agreement concerning the development of Queen Beatrix International Airport.** The agreement has been extended for at least five years to the end of 2012. It was signed on 23 January 2008 by Jacques Greitemann, Managing Director of Schiphol International, and Frensel Giel, Chairman of the Supervisory Board of Aruba Airport Authority N.V. (AAA). Present at the signing was the Minister of Tourism & Transport of Aruba, Edison Briesen. Mr Greitemann said: "We are now entering the next phase, in which the development of activities in and around 'Aeropuerto Internacional Reina Beatrix' will continue. When the partnership started in 2004, the airport was still making a loss structurally. Thanks to



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the joint approach, the number of passengers has increased considerably through the years and the airport's operations and commercial opportunities have continued to improve. The airport is an important engine of the Aruban economy."

**The new contract strengthens the ties between the two parties who will now be looking into the possibility of forming a more structural relationship.** The positive changes made at AAA since the start of the partnership in 2004 are expected to continue, enabling Queen Beatrix Airport to continue to count itself among the region's best. In 2007, some 1.8 million passengers travelled through Aruba Airport; 116 000 of them flew to or from Amsterdam Airport. At present there are eight flights a week between Schiphol and Aruba. They are operated by KLM, Martinair, and ArkeFly. #827.3

#### **ANTIGUA & BARBUDA**

**The Government and China are continuing discussions on setting up a new terminal building at 'V.C. Bird International Airport' and on the upgrading of St John's deep-water harbour.** The discussions are progressing smoothly, following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on 21 December 2007 between the China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation (CCECC) and the Antigua & Barbuda Government, represented by its ambassador to China, David Shoul. The MoU calls for discussions to start with the government of China on the provision of concessionary loans for both projects. CCECC will provide technical assistance to the Antigua & Barbuda Government in the form of design briefs following site surveys, obtaining preliminary costing, and the preparation of working documents among other things. The agreement also stipulates that the final acceptance of any designs or construction works for the deep-water harbour and the terminal building at 'V.C. Bird International Airport' will be subject to the normal processes of the Government of Antigua & Barbuda. #827.4

**The managements of Miami International Airport and 'V.C. Bird International Airport' signed an agreement allowing for the exchange of information pertaining to cargo and passenger movement in each airport, statistical information for each airport, planned airport infrastructure developments, and general marketing research** aimed at increasing passenger and cargo traffic at both airports among other things. The agreement also allows for both parties to consider the creation of a working group, made up of a limited number of representatives from each party, for the express purpose of putting in practice the intentions of the agreement. #827.5

#### **BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS**

**In the last few years, the principal airport of the British Virgin Islands on Beef Island - 'Terrance B Lettesome Airport', Tortola - has seen great improvements** (#726.8), like construction of an attractive new terminal and tower, new car parking, extensive landscaping, and an extension and resurfacing of the runway. **The Government has also examined how best to develop other small airstrips on Anegada and Virgin Gorda.** The latter was recently acquired from a private owner. Now the Government is considering to implement improvements that enhance air access and regulatory compliance, options for which were set out in a feasibility study prepared by U.K. consultant Halcrow. The firm has also undertaken an independent audit for the Ministry of Communication & Works, reviewing the administration of the Tortola runway extension and resurfacing contract. -- Tortola is the largest and most populated of the British Virgin Islands. #827.6

#### **ST KITTS & NEVIS**

**An innovative airport carpark toll booth and a taxi pavilion are now available at Newcastle's**



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**'Vance W. Amory International Airport'**. The project was part of the Nevis Reformation Party led-Administration to develop and improve the port facilities on the island. In its quest to provide first-class services at the airport, it also refurbished and outfitted the VIP lounge with cable television and internet services, provided for a small user fee. -- 'Vance W. Amory International Airport', which has a single runway of about 1220 m, serves the island of Nevis in the Federation of Saint Kitts & Nevis. The airport was previously known as Bambooshay Airport, then Newcastle Airport. It was renamed in 2002 after the former Premier of Nevis, Vance Amory, at the completion of a new, more modern terminal, a new control tower, and a runway extension. #827.7

#### **TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS**

**Premier Michael Misick has assured that plans are advancing for the start of works to lengthen the runway at Providenciales International Airport to 10 000 ft, with a parallel taxiway.** The project is aimed at attracting investors to the country and benefiting from markets that remain closed due to the airport's current runway length that does not allow non-stop flights from Europe. "We don't have excellent service from Europe. I think we have British Airways once or twice a week through Nassau. When you land in Nassau (en route to the Turks & Caicos Islands), you have to wait for two hours, and so, it is a deterrent to a lot of people," said the Premier. "With the expansion of the airport, we expect to have the British market (opened), which is a very important market. The pound is two to one to the U.S. dollar, and Europeans tend to travel more, stay longer, and it is a market that we are actively pursuing," Misick explained. #827.8

#### **CUBA**

**'Frank País International Airport' in the eastern Cuban province of Holguín is being modernized and enlarged to improve its operational capacity.** According to experts, the works will allow the airport to handle an average of 1200 passengers per hour. The strategy includes improving traffic services and Customs & Immigration booths, and the installation of cutting-edge equipment. The works also included improving access roads, air-conditioning, communications, electrical and luggage-handling systems. Airport executives pointed out that after completion of the works an area of 1300 m<sup>2</sup> will be available to receive travellers. They added that the works have been done without stopping operations. The enlargement and modernization of the airport will create better conditions and greater comfort for passengers, in addition to reducing their stay at the air terminal. According to statistics, passengers stay 30-35 minutes at the airport, below the 45 minutes set by international standards. #827.9

#### **DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

**President Fernandez and his government will carry out their promises to continue with building more regional airports in the Dominican Republic in 2008.** They plan to construct small airports in San Francisco de Macoris in the north-eastern part of the country, San Juan de la Maguana in the west, and two airports at Perdernales and Jimini in the southwest. The airport at Montecristi in the northwest of the country is in its final stages of construction and is expected to be inaugurated in the early part of 2008 (#808.2). The present plan is to provide aerial links throughout the country, which will promote more tourism in these areas and also provide fast Government responses to natural catastrophes, which have occurred all too frequently during 2007. With the President's inauguration of Constanza Airport in June 2007, there are at present ten operational airports within the country. #827.10

#### **PANAMA**



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**A minimum of USD 405 million will be invested during the first phase of the Howard Airport area development plan (#773.14),** according to the administrator of the Panamá-Pacífico Special Economic Area Agency, Gilberto Ferrari. The project's master plan was approved in early December 2007, following the signing of the 40-year public-private partnership contract in June. The project aims **to convert the old Howard air base, once owned by the U.S.A., into a regional air cargo transport hub.** Panama City's Tocumen International Airport already acts as a regional air passenger transport hub. The first phase of works in the Panamá Pacífico project, to be developed around Howard, will include road construction to improve the connectivity of the airport to the rest of the country, upgrading potable water and sewage networks and wastewater treatment facilities. The project will also involve the implementing of a mass transport system to cover the area and connect it to Panama City. The second phase will be to build the industrial infrastructure related to the initiative, while the third will consist of strengthening the business aspect and construction of related facilities. The fourth phase will be to unify the first three phases. **The overall project is expected to require a USD 705 million investment.** -- The former Howard AFB with a 3200-m runway and four large hangars is located to the southwest of the Panama Canal, while Panama City is located to the southeast of the canal. Tucumen and Howard are a 15-minute flight from each other. Copa Airlines already uses Howard Airport as its alternate airport because it is conveniently located about 48 km from Panama City. Before the certification of Howard as an international airport, Copa Airlines' designated alternate airport was Cartagena in Colombia, some 480 km from its 'Hub of the Americas' in Panama City. #827.11

**The third expansion phase of Panama City's Tocumen International Airport may begin as soon as 2011, some two years ahead of schedule (#806.1).** The advanced date for expansion - part of a five-phase master plan - is due to the fact that the airport's capacity is quickly becoming saturated by its high passenger growth, averaging around 15% per year. The third phase includes building a southern pier (Muelle Sur), which will basically mirror the Muelle Norte on the northern side, being built under the second expansion phase. This will be **followed by a fourth phase to build an entirely new terminal.** During both of these phases, works will be carried out to expand the length of the airport's main runway to 4000 m from the current 3000 m. The fourth phase will also include works to expand the airport's cargo capacity. Once the airport is operating at full capacity, a fifth expansion phase will begin in the next 15-20 years covering facilities further to the south. -- Tocumen SA expects to call bids shortly for the Muelle Norte expansion, which will see the addition of twelve gates to its current 28, bringing the airport's total up to 40. Tocumen, SA - an independent entity set up with entirely public capital - will finance these expansions with its own revenue. #827.12

#### **COSTA RICA**

**The International Finance Corporation (IFC) is looking to find a way out of the impasse with Costa Rica's government regarding a concessions contract with Alterra Partners, the operator of San José's 'Juan Santamaría International Airport' (#806.4).** In 2001, IFC committed USD 120 million - including USD 85 million syndicated to ten international banks in financing - to Alterra Partners Costa Rica to expand and modernize the airport. Up until 2003, creditors had provided USD 90 million for the project, but decided to freeze funding in that year due to a lack of certainty as to the repayment of the debt and the changing of conditions by the Government, according to past reports. In fact, IFC had been repaid only USD 11 million of the loan. Alterra claims to have lost USD 18.7 million in revenue due to changes in how much it could charge in tariffs, raising doubts over whether it would have the



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necessary funds to pay back its loans. This led the company to initiate legal proceedings against the Government. But IFC insists on the possibility of reaching an agreement and continues to negotiate with the Government as the World Bank agency supports the rehabilitation of the airport because of the potential benefits to tourism, economic growth, and social development in Costa Rica at a time of increased regional integration. #827.13

#### **NICARAGUA**

**A cargo terminal is being set up at Managua's 'Augusto C. Sandino Airport' under a two-phase project southeast of the runway.** The first phase consists of two halls of 3500 m<sup>2</sup> each equipped for pallet handling, road access for cargo trucks, and three apron stands for freighters. During the second phase, a third hall of 3500 m<sup>2</sup> will be added, as will be two more apron stands and a carpark with spaces for twenty trucks. The cargo complex will include 1600 m<sup>2</sup> of office space for Customs, airlines, and cargo agents. #827.14

#### **EL SALVADOR**

**The country's ports, airports and roads authority Ceba will invest USD 39.1 million in 2008 and 2009 to expand the passenger terminal at San Salvador International Airport, Ilopango.**

The investment is part of a 20-year growth plan based on passenger traffic expectations up to 2030, when the number of travellers is forecast to reach 10 million. Currently, the airport is handling over 3 million passengers annually. The plan, scheduled for completion in 2012, will be carried out in three stages, the first of which begins in 2008, focusing on immediate needs. Investments include USD 35.9 million for new buildings and USD 3.2 million for expanding apron parking spaces. In 2009, the operator expects to start further extensions to the terminal building and the airport's apron for USD 21.7 million and USD 7.2 million, respectively. Additional facilities for airport authorities and maintenance will require USD 1.8 million. **The project is based on a report by French firm ADPi from November 2007, which determined the issues Ceba will have to address in the next two decades.**

Recommendations include expanding terminal capacity, building a new runway for emergencies, relocating the cargo terminal, and anticipating acquisitions of new land lots, which could accommodate a military base south of the airport, among others. Ceba's objectives are to provide a sound logistics base for future operations, foster commerce and industry through airport traffic, and consolidate its position in the local market. #827.15

#### **HONDURAS**

**Tourist activities in Honduras and Central America in general will benefit from a new airport in the Maya region of Copán, in the eastern part of the country (#806.8).** Local tourism authorities noted that the works will begin in May 2008 and are scheduled for completion in 2009. The works will boost tourism in the Copán Ruins and in Santa Rosa de Copán, the most important city in western Honduras, as well as other neighbouring communities. -- The Copán Ruins are one of the most important places in Honduras and are visited by some 170 000 tourists annually, 50% of whom are foreigners. #827.16

The Honduran Minister of Defence Arístides Mejías said **the Government should analyze the possibility of transforming Palmerola military base, currently shared with the United States, into a commercial airport.** Mejías stated that such possibility has been suggested for several years since the premises are located in an important agricultural area in the central department of Comayagua.



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The base was built early in the 1980s by the United States at a cost of USD 30 million to fight revolutionary movements in Central America. #827.17

#### **GUATEMALA**

**La Aurora International Airport, serving the capital of Guatemala, will triple its size as of January 2008, after investing USD 80 million.** The extension adds 50 000 m<sup>2</sup> to the existing infrastructure, bringing it to 72 000 m<sup>2</sup> and allowing to accommodate 4 million passengers a year - twice its current capacity. The first stage of the extension will become operational in March 2008. It will count on two new boarding gates, a central area divided in four levels, and a parking area with capacity for 480 vehicles. José Manuel Moreno, the head of the General Civil Aviation Department (DGAC), explained the Government will disburse USD 2.76 million to ICAO once the project is complete as a compensation for having managed the extension project for 30 months. Such payment to ICAO results from a 3.5% commission on the total cost of the project. According to Moreno, the extension will help obtain international Category 1, the highest category in terms of terminal's capacity and safety. #827.18

#### **MEXICO**

**The 242 000-m<sup>2</sup>second terminal at 'Benito Juárez International Airport', Mexico City is now fully operational.** The new structure increases the airport's capacity to 32 million passengers annually, from the present 20 million, and enhances the airport hub's role as an access point to South America. Mexico City is now in the world's top 50 airports in terms of capacity, and is the first in Latin America to have facilities for handling the Airbus A380. The development includes a 3.2-km internal rail system called Aerotren that provides fast and convenient connections between the airport's two terminals. There are also on-site car-parking facilities for over 3000 vehicles, and a 300-room hotel. The New Terminal 2 suffered a rise of nearly 43% in its costs in the last two years. The increase was the result of certain works not originally considered, according to Ernesto Velasco, General Director of Aeropuertos y Servicios Auxiliares (ASA). -- The new terminal is being used by AeroMexico, allowing the airline to expand its range of services. #827.19

\* **"The extension and refurbishment of 'Benito Juárez International' will extend the life of the airport facilities for up to 200 years," said Luis Téllez, Secretary of Communications & Transportation.** After opening the New Terminal 2, the official confirmed that the Federal Government would present a proposal for **construction of a new airport that will serve the Central Region of the country.** Téllez asserted that this has been one of the projects with the largest number of audits conducted by the federation, with 274 audits where "no irregularities could be found." Gilberto López Meyer, the head of the General Civil Aviation Department (Dirección General de Aeronáutica Civil, DGAC), stated that the Federal Government "is in no rush to build a new airport". "The new terminal and upgrading operations at the nearby airports, including those of Toluca, Cuernavaca, Puebla, and Querétaro, give us enough oxygen to keep AICM operating for the next 8 to 10 years," he added. #827.20

**Aeropuertos y Servicios Auxiliares (ASA), in co-operation with the federal, civil, and local authorities, and a number of agencies, are conducting an Airport Safety Programme as a part of the specific prevention actions adopted to face the upcoming the hurricane season.** The purpose of this project is to safeguard the infrastructure of the 63 fuelling stations and the 20 airports ASA currently runs, as well as the users' physical integrity in the light of this kind of natural phenomena. During a press conference on the subject, ASA Deputy Director of Airport Infrastructure, Architect José



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Luis Figueroa Noriega, and the Director of ASA Combustibles, Dr Alejandro Ríos Galván, stated the main actions included in this programme allow establishing communication channels 24 hours a day with the National Meteorological System to monitor hurricane emergence data and their possible routes to take the relevant actions, if actually necessary. In addition, they added that the warning actions that will be implemented in three stages are co-ordinated by the Hurricanes Operations Committee. According to this document, the airports gathered under ASA Network included in this programme are Loreto, Guaymas, Ciudad Obregón, Tepic, Matamoros, Ciudad Victoria, Poza Rica, Puerto Escondido, Ciudad del Carmen, Campeche, Tuxtla Gutiérrez, and Chetumal. #827.21

**The Mexican airport operator ASA (Aeropuertos y Servicios Auxiliares) uses outsourcing services of the SONDA technology company to install a comprehensive solution for its business processes to enhance safety and order in information flows.** The modernization project comprised the installation of some management software under the outsourcing model, as this allows managing ASA material and financial resources at the 20 airports the group is currently running, as well as at the 63 fuelling stations from where the operator distributes aviation fuel. The project is in its final stage and, according to ASA executives, "it has successfully accomplished the initial goals envisaged by the company, strengthening its internal structure as to match the growth pace and become more competitive at the international level." During the implementation of this solution, SONDA also integrated and installed the technological infrastructure for operations, which consisted of application servers, databases, and communications. #827.22

**Mexico's ASA announced it has invested over USD 5 million at its airports to comply with the national environmental policies.** This investment includes environmental protection projects and activities such as building waste-waters treatment plants, hazardous-waste warehouses, the separation of stormwater and sewage drainage, an irrigation system to recycle treated waters, and water and energy saving programmes. The company added it has defined a Surveillance Programme to assure compliance with the prevention and mitigation measures that have been agreed upon with the Secretariat of Environment & Natural Resources (Semarnat) to protect the environment. #827.23

**Grupo Aeroportuario del Pacifico, S.A. de C.V. (GAP),** which plans to invest close to USD 121 million until 2009 in the infrastructure of the twelve airports it manages, **has chosen to conduct a corporate restructuring in its subsidiaries so that the unionized employees of each of the company's airports would be concentrated under one subsidiary, beginning in 2008.** This company would be a GAP subsidiary that has the ability to continue servicing the various airports. This initiative is being undertaken to balance the benefits received by all its employees, regardless of the size of the airport where they work. The restructuring is being carried out by GAP pursuant to the guidelines established by federal labour laws. As a result, this process is not expected to affect working relations between the company and its employees, as all workers' rights, such as seniority, salaries and benefits and all working conditions outlined in the collective bargaining agreements remain in place as they were prior to the restructuring. -- As of 31 December 2007, the unionized work force represented 52% of GAP's total employees. #827.24



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## Other regions

### INDIA

**The Civil Aviation Ministry plans to have 500 operational airports by 2020, including the redevelopment of currently unused airports, new greenfield airports, and so-called 'merchant' (dedicated cargo/logistics) airports.** India currently has 448 airports, including small landing strips, although only 80 handle scheduled services. Of these airports, 136 are owned by the military, 156 belong to state governments, and 63 to the private sector. Unlike China, where just 60% of the population lives within 100 km of an airport (#827.34), virtually every district in India has an airport or landing strip and can, in theory, be connected by air. However, air traffic is concentrated at a few key airports. **The 24 international and customs airports put together account for 94% of traffic and the balance is spread over 36 smaller airports.** For the 500 airports target to be achieved in less than 13 years, India will require a very liberal aviation policy, backed by an aggressive programme to upgrade existing small airports. State governments in India are expected to drive the airport development process in coming years, seizing the opportunities presented by air services development. So the role of the Airports Authority of India in this area will diminish. This change will be reflected in the new aviation policy of the central government, to be released shortly.

**India is expected to have extensive greenfield airport activity in the period until 2020, including the development of several dedicated merchant airports.** Some of the currently unused airports will be converted into functional low-cost airports with the involvement of the private sector and the LCCs themselves. The Andhra Pradesh Government, for example, has already issued requests for proposals for the development of airports in Bobbili, Kothagudam, Kurnool, Nellore, Nizamabad, Ongole, Ramagundam, Tadepallegudam, and others. Other state governments, like Karnataka and Mahrashta, have also identified as many as 15 airports for development. Airport development in India will, therefore, be largely a private-sector play in the near future. #827.25

**India's agriculture and processed-food products export development authority Apeda is building cold-storage facilities at more than a dozen airports in the country,** in a bid to increase exports of perishable food products by 25% within one year. Cold stores will be installed at the Kochi, Kolkata, and Guwahati airports. Tiruchirapalli, Srinagar, and Jammu will have refrigerated containers that can store 8-10 tonnes of perishable products. -- At present, only the six international airports (New Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Hyderabad, Bangalore, and Thiruvananthapuram) have cold storage facilities for perishable cargo. #827.26

### FRANCE

**Approval of the new Notre-Dame-des-Landes Airport 22 km northwest of Nantes is expected any time now.** The project has already won a favourable vote by the Council of State (Conseil d'Etat). Discussed for the past 30 years, the Nantes Atlantique Airport - also known as Aéroport du Grand Ouest - could become a reality between 2012 and 2015. #827.27

**Lyon Airport opened a seven-level parking garage with 2000 spaces next to its Terminal 1 and the TGV train station.** Open 24 hours daily, the facility built and financed by Lyon Parc Auto is column-free for easy parking, carefully lighted to make the building and its staircases transparent, and monitored by video control. It is part of the privately-financed 23 000-m<sup>2</sup> 'Hub Business' real-estate development which also includes a new four-star hotel and 9250 m<sup>2</sup> of office space. **For low-fare**



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**carriers, the airport is building a scaled-down terminal** (Aérogare à services simplifiés). This transport segment is expected to grow to 15% - 20% of total passenger traffic (EasyJet will open a base in April 2008). **Access to the airport from the centre of Lyon will become easier from autumn 2009 when the tram line linking Leslys and the city's Part Dieu train station** stops at the airport every 15 minutes. Travel time from the city centre will be 25 minutes. -- In 2007, Lyon-Satolas handled 7 320 952 passengers (+8.4%), 32 667 tonnes of flown air cargo (-11.9%), and 126 678 commercial aircraft movements (+1.9%). #827.28

#### **POLAND**

**The popular winter resort of Zakopane**, the so-called winter capital of Poland, **could have an airport within three years**. The PLZ 200 million project is being carried out by Nowy Targ, the largest city in the region, but Zakopane is lobbying in favour of the plans as the airport will be located just 20 km away and would ease tourism to the area. "We have all the documentation, business and zoning plans produced by German company IVB [which won the tender for the project in 2007]. At the moment we are carrying out talks with potential investors. They are already showing interest," said Marek Fryźlewicz, Mayor of Nowy Targ. "I cannot say when it will be ready, in three or in five years. But it will definitely be completed and we are doing everything to make it happen as soon as possible."

The new airport will be located on an existing 130-hectare airfield used by the Nowy Targ Aeroclub for training. The 77-year-old facility and the 300 hectares of space surrounding it have already been assigned for the airport in the city's zoning plan. The project will start with construction of a 1600-m runway, capable of taking 50-seat aircraft. Radar coverage will be provided by Krakow-Balice Airport. There are plans to build other infrastructure later, such as hotels, and commercial space. #827.29

#### **MALAYSIA**

**Malaysia Airports Holdings Bhd (MAHB) is expected to issue tenders shortly to expand the Low Cost Carrier Terminal (LCCT) at Kuala Lumpur International Airport by 35 000 m<sup>2</sup>**. The expansion will increase capacity by 50% to 15 million passengers annually. Speaking to reporters at the welcoming of Tiger Airways' inaugural flight from Singapore on 1 February 2008, MAHB Managing Director Datuk Seri Bashir Ahmad said construction would be completed by the end of this year or in early 2009. Bashir said MAHB had submitted a proposal to the Government for a **new LCCT in one of its satellite plots of land to replace the current one, targeting its completion in three to four years**. The new LCCT would have a capacity of 25 million passengers annually and be located closer to the Express Rail Link (ERL), which links downtown Kuala Lumpur to KLIA, he added. Bashir said the current LCCT would be converted for others uses. "We have many options. One of the options is that it can be used for cargo instead." -- MAHB attributes much of its recent rapid growth to traffic generated by low-cost carrier AirAsia. #827.30

**MAHB has signed a sublease and project management agreement with Spirit Aerospace Malaysia Sdn Bhd to develop the Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah (SAAS) Airport in Subang into an aerospace centre**. MAHB said under the first agreement, it would sublet a 45-acre plot of land at SAAS Airport and a 242 000-ft<sup>2</sup> facility for the development of an aerospace-related composite assembly project by Spirit. In the second agreement, Spirit will provide project management services and act as the consultant for the project facility. MAHB wants to develop the land into an aerospace centre to be known as the Malaysian International Aerospace Centre (MIAC). Spirit's expertise is in the aerospace-related composite assembly project, which is a part of the MIAC. The Government, through the Malaysian



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Industrial Development Authority, has offered Spirit special incentives packages to develop and operate the project on the sublease land at SAAS Airport. Meanwhile, in another statement, MAHB revealed that the annual rental that Subang Skypark Sdn Bhd would pay for the sublease of Terminal 3 and its carpark and a hangar complex at SAAS Airport. It said Skypark would pay MYR 11 per ft<sup>2</sup> per year for the rental of Terminal 3, MYR 6 per ft<sup>2</sup>/year for the carpark, and MYR 10 per ft<sup>2</sup>/year for the hangar complex.

#827.31

### PHILIPPINES

**President Gloria Arroyo has announced that Terminal 1 at Manila's 'Ninoy Aquino International Airport' (NAIA), the oldest terminal facility in the country, will be closed down and will give way to 'Diosdado Macapagal International Airport' (DMIA) as the premier gateway to the country.** DMIA is inside the Clark Freeport Zone and was named after President Arroyo's father, the late President Diosdado Macapagal. "Clark will now be the new premier airport," Arroyo told a recent Cabinet meeting convened to discuss the future of Philippine aviation. She gave officials one year to turn the airport in Clark into the new premier facility. Secretary Leandro Mendoza of the Department of Transportation & Communications (DOTC) earlier briefed the President on the need to transfer NAIA Terminal 1's operations to DMIA to ensure the country's economic competitiveness. "Clark will now be phased in as the premier airport because NAIA 1 is too crowded already," says Arroyo. Clark International Airport Corp. (CIAC) Chairman Nestor Mangio says: "DMIA is more than enough to answer our country's need for a modern and efficient international gateway, which is important for us to sustain our economic competitiveness in international trade and commerce." -- **Clark's 2500-hectare civil aviation complex, with its two parallel 3200-m runways, is currently undergoing a major facelift** with the expansion of its passenger terminal to accommodate around 2 million passengers a year. Work is due to be finished by the first week of March 2008. #827.32

\* **With a two-to-one decision, the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) tribunal** of the World Bank in Washington, D.C. **in August 2007 had dismissed Fraport AG's compensation case against the Republic of the Philippines for expropriating the terminal project in Manila (#780.OPS3).** Supported by renowned legal firms, an analysis of the ICSID decision revealed that the decision violated Fraport's fundamental rights in numerous points. **Within the prescribed time period, Fraport's Executive Board now filed for an annulment of the ICSID decision.** The Fraport Supervisory Board fully supports this action. -- If the annulment application is accepted, the company will decide whether it will resubmit to the World Bank its compensation claim against the Republic of the Philippines. #827.33

### CHINA

**The Ministry of Commerce has announced plans for 97 new regional airports to be built until 2020 at an estimated cost of CNY 450 billion (USD 62.5 billion) to ease congestion; 45 of the new airports are to be completed by the end of 2010.** Currently, China only has three airports with passenger service capacity surpassing 30 million, but the figure will increase to 13 by 2020 when all the 97 airports are completed. The General Administration of Civil Aviation in China (CAAC) said the objective is that 82% of the country's population of over 1.3 billion should travel no more than 100 km or 90 minutes to the next airport, up from 61% at present. -- Although officially there were 147 airports open to commercial traffic at the end of 2006, the CAAC once admitted that there were only 50 operational airports in 2005. Wang Changshun, Vice-President of the CAAC, predicted at the opening of Air Freight



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Asia 2007 in Hong Kong that by the year 2010, China will have 186 airports, and by 2015 the goal is to have 260 operational airports. He called on overseas investors and airport experts to work with the Chinese airline industry to assist the country in its airport development plans. #827.34

**The General Administration of Civil Aviation (CAAC) disclosed in late January 2008 that Beijing is expected to start operation of its second international airport around 2015**, in order to ease traffic pressure. Yang Guoqing, deputy head of CAAC, said CAAC has submitted a report to the Central Government on the site of the second international airport, but the final decision has not yet been made. Currently, Beijing's Capital International Airport (BCIA) is the only international airport serving the capital. Its passenger throughput hit 53.47 million in 2007, which made it China's busiest and one of the world's Top 10 airports. Further, BCIA will finish construction of its third passenger terminal and a 340 000-m<sup>2</sup> traffic centre soon. The third passenger terminal is expected to start operation on 29 February 2008 with an area of 986 000 m<sup>2</sup>, said Zhang Guobao, head of the leading team in charge of the expansion project. #827.35

#### **AUSTRALIA**

**The Western Australian Government says it needs Federal help to build a new airport terminal in Perth capable of handling the rising numbers of passengers and flights.** Minister for Planning & Infrastructure, Alannah MacTiernan, says Perth needs a new airport in the next five years because the existing terminal will run out of space. MacTiernan adds that since the airport is on federally-owned land, the State Government cannot compel the company that runs it to boost capacity. The previous Federal Government would not help the state negotiate with the Westralia Airports Corporation, Perth's private owner. "Now we've got this debacle where the domestic airport simply does not cater for needs," MacTiernan says. #827.36

#### **NIGERIA**

**The Federal Government has approved plans for the expansion of facilities at 'Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport', Abuja, to allow it to cope with expanding passenger numbers.** A directive has been issued to the Federal Airports Authority (FAAN) to see what can be done to increase capacity at the airport, according to the Minister of State for Air Transport, Dr Felix Hassan Hyat. He said: "Since we have encouraged airline operators to bring in bigger aircraft, we have to expand the airport. Aircraft are not motor vehicles that people can park in their homes and bring to the airport the following day. We have started discussions with the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) and other stakeholders on what can be done within available means." -- The decision to expand Abuja Airport came just as the Management of the National Airspace Management Agency (NAMA) said the installation of high-tech radar systems at the Abuja and Lagos airports would be completed by the second quarter of 2008. #827.37

**Port Harcourt, the main airport serving the oil-producing Niger Delta in southern Nigeria, is expected to reopen soon for daytime domestic flights.** The airport, closed in August 2006, had its runway repaired and a perimeter fence installed, among other improvements. But work has progressed slowly and is yet to be completed. The Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) said the runway has now been fully refurbished while work on the terminal building was 70% complete. The lights and fire-fighting equipment are also being overhauled. #827.38