



MINISTRY OF WORKS AND TRANSPORT

Office of the Permanent Secretary
Administration Building
Level 6
Corner Richmond and London Streets,
Port of Spain, Trinidad, W.I.

Ref: WT/CPU: 7/19/47 Temp

September 10, 2018

Mr. Brian Caesar
Clerk of the House (Ag.),
Parliament, Republic of Trinidad and Tobago,
Level G-8 Tower D,
The Port-of-Spain International Waterfront Centre,
1A Wrightson Road,
Port of Spain.

Dear Mr. Caesar,

Eighteenth Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Examination of the Report of Audited Financial Statements of the Airports Authority of Trinidad and Tobago for the financial years 2008 to 2012

Your correspondence (Ref: Parl.5/2/26) dated July 9, 2018 addressed to the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Works and Transport (MOWT) on the above subject matter refers.

The MOWT reviewed the recommendations/comments contained in the Eighteenth Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Examination of the Report of Audited Financial Statements of the Airports Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (AATT) for the financial years 2008 to 2012. Please find attached the response on the recommendations of the Committee outlined at pages fourteen (14) to twenty-two (22) of the Report.

The MOWT also noted the recommendations from the Committee regarding the submission of status reports by August 30, 2018 on particular initiatives undertaken by the AATT. In this regard, the Ministry requests an extension of time to **October 30, 2018** to facilitate the submission of the following reports as requested by the Committee:

- **Item 2 – Deteriorating Aged Infrastructure**
Report on the status of the initiatives to address aged infrastructure challenges in the short, medium and long-term

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- **Item 5 – Inefficient Airport Design**

Report on the progress made to address the issue of inadequate in-transit facilities

- **Item 8 – Non-Availability of Source Documentation**

Report on the status of initiatives taken to ensure that a computerized document management system for storage and a filing system are implemented in a timely manner

Submitted for your consideration please.

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Permanent Secretary (Ag)

Ministry of Works and Transport

Encl. 



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October 30, 2018

Mr. Brian Caesar
Clerk of the House (Ag.),
Parliament, Republic of Trinidad and Tobago,
Level G-8 Tower D,
The Port-of-Spain International Waterfront Centre,
1A Wrightson Road,
Port of Spain.

Dear Mr. Caesar,

RE: Eighteenth Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Examination of the Report of Audited Financial Statements of the Airports Authority of Trinidad and Tobago for the financial years 2008 to 2012

Reference is made to previous correspondence dated September 10 (REF:WT/CPU:7/19/47 Temp) on the above subject matter. A copy is attached at the Appendix for ease of reference.

In this regard, the MOWT submits below for the consideration of the Public Accounts Committee, the reports requested at **Items 2, 5 and 8** of the recommendations outlined at pages fourteen (14) to twenty-two (22) of the Report of Audited Financial Statements of the Airports Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (AATT) for the financial years 2008 to 2012.

- **Item 2 – Deteriorating Aged Infrastructure**
Report on the status of the initiatives to address aged infrastructure challenges in the short, medium and long-term

The expenditure of the AATT is based on the prioritization of projects which are in line with the Authority's short, medium and long term approach to maintaining the airport infrastructure. Short and medium term plans are structured to be in line with the overall long term plan.

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Short-Term Measures

1. Timely preventive maintenance as per manufacturers' specifications and industry standards;
2. Prioritization of corrective works to ensure safety and security of users and stakeholders;
3. Regular inspections;
4. Predictive checks; and
5. Training both locally and at the manufacturers' facilities as required.

Medium term

1. Based on lifecycles, operational conditions of the equipment and structure, maintenance cycles and repair history, a five-year plan with projected cash-flows was developed. The last plan, which was formulated in 2016, was reviewed in 2018;
2. A Pavement Management Study is conducted every five (5) years in order to determine the conditions of the airfield pavements the Piarco International Airport (PIA) and the ANR Robinson International Airport (ANRRIA). While the studies are being undertaken, rehabilitating strategies are implemented to allow the infrastructure to gain life until full replacement is possible. In August 2018, repairs were completed an area of parking position No. 11 on the North Terminal Ramp at the PIA, also called "N11". Additionally tenders were also invited for rehabilitation works on two (2) positions on the South Terminal Ramp, PIA as follows:
 - a. S12 - Rehabilitation of cargo equipment parking and position. Tenders were invited and will close on October 30, 2018.
 - b. S7 – Rehabilitation of parking position No. 7. Tenders were invited and are scheduled to close on November 5, 2018.

There are plans for further works on the pavement in 2019 and over the next five years;

3. The AATT also plans to establish a Computerized Maintenance Management System (CMMS) which will enable accurate maintenance histories and allow for informed decisions on repairs, upgrades or replacement. The Authority is in the process of upgrading its business suite, Oracle Business Intelligence Suite, after which the Enterprise Asset Management (EAM) module will be implemented. The EAM module will include the CMMS. The business suite upgrade is scheduled for completion in early 2020. In the interim, the AATT continues to utilize its manual maintenance system.;
4. Inspection and assessment of equipment by the Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) will be used to chart maintenance activities for the period.

Long term

1. Replacement and complete rehabilitation based on life cycles and technological advances;
2. Upgrade of equipment due to increased capacity and growth;
3. Obsolescence of equipment and unavailability of spare parts.

- **Item 5 – Inefficient Airport Design**

- Report on the progress made to address the issue of inadequate in-transit facilities

The Authority is implementing several initiatives, which are outlined below, to treat with inadequate in-transit facilities:

1. A centralized in-transit security screening facility at the ground floor in the Immigration Hall at the North Terminal. This takes the in-transit passengers from the Immigration Hall into the sterile area at the first floor;
2. Tenders were invited for service providers to conduct works to improve the efficiency of the elevators from the Immigration Hall into the sterile area at the first floor to accommodate in-transit passengers;
3. A conveyance system for re-screening of transit bags before the bags are loaded onto the aircraft is in place.

Customer Service Solutions for In-Transit Passengers Affected by Re-Screening Requirements

1. It should be noted that Guyanese passengers are most affected by re-screening requirements at the PIA, however, they are not the only in-transit group so affected. In-transit passengers from other countries, such as, Suriname, Barbados and Antigua, go through the same process given prevailing civil aviation requirements.
2. The Transportation Security Administration (TSA), an agency of the United States Department of Homeland Security, recently approved screening procedures at the Cheddi Jagan International Airport (Guyana) as acceptable for “Last Point of Departure” screening. This creates an opportunity for Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana and the United States of America and/or Canada to sign a memorandum of understanding for the Mutual Recognition of Security Systems, which is a requirement for the removal/relaxation of re-screening measures in the case of flights originating in any of these countries and terminating in the other. The Trinidad & Tobago Civil Aviation Authority (TTCAA) recommends that this process commences with Canada given that country’s role in implementing the new screening technology in Guyana. In the absence of such an agreement, international standards and recommended practices governing aviation security, established under the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) take precedence.
3. In the interim, customer services measures designed to alleviate the current unpleasantness experienced by the affected passengers are being implemented. These measures will be effected by airline staff, such as, customer service personnel and airline agents. Measures explored and agreed with the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Caribbean Airlines Limited (CAL) include allowing in-transit passengers early boarding privileges and taking steps to further attenuate the stress and discomfort currently experienced. These customer service measures are specifically under the remit of CAL.
4. While the short-term measures are being implemented, the medium-term to long-term solutions for these issues will require the crafting of the necessary agreements and

memoranda of understanding among the various Governments involved. As an implementer of civil aviation policies and practices, the AATT will make attempts to recommend to the TTCAA to pursue the changes that are required to alleviate the discomfort of in-transit passengers.

- **Item 8 – Non-Availability of Source Documentation**

Report on the status of initiatives taken to ensure that a computerized document management system for storage and a filing system are implemented in a timely manner

The Authority is in the process of finalizing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the acquisition and implementation of an electronic records management system. An important benefit of this system is that information will be organized in one central database and documents will be easily accessible. The RFP is expected to be completed by November 30, 2018. In the interim, the Authority is reviewing its manual filing systems in order to implement intermediate solutions to facilitate the retrieval of documents in a timely and efficient manner.

The Ministry continues to work with the AATT and other relevant agencies to improve the standards of performance and service delivery at the nation's airports.

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Permanent Secretary (Ag.)

Ministry of Works and Transport

PERMANENT SECRETARY
MINISTRY OF WORKS & TRANSPORT