<u>Transport and Housing Bureau's follow-up on financial situation of Hong Kong</u> Airlines Limited

The Transport and Housing Bureau (THB) has been closely monitoring the financial problems of Hong Kong Airlines Limited (HKA) over a long period of time. After reviewing the financial improvement plans and financial information recently submitted by HKA, the THB is of the view that HKA's financial situation has not improved, and that the situation is a matter of concern.

The THB and the Civil Aviation Department (CAD) met with HKA's management team on November 1, and once again asked HKA to take immediate and concrete steps with a view to effectively improving their financial situation shortly.

A spokesman for the THB said today (November 4), "We noted that HKA has made an announcement on their flight consolidation. Considering the existing financial situation of HKA, we are of the view that the flight consolidation plan is reasonable and necessary, and expect this will help improve the operational situation of HKA. The Government has also asked HKA to ensure that proper arrangements will be put in place to take care of the interests of passengers and employees. We will continue to closely monitor the financial situation of HKA, and will consider taking further action in the light of the circumstances."

Meanwhile, the CAD will continue to closely monitor HKA's flight operations and aviation safety, with a view to ensuring that HKA's operations will continue to comply fully with the requirements of relevant laws and regulations of aviation.