APPROVAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Number: 203-EIARES/448/2017/26

This Environmental Decision Statement is issued for the purpose of communicating the decision regarding the Environmental Impact Assessment for Proposed International Airport Development Project at Maafaru Island, Noonu Atoll, which was submitted for evaluation on 6th November 2017 by Regional Airports. The EIA consultant of this project is Dr. Ahmed Shaig (EIA P02/15).

1. This Environmental Decision Statement has been issued on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency (hereinafter referred to as the Ministry) pursuant to the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations 2012 (2012/R-27) to advise that the Ministry has decided that the proposed Development Proposal can proceed according to the Environmental Impact Assessment Report.
2. The decision has been made by the Ministry on the following conditions:

i. In the event the project activity has not commenced within one (1) year from the date of issue, or if the duration of this Environmental Decision Statement has not been extended, this Environmental Decision Statement shall be considered null and void. In order to extend the duration of this Environmental Decision Statement, the Proponent shall write to the Minister for an extension according to Clause 14 of the 2nd Amendment to the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations 2012.

ii. In the event the project activities has been delayed for more than one (1) year due to unforeseen circumstances, the Ministry shall have the discretion to extend the duration of the Environmental Decision Statement, or to terminate it. In such circumstances the proponent shall write to the Minister for an extension clearly stating out the reasons for the
iii. The Minister, or his designate, may issue a cessation order requiring persons working on a Development Proposal to cease working until the order is withdrawn, if:

a) This Environmental Decision Statement has been withdrawn or;

b) There has been a breach of the conditions of this Environmental Decision Statement.

iv. It is the Developer's responsibility to undertake all project activities in accordance with the relevant laws and regulations of the Maldives.

v. The Developer shall submit environmental monitoring report as outlined in Paragraph vii of this Environmental Decision Statement. Failure to submit the requisite monitoring report may result in the suspension or revocation of the permit under this Decision Statement.

vi. The Developer is aware that under the National Environment Protection Act (Law no. 4/93) and
the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations the Ministry reserves the right to terminate any activity without compensation if found that such an activity has caused significant, irreversible impacts on the environment.

vii. All mitigation measures proposed in the EIA report for all the phases of the project shall be fully implemented.

viii. The environmental monitoring program outlined in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report shall be undertaken and implemented and summary environmental monitoring reports shall be submitted to the Ministry.

ix. The date of expiry stated in this Environmental Decision Statement is the duration given to commence the project activities approved under this Environmental Decision Statement.
x. Once the project activities have started, the Proponent must inform the Environmental Protection Agency, the date of commencement of project activities.