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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**POSTPONEMENT OF THE OPERATIONAL LAUNCH OF  
THE NEW KUALA LUMPUR AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL CENTRE**

**PUTRAJAYA** – The Civil Aviation Authority of Malaysia (CAAM) wishes to inform that the operational launch of the new Kuala Lumpur Air Traffic Centre (KLATCC) in Sepang, Selangor is postponed to a later date. However, operations of the new airspace structure will continue to take effect on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2021, 1800UTC and has been notified through 10 new Aeronautical Information Publication (AIP) Supplements which have been published.

Due to the increase in daily COVID-19 cases in Malaysia, CAAM has taken the approach to postpone the operational launch of the new KLATCC to support the Government of Malaysia's efforts to curb the COVID-19 pandemic. CAAM strongly believes that a rescheduling of the mass migration of an operation centre is required while the country is under a total lockdown period. This is in the sole interest of public safety and all air traffic controllers involved.

This prudent decision had taken into account the current low air traffic capacity due to border closures. Aviation capacity at the moment is at 25 per cent and a drastic increase is not expected in the next 3 months. Presently, all operations will continue to run from the current KLATCC in Subang, Selangor with backup operations at the new KLATCC in Sepang. The backup operations at the new KLATCC will have a minimum operating staff as part of the business continuity plan.

Aviation stakeholders that includes Malaysia Airlines Berhad, AirAsia Berhad, Malindo Airways, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the International Air

Transport Association (IATA) have been engaged and formally informed of this decision. CAAM has conducted a safety risk assessment to identify hazards, determine safety risks and implement appropriate mitigating measures to ensure risks are kept as low as reasonably practicable.

CAAM will announce a new date for the mass operations migration once the COVID-19 situation in the country has subsided. The most important factor for CAAM is to ensure the safety of all aviation stakeholders in terms of efficiency of the new airspace structure that allows faster processing of air traffic. The safety of the civil aviation industry and our air traffic controllers that are categorised as essential service providers remains our top priority at this moment. The new KLATCC will be the pride of Malaysia and CAAM will ensure every effort is taken to ensure the safe and successful launch of our nation's pride at the most suitable time in the very near future.

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### **Background on The New Kuala Lumpur Air Traffic Centre (KLATCC)**

Located near Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA), Sepang, the new KLATCC is set to replace the current 25-year-old KLATCC located in Subang, Selangor. The implementation of the KLATCC project includes the construction of a three-storey KLATCC complex, as well as the installation of new communications, navigation, surveillance and air traffic management (CNS/ATM) systems. This ultramodern facility houses the air traffic control operations for the Kuala Lumpur Flight Information Region (KL FIR), becoming the backbone of the country's air traffic control as well as the En-Route and Approach Units together with the Aeronautical Search and Rescue (SAR) Coordination Centre. The commissioning of the COSPAS-SARSAT would further enhance the Search and Rescue capabilities of the Civil Aviation Authority of Malaysia (CAAM) within the Kuala Lumpur and Kota Kinabalu FIRs.

The new KLATCC will provide more efficient and seamless Air Traffic Management, enhancement of KL FIR Surveillance Systems, improvement of KL FIR Communications and Navigation Systems to enable Performance Based Navigation (PBN) implementation and would allow more aircraft to land during peak hours or premium slots, increasing the

landing capacity at KLIA from 78 to 108 aircraft movements per hour, which is among the highest in the world. With state of the art technology, the new KL ATCC can handle more aircraft movements per hour using three runways at KLIA simultaneously. This will provide lucrative returns to the country through the expansion of the aviation industry.

The new Kuala Lumpur Air Traffic Control Centre (KL ATCC) Complex will definitely enhance Malaysia's competitiveness in the aviation industry by raising the availability and connectivity of the country's air transport industry.

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