

**Speech for the Macau International Airport 10th Anniversary Cocktail
Celebration as at 8th December 2005**

(Mr. Gao Hongfeng – Vice Minister of CAAC)

Honorable Chief Executive of Macau SAR, Mr. Edmund Ho,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good Afternoon!

I am very pleased to be invited to Macau. Firstly, I would like to represent the Civil Aviation Administration of China to send our warmest congratulations to Macau International Airport for their 10th Anniversary celebration.

Macau International Airport started its inauguration in December 1995. During the past ten years, especially after the handover of Macau to its motherland, the Airport has achieved tremendously development and improvement. Now it has already growth both in its scale and higher airport management level, and has played an important role in boosting the economic progress and extending the global links of Macau. I would like to highlight its contributions for since its operations, it has been serving as the transit airport for the people traveling to and from the two shores of the Strait, as an effective bridge for enhancing civilian exchanges and cooperation between the two shores, as well as for facilitating the process of Cross-Strait direct flights. Besides, Macau International Airport is also able to grasp the new opportunity arising from the CEPA policy. It has increasingly entered into various exchanges and cooperation alliance with airports of the Mainland for mutual development and achieving win-win situations.

Recently, the economy of Mainland China has been growing rapidly. The average income level of the people has risen a lot. The tourism industry develops quickly as the country has been more lenient to overseas traveling. Simultaneously, restructuring of China civil aviation system has been making a great leap forward. New industrial administration system has just been built. Such a change has pushed up new aviation market demand and let the civil aviation industry of China enter into a booming era. The average industrial annual growth was 18.3% between 2003 and

2004, reaching its highest record over the past ten years. In 2004, the total annual growth rate for transportation turnover volume and passenger travel volume was equal to five times of the growth between 1996 and 2000. Among all the airports of the Mainland, there were six airports' passenger traffic volumes exceeded 10 million. Beijing Capital Airport has reached to 35 million with daily flights almost closed to 1,000. For year 2004 the total turnover volumes of air traffic, passengers, cargo uplift and mails handling for China civil aviation have all reached to the rank of the third position over the whole world.

Within fifteen years, the aviation transportation of the Mainland has made great progress. Reaching the end of this year, each airline of the Mainland should have owned over a total of 900 business aircrafts of different types. Many airports have been starting renovation or extension. Every year, there should be four to five new airports starting operations. Up to now, there are 25 airports of grade 4E that can facilitate the landing/taking off of larger aircrafts of B747 and A340, amongst Beijing Capital Airport, **Shanghai Pudong** Airport and Guangzhou new Airport all possess the ability to handle the jumbo A380 aircraft. Up to the end of 2004, there were 148 airports in the Mainland.

We are glad to see that Macau was able to fully implement the “one country two systems”, “self-government” with high autonomy policies all through the six years after the Handover. The economy of Macau is continuously growing, the community is safe and harmonious, and people live in peace. The development and progress of Macau civil aviation industry really impress our industry peer of the Mainland. “Ten years ploughed. Glamorous springs passed harvest got in autumn”. We believe that Macau International Airport would continue to strengthen aviation safety and provide quality service with the current implementation of CEPA policy and fast development of civil aviation in the Mainland. It would serve as a platform to deepen cooperation and exchanges for Macau and the Mainland. Its speedily growth would surely contribute to the over economy of Macau.

Thank you for listening.