

# AIRPORTS NEWS & UPDATES

OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2019

IT'S OFFICIAL ! PAC KINGSTON AIRPORT LIMITED TAKES OVER OPERATIONS @ NMIA



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Transport and Mining Minister - Hon. Robert Montague (2nd right) symbolically presented the key to manage and operate the NMIA to GAP CEO / PACKAL Chairman - Raul Revuelta (center) at the airport in Kingston. Sharing in the moment are Director, Development Bank of Jamaica - Milverton Reynolds (left), President, Airports Authority of Jamaica (AAJ), Audley Deidrick (2nd left), and AAJ Chairman, William Shagoury.



**The management and operations of the Norman Manley International Airport (NMIA) was officially handed over by the Government to PAC Kingston Airport Limited (PACKAL) on Wednesday, 16 October 2019.**

On 10 October 2018, the Airports Authority of Jamaica (AAJ) signed a 25-year concession agreement with Mexican firm Grupo Aeroportuario del Pacifico (GAP), for operation of the facility through its local subsidiary, PACKAL. The company has the option to renew for an additional five years.

Speaking at the handover ceremony at the airport in Kingston, Minister of Transport and Mining, Hon. Robert Montague, emphasized that NMIA belongs to the Government and people of Jamaica. "What we are divesting is the management of the airport but we will not be giving up the monitoring and regulatory roles. Those are responsibilities of the Government through the Airports Authority of Jamaica," he said. He noted that one of the major monitoring roles that the AAJ will have is to ensure that the operators undertake the agreed infrastructure improvements.

Minister Montague noted that the Mexican company, which also manages the Sangster International Airport (SIA) in St. James, has "distinguished itself" in the operation of that facility. "GAP has an enviable record of bringing our Montego Bay airport to being the number one airport in the Caribbean," he said, adding that the company is expected to do the same for Kingston.

AAJ President / NMIAL CEO - Audley Deidrick basked in the moment as it represented the end of a long, challenging but stimulating journey....and an opportunity to finally say MISSION ACCOMPLISHED! He took the gathering through the tedious NMIA Public Private Partnership (PPP) transaction timeline which commenced with the first failed attempt in 2015; the repackage and relaunch in 2016; GAP emerging as winning bidder and then the 12 months count down to the official handover being witnessed. He used the opportunity to laud and express gratitude to all the players that contributed to the successful completion of the transaction. Deidrick also re-emphasized that PPPs are not "sell-outs" but that they represent the most effective way to develop key national infrastructure and operate them efficiently and profitably.

GAP's CEO, Raúl Revuelta, also had high praises for the local facilitators of the transaction and reiterated Grupo Aeroportuario del Pacifico's commitment to diversify its airport portfolio and affirmed that "to compete for the operation of Norman Manley Airport represents a strategic decision that will contribute towards GAP's positioning and it will strengthen the development and growth of Jamaica's main airports." He added that one of its immediate focus is to improve the infrastructure and the equipment of the airport. Therefore, during the first 36 months, it expects to make an investment of US\$ 60 million in extension and modernization works at the Norman Manley International Airport.

Grupo Aeroportuario del Pacifico said it has developed a service-commitment culture to improve the overall travel experience. Additionally, it keeps close relationships with stakeholders in an attempt to contribute to the economic and social development of the communities where it operates.

Kingston's airport is the 14th airport operated by the Mexican airport group. At the end of 2018, this airport had assisted a total of 1.7 million passengers, and 1.4 million in the period comprised between January and September 2019. This represents an 8.4 per cent growth compared to the same period on the previous year; and approximately 30% of the country's total traffic. GAP currently operates in 12 international airports in Mexico and two in Jamaica, servicing over 330 destinations through 35 airlines. Its shares are listed both on the Mexico and the New York Stock Exchange. In 2018, GAP serviced 44.9 million passengers, a 10.4 per cent increase on the previous year.

The Jamaican government owns the Montego Bay airport and the concession granted for its operation is for a 30-year period, which will conclude on April 2033.





NMIA Airports Limited CEO - Audley Deidrick (left) symbolically passed the key to the new airport operator— PAC Kingston Airport Ltd. CEO , Fernando Vistrain



**PAC Kingston**  
Airport Limited

**TEAM PACKAL**



3 October 2019 | Norman Manley International Airport  
Transport & Mining Minister -Hon. Robert Montague(2nd right) marked the official opening of the **UMOJA EXHIBITION** with the symbolic cut of the ribbon in the Ticketing Hall/ Norman Manley Int'l Airport. He was ably assisted by Airports Authority of Jamaica Art Committee Chairman—Fay Hutchinson (right) and representatives from the Institute of Jamaica. Looking on is AAJ Snr. Director -Alfred McDonald.  
The **UMOJA** Togetherness Exhibition was held over, by popular demand, to the end of November 2019.



A passenger takes a closer look at the African drums on display in the **UMOJA EXHIBITION** - Ticketing Hall, Norman Manley International Airport

Today over 90% of Jamaica's population is of African descent. The first Africans arrived in Jamaica in 1513 as servants to the Spanish settlers; this small population increased following the introduction of the slave trade to Jamaica by the British. Many of the enslaved brought to Jamaica were skilled craftspeople and artisans. These skills were passed on to their offspring, resulting in the development of many successful cottage industries such as pottery and basketry.

The Swahili term 'Umoja' refers to the unity that connects all humanity. 'Umoja' the exhibition allows us to consider and connect with our African heritage and to contemplate the lifestyles, talents and skills advanced by our ancestors - values that shape our lives even today. Too often Jamaicans and the wider African Diaspora associate the continent and the memory of our ancestors with the Transatlantic Trade in Africans: slavery neglecting the rich cultural diversity of our accomplished forebears.

The Institute of Jamaica's diverse African Collection features a wide range of ceremonial and utilitarian objects: Masks, Clothing, Sculptures, Weapons and Musical Instruments among others. The collection is enhanced by pieces on loan from private collectors to make Umoja a more engaging exhibition. The objects displayed in this space, portray the diverse character and creativity of their cultures of origin. This exhibition highlights the fact that there is a strong African retention in the arts, crafts and culture of the Jamaican people and by extension the African Diaspora.

The African Collection is comprised of objects obtained by the Institute of Jamaica from several individuals: former Venezuelan Ambassador Otfmaro Silva, Dr. Aslon Taylor, John Allen, Mrs. V Chevalier-Syer, F.D Mills, Captain Percy Jeff and African artists John Somda, Shebani Sefu, AluesiSamaki, Clement Marei, and Issa Selemani Bahari.



THE MINISTRY OF CULTURAL GENDER,  
ENTERTAINMENT AND SPORT







*Happy*  
**INTERNATIONAL  
CIVIL AVIATION DAY**  
*DECEMBER 7*

*From your friends at*



NORMAN MANLEY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT | SANGSTER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT | IAN FLEMING INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

KEN JONES AERODROME | TINSON PEN AERODROME | NEGRIL AERODROME

THINKING DEVELOPMENT... MOVING AHEAD

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JAMAICA CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY,  
AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF JAMAICA &  
AERONAUTICAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS LTD.

*request the pleasure of your company for our*

## AVIATION BANQUET & AWARDS CEREMONY

*Venue*  
AC Hotel Kingston  
38-42 Lady Musgrave Road,  
Kingston 5, Jamaica

*Date*  
Saturday, December 7, 2019

*Time*  
7:00 p.m.  
Cocktails @ 6:30 p.m.

*Dress*  
Formal Attire

*Guest Speaker*  
The Hon. Robert Montague, MP  
Minister of Transport & Mining

Local aviation trifecta - Jamaica Civil Aviation Authority (JCAA) , Airports Authority of Jamaica (AAJ) and Aeronautical Telecommunications Ltd. (AEROTEL) - again collaborated on the annual observance of **International Civil Aviation Day (ICAD)- DECEMBER 7th**. The purpose of International Civil Aviation Day is to help generate and reinforce worldwide awareness of the importance of international civil aviation to the social and economic development of States, and to highlight the unique role of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) in helping States to cooperate and realize a truly global rapid transit network at the service of all mankind.

The commemoration activities themed - '*Assuring Safety and Quality within the Aviation Industry*' - were celebrated against the backdrop of a glitzy banquet and aviation awards ceremony at the AC Marriott Hotel, to celebrate and honor the contribution of three stalwarts to the local industry.

Transport and Mining Minister -Hon. Robert Montague , lead the distinguished gathering of aviation industry leaders , stakeholders, associates , friends and family.

Retired Senior Pilot, Captain Lloyd Tai ;Former Commanding Officer for the Jamaica Defence Force (JDF) Air Wing Reserves, Major Dudley Beek (Ret'd) and Retired Chief Air Traffic Controller, Randolph Jones were the 2019 recipients of the prestigious **ICAD Aviation Trailblazer Award** .



### *Trailblazer Awardee* - CAPTAIN LLOYD TAI -

⇒ A senior captain with over forty years' flying experience, started his love affair with Aviation after a ride on a Canadian Airforce Transport aircraft as a 17-year old cadet at Kingston College on the first Canada-Jamaica annual exchange program.

⇒ Lloyd brings a vast reservoir of knowledge in the field of aviation and spent most of his 40+ year career at Air Jamaica Limited where he held increasingly responsible management and line positions prior to his retirement - as Senior Vice President, Maintenance and Technical Services - in January 2008.

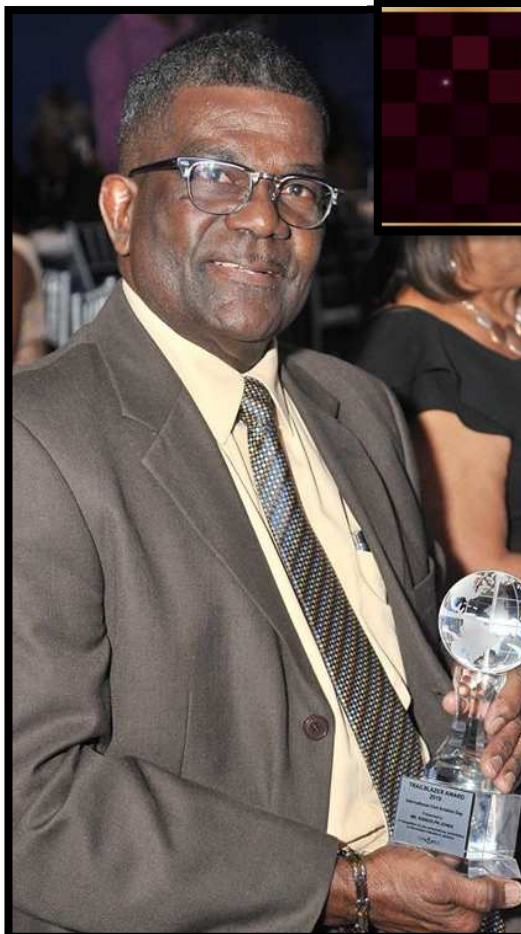
- ⇒ Lloyd's employment with Air Jamaica dates back to 1970 when he joined as First Officer, after completing five years as a pilot with BWIA. In 1976 he was promoted as the first Jamaican Vice President of Flight Operations. With over 12,000 hours of flying time, Lloyd has served as an instructor on all aircraft operated by Air Jamaica - DC8, DC9, B727, A300, A310, A320, A321 and A340 aircraft.
- ⇒ Captain Lloyd is an IATA certified consultant and has shared his aviation expertise regionally and internationally . In the Caribbean – he worked with Surinam Airways where he introduced the A340 and managed their fleet replacement program. In Jamaica he spear-headed the certification of Fly Jamaica and served as Chief Operating Officer (COO). In Asia he spear-headed the certification for a domestic airline within Myanmar/Burma and most recently in the Middle East when Flyadeal, a Saudi Arabian low cost carrier, needed to get their Airline Operations Certification, Captain Tai headed up their project and delivered certification within a year.





## *Trailblazer Awardee* - MAJOR DUDLEY BEEK -

- ⇒ Born 27 May 1948, in London England, Major Beek was educated at Wolmer's Boys School from 1958 to 1966. He joined the JDF in 1966 and was selected for training at Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst.
- ⇒ He received further training on helicopters with British Army Air Corps in Germany, Multi engine/instrument training with US Army at Fort Rucker Alabama and Flying Instructor training with Royal Canadian Air Force at Portage -la- Prairie, Manitoba. He was later transferred to the Reserves in 1978, retiring in 2008 as Officer Commanding Air Wing (National Reserve).
- ⇒ He subsequently joined Crop Culture in 1978 and worked as an agricultural pilot, treating crops island wide, becoming Chief Pilot. He later formed Dustair Ltd. in 1984.
- ⇒ Coming from a family of military aviators, this third generation aviator was taught to fly by Jamaica's Commercial Pilot Licence No1: Earsley Barnett, gaining his PPL in 1965. For a number of years, he flew aerobatic displays using an aircraft he helped build here in Jamaica.
- ⇒ In his dotage, his next project is to qualify for his civilian flight instructors rating so he can train his grandchildren.
- ⇒ He currently serves as a Director on the board of the Airports Authority of Jamaica and is committed to the revitalization of General Aviation in Jamaica.



## *Trailblazer Awardee* - MR. RANDOLPH JONES -

- ⇒ Air Traffic Controller, par excellence, committed and dedicated team worker who has contributed selflessly and generously to the field of Air Navigation Services and specifically to Air Traffic Services.
- ⇒ A proud alumni of Titchfield High School, Randy joined the Civil Aviation Department in 1971 and moved up the ranks from ATC Trainee to Aerodrome/Approach Controller, Area Procedural Controller, Area Control Centre (ACC) Watch Supervisor, Radar Controller, Chief Air Traffic Controller (KATCC), Manager Air Traffic Services, Acting Director, Air Navigation Services and finally to Head of Special Projects.
- ⇒ Randy is Jamaica's first certified Radar Controller and received his training in Prague, Czechoslovakia (now the Czech Republic) in 1986.
- ⇒ He is a founding member of the Jamaica Air Traffic Controllers' Association (JATCA), where he held various executive positions such as General Secretary, Treasurer and President and also served as a Regional Vice President of the International Federation of Air Traffic Controllers' Association (IFATCA).
- ⇒ In 2014 he was conferred with the Badge of Honor for Meritorious Service (BH(M)) for valuable contribution to civil aviation in Air Traffic Services.





Airports Authority of Jamaica

Schools'

Art

Project 2019

SEASON 6...in the mix

## WHO CAN ENTER?

### CHILDREN (CATEGORY A)

AGE 5-6 YRS • 7-9 YEARS OLD

### YOUNG ADULTS (CATEGORY C)

AGE 16-18 YRS • 19-20 YEARS OLD

### TWEENS/TEENS (CATEGORY B)

AGE 10-12 YRS • 13-15 YEARS OLD

### SPECIAL NEEDS (CATEGORY D)

CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS  
AGE 20 YEARS AND UNDER

## WHAT TO SEND?

Artwork on canvas, water colour paper or drawing paper (size 30 x 30) inches portraying any ONE of the themes below:

**THEME #1**  
THE COUNTRY I DREAM  
OF VISITING.

**THEME #2**  
SOCIAL MEDIA  
- THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY.

**THEME #3**  
LOVE THE SKIN YOU ARE IN  
...SAY NO TO BLEACHIN'

## HOW TO SEND?

Drop off or mail original artwork (with student contact sheet) at/to any of the following Airports Authority of Jamaica (AAJ) outlets:

- ONLY one entry per student allowed.
- Scanned or digital copies of artwork will not be accepted.

AAJ Administration Office  
NMIA Airport, Palisadoes,  
Kingston

AAJ Administration Office  
Sunset Boulevard,  
Montego Bay

Timson Pen Aerodrome  
Marcus Garvey Drive,  
Kingston

Ken Jones Aerodrome  
St. Margaret's Bay,  
Portland

Negril Aerodrome  
Norman Manley Boulevard,  
Hanover

Ian Fleming International Airport  
Boscobel,  
St. Mary

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE  
EXTENDED UNTIL  
Wednesday,  
22 January 2020  
at 4:00p.m.**



## RECOGNITION, PRIZES AND AWARDS

- Individual awards for top three students in each category (A,B,C,D)
- AAJ President's Trophy & Cash Award for the school with the highest quality/quantity submissions in each County.
- Certificate of Achievement for the top 10 performers in each category (A,B,C,D)
- Special selections will be prominently displayed (with student/school recognition) in the main Passenger Terminal of the Norman Manley Int'l Airport
- Airline tickets, Cash, Scholarships, Tablets, Smart phones and School bags

Download Competition Rules and Guidelines from our website: <https://airportsauthorityjamaica.aero>

for more information: EMAIL: [aaj@aaj.com.jm](mailto:aaj@aaj.com.jm) • Mobile: 876 316-6853 • Phone: 876 924-8835-7

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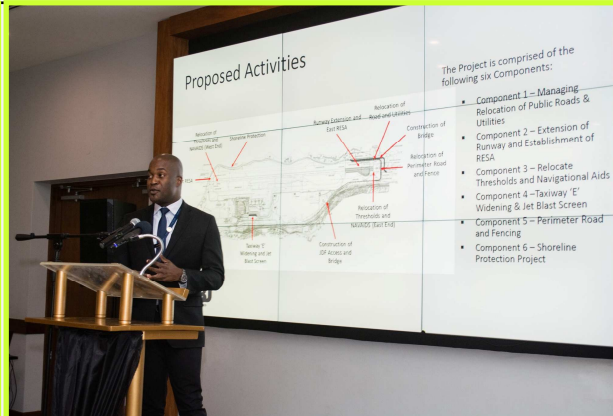
@NormanManleyInternational



Youtube



# US\$70M RUNWAY EXTENSION for SANGSTER INT'L



## Montego Bay, Jamaica | December 2019

The operators of the Sangster International Airport in Montego Bay, St. James, have commenced work to extend the runway at a cost of US\$70 million.

The project, for which ground was broken on December 12th will entail, among other things, the length of the strip being increased from 2,662m to 2,940m. The extension will facilitate the establishment of safety areas at either end of the runway and the installation of a jet blast screen intended to enhance the safe and effective use of the taxiway. It is also expected to reposition the airport to accommodate larger, more powerful planes, while significantly reducing arrival and departure timelines. The development is slated for completion by the end of the third quarter of 2020.

Speaking at the recent ground breaking ceremony, Transport and Mining Minister, Hon. Robert Montague, said the programmed extension forms part of MBJ Airports' capital improvement plan, designed to ensure the facility's continued compliance with local and international aviation safety and security standards.

Mr. Montague said that in order to ensure the project's sustainability, the requisite enabling works that are integral to the undertaking will be executed. "It is, indeed, a comprehensive overhaul that will facilitate a far safer and more efficient airport," the Minister further stated. These inputs, he pointed out, are expected to enhance the safety protocol to facilitate heavier aircraft. The airport serves as the primary gateway to Jamaica and facilitates the transit of more than 85 per cent of tourists arriving on the island and served a total of over 4.54 million passengers in 2018.

Sangster International Airport is being operated by MBJ Airports Limited, under a 30-year concession agreement with the Government. The entity is a subsidiary of the partnership between Mexican entity, Grupo Aeroportuario Del Pacifico (GAP) and the Vantage Airport Group, headquartered in Canada.



Transport and Mining Minister, Hon. Robert Montague (centre), recently broke ground for Sangster International Airport runway extension project. Also participating are (L-R): President, Airports Authority of Jamaica - Audley Deidrick; Project Director for Surrey Paving Aggregate, Michael Archer; Member of Parliament for Central St. James - Heroy Clarke; and Chief Executive Officer of MBJ Airport Limited - Dr. Rafael Echevarne.

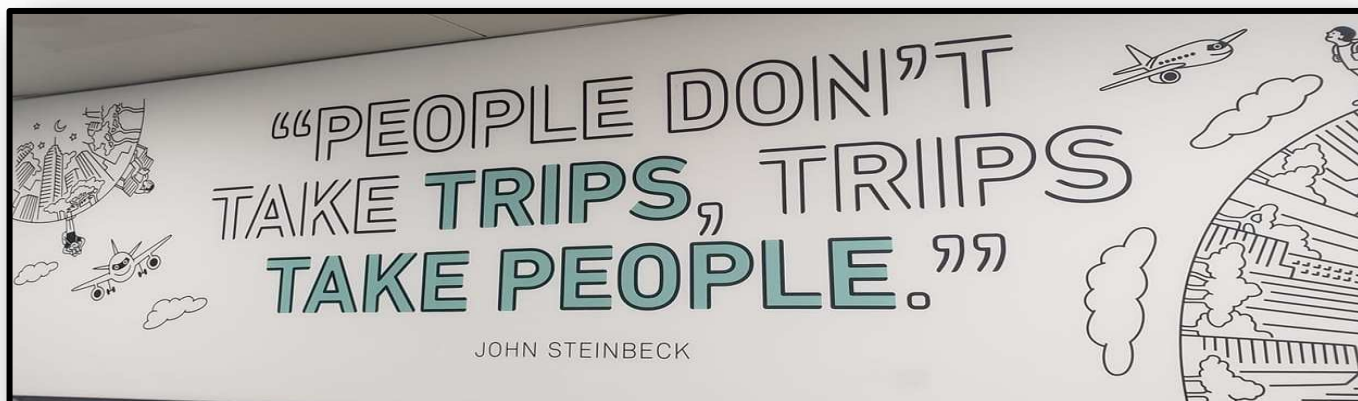


# AIRPORT SIGHTINGS



Friday, 20 December 2019 | NMIAirport , Kingston

Loud cheers, screams and congratulations greeted **Miss World 2019, Toni-Ann Singh**, at the Norman Manley International Airport (NMIA) / Kingston. Singh was crowned on December 14th in London, England, becoming the fourth Jamaican to win the 69-year-old competition.







**Audley H. Deidrick**  
**PRESIDENT, Airports Authority of Jamaica**

The reflective nature of the Holiday Season; the close of a remarkable decade and year, and the symbolism of the fast approaching New Year have provided me the perfect opportunity to pause and recognize our achievements as an organization, while embracing the future with even greater expectations.

The year 2019 can be characterized as one, when it all happened, a year of major accomplishments and change!

- ⇒ Firstly, the two scheduled gateways Sangster International Airport (SIA) and Norman Manley International Airport (NMIA) completed their second regulatory quinquennial aeronautical rate review, following the first review which was done in 2015 for a 12-year period.
- ⇒ Secondly, after several false starts at obtaining airport certification in safety and security for NMIA, since this requirement was mandated by the ICAO in 2003, certification was finally achieved in October 2019.

⇒ Thirdly, the Airports Authority of Jamaica (AAJ) marked its 45th anniversary, showing no signs of wrinkling but rather an impressive record of performance and renewed purpose in forging ahead with the broad scale development of the national airport system. Furthermore, with the successful execution of the Public Private Partnership (PPP) of two of the island's airport, AAJ has uniquely positioned Jamaica as the regional leader and reference point for PPP models which is now the preferred method worldwide to unlocking private investment for optimal operational levels of vital national infrastructure assets.

⇒ Fourthly, after over 10 years of embarking on the mission to privatize NMIA in similar fashion to SIA, that transaction was successfully completed in October 2019, with the Mexican airport company Grupo Aeroportuario Del Pacifico (GAP) through PAC Kingston Airport Limited (PACKAL) now operating NMIA. The smooth handover belies the rigorous process (simultaneous maneuvering of numerous preconditions to be satisfied, legislative and ministerial orders that impact the operation of the NMIA/AAJ, joint agreement executions, capital works continuation, organizational de-merger and restructuring, redundancy - to name a few) that preceded, which could be likened to the surgical diligence reserved for the separation of Siamese twins.

⇒ Fifthly, after another round of infrastructure improvements at the Ian Fleming International Airport (IFIA) and the three Domestic Aerodromes (Tinson Pen, Ken Jones, and Negril), scheduled domestic service was reintroduced in ALL our airports via JamAir in July 2019.

⇒ Finally, turning to the Sangster International Airport (SIA), they copped their 11th successive award as Leading Caribbean Airport awarded by the prestigious World Travel Awards. This was supported by major refurbishments of their ticketing concourse, taxi-way and

⇒ apron rehabilitation, and immigration ABM kiosks added in the arrivals concourse to improve processing time and reduce congestion. To top things off, ground was broken on December 12, 2019 for the Phase 3 (Runway Extension) programme to commence. **WE DID IT! YES, WE DID IT ALL TOGETHER!**

With both major airports now privatized, the AAJ has completely revamped the organization structure and processes to better represent the new roles and function of the organization going forward. This year therefore represents an epoch changing period in the life of the organization. It also represents a platform from which to chart new courses for the future and to take Jamaica's aviation to new horizons.

Our organization's achievements over the past year would not have been possible without the support and direction of our Minister and the leadership at the Ministry of Transport & Mining, and our Boards of Directors, so to them we extend sincere gratitude.

We also wish to specially recognize the contribution of our airport stakeholders to our achievements viz: the airlines, concessionaires, Jamaica Civil Aviation Authority, Passport Immigration and Citizenship Agency, Jamaica Customs, Port Security Corps, Jamaica Defence Force, Jamaica Constabulary Force, and of course the other Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) that have provided valuable services to the organization and our airports.

As we are still in the Yuletide Season, let me use this occasion to extend best wishes to you and your families for a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous 2020 and beyond!





**AIRPORTS AUTHORITY  
OF JAMAICA**

# JAMAICA'S AIRPORTS

**THINKING DEVELOPMENT...  
MOVING AHEAD**

*Safety, security and comfort remain the Airports Authority of Jamaica's core values and the continuous upgrades across the airports are channeled in these directions.*



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**AIRPORTS AUTHORITY  
OF JAMAICA**

*Happy  
New Year!*  
**2020**

*from your friends at*  
**AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF JAMAICA**

