



20 January 2021

The Hon. Michael McCormack MP
Deputy Prime Minister of Australia
Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development
PO Box 6022, House of Representatives
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Continuing financial support for Australia's aviation industry

Dear Deputy Prime Minister,

The representatives of Australia's airline and airport sectors are writing to you today to call upon the Australian Government for an extension of critical financial support for the aviation industry as it continues to feel the effects of the global COVID-19 pandemic.

As you know, the aviation industry was among the first sectors of the economy exposed to the pandemic and has been one of the hardest hit. Throughout the pandemic, the industry has continued to provide an essential transport service to Australia's governments and people. The financial support mechanisms the Federal Government put in place have been an essential part of maintaining these services. The continuing sporadic outbreaks of community transmission in Australia combined with consequent state border restrictions means aviation will be among the last sectors to recover. The border closures have had a devastating effect on the confidence of the travelling public and resulted in large scale changes or cancellations of travel plans.

Our organisations urge the government to continue to provide funding to the existing demand-driven Regional Aviation Network Support (RANS), Domestic Aviation Network Support (DANS), Australian Aviation Financial Relief Package (AAFRP) in-full and Domestic Security Charges Rebate programs for another six months. With the very real prospect of international travel being pushed back to 2022, ensuring a strong domestic recovery for our aviation and tourism sectors is crucial.

An additional six months of these relief measures would ensure a sustainable, demand-driven safety net for the aviation industry during the critical first months of the national COVID-19 vaccination program. It will also ensure the aviation industry can better support the Australian economy as it moves toward a state of COVID-normality.

Yours Sincerely,



James Goodwin
Chief Executive
AAA



Dr Alison Roberts
Chief Executive
A4ANZ



Steve Campbell
Chief Executive
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