

15 June 2009

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Mr Michael Bird Executive Director International Air Services Commission GPO Box 630 CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Bird

## Application for Variation – United Kingdom and Thailand routes

Qantas is seeking variations of capacity allocations on the United Kingdom (UK) and Thailand routes to enable Iberia to code share on Qantas operated services between Australia and the UK.

It is planned that the new code share arrangements will commence from 15 July 2009, or as soon as all the necessary approvals have been received.

The services will be operated pursuant to the code share agreement between Qantas and Iberia. A signed copy of the agreement will be provided to the Commission as soon as it is available, and prior to the commencement of the code share services.

## **Variations Sought**

Qantas requests variations to the following Determinations:

- Determination 110/2006 which allocates seven frequencies per week for passenger services on the Thailand route; and
- Determination 105/2006 which allocates unlimited capacity for passenger services on the UK route.

The variations are requested for the duration of the Determinations.



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## **IASC Act and Policy Statement Considerations**

This application should be considered against the general criteria for assessing the benefit to the public in paragraph 4 of the Minister's Policy Statement. These criteria state that the use of entitlements by an Australian carrier under a bilateral arrangement is of benefit to the public, provided that it is reasonably capable of obtaining the necessary approvals and implementing the proposal.

We would be pleased to provide any further information the Commission may require in support of this application.

Yours sincerely

Jane McKern

Jane McKeon
Head of Government and International Relations