



Australian Government

International Air Services Commission

RESOLUTION

Resolution: [2021] IASC R06
Determination: [2019] IASC 119
The Route: Japan
The Applicant: Virgin Australia International Airlines Pty Ltd
(ABN 63 125 580 823)
Public register file: IASC/APP/202133

On 28 October 2019, the International Air Services Commission (the Commission) issued Determination [2019] IASC 119 (the Determination) allocating one frequency per day in each direction to Virgin Australia International Airlines Pty Ltd (Virgin Australia) on the Japan route to service Tokyo-Haneda Airport. The Determination includes several conditions including the requirement for the capacity to be utilised from no later than 29 March 2020 or from such other date approved by the Commission.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic impacts, including travel restrictions put in place by the Australian Government in March 2020, Virgin Australia was not able to commence the new services to and from Tokyo-Haneda as originally planned. In light of this, upon the request of Virgin Australia, the Commission issued Resolutions [2020] IASC R02 (17 April 2020); [2020] IASC R04 (19 June 2020); [2020] IASC R09 (7 December 2020), and [2021] IASC R03 (06 April 2021) extending the date of commencement of use of the capacity by Virgin Australia.

On 29 October 2021, Virgin Australia wrote to the Commission seeking a further extension of the date for utilisation of the capacity until the end of the Northern Summer 2022 scheduling season.

Virgin Australia indicated in its application that it would resume short and long-haul international services in accordance with government and health advice, as well as the return of consumer demand.

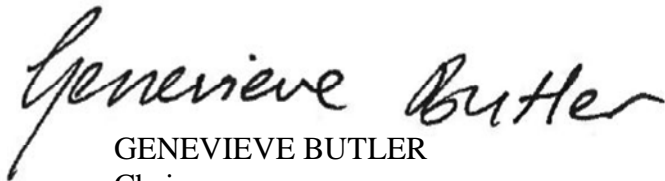
Virgin Australia had indicated previously its strong desire to ‘retain the ability to utilise the capacity to ensure Australians have a choice and that Australian airlines are responsive to the needs of consumers’.

The Commission recognises that the COVID-19 pandemic and associated travel restrictions imposed by various countries has seriously disrupted the international operations of airlines and global competition worldwide.

In light of these extraordinary circumstances, the Commission issues Resolution [2021] IASC R06 to provide that the capacity issued under Determination [2019] IASC 119 is to be utilised from no later than 30 October 2022, or such other date approved by the Commission.

The Commission will continue to monitor the airline's ability to fully utilise the capacity on the route.

Dated: 4 November 2021

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Genevieve Butler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

GENEVIEVE BUTLER
Chairperson

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jane McKeon". The signature is more formal and blocky than the one to its left.

JANE MCKEON
Commissioner