

RESOLUTION

PARLIAMENT

WHEREAS the Grantley Adams International Airport is in need of investment having not had major capital investment for a period of two decades;

AND WHEREAS during the COVID19 pandemic, the Airport moved from a position of profit to one significant loss having seen a cessation of commercial traffic;

AND WHEREAS during the period of cessation of commercial traffic the Grantley Adams International Airport retained its entire staff complement;

AND WHEREAS airports which play a pivotal role in all economies, have to remain relevant, competitive, appealing and financially successful in order to fully play their crucial role in contributing to continued economic and social growth and development;

AND WHEREAS a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) dated 18th July, 2023 for a Public-Private Partnership was signed between the Grantley Adams International Airport Inc. (GAIA Inc.) and the Office of H. H. Sheikh Ahmed Dalmook Al Maktoum, an entity registered and incorporated in the United Arab Emirates and Agencias Universales S.A., a company incorporated in Chile, for the modernisation, expansion, upgrading and management of the GAIA;

AND WHEREAS on the 21st July, 2023 the Hon. Minister of Tourism and International Transport made and laid a Statement in the Honourable the House of Assembly concerning the history leading to the said MOU and the terms and conditions thereof;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Honourable House:

1. Takes notice and supports the said Statement of the Honourable Minister of Tourism and International Transport on the said MOU and its contents;
2. Recognises and supports the commitment of the Government of Barbados to repositioning Barbados in the global aviation industry and redefining its role as a regional hub and as a beacon of excellence for travelers and cargo in the Americas; and
3. Supports the Government's pledge to broaden economic enfranchisement and contribute to the expansion of opportunities for the workers of Barbados and the creation of wealth for them.

APPROVED by the House of Assembly this day of July, 2023.

SPEAKER