

## Virgin Australia International Airlines Pty Ltd Virgin Australia Airlines (SE Asia) Pty Ltd

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Ms Marlene Tucker Executive Director International Air Services Commission PO Box 630 CANBERRA ACT 2601

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Dear Ms Tucker

## Application for capacity allocation – Italy route

Virgin Australia International Airlines Pty Ltd (Virgin Australia) wishes to apply for an allocation of third country code share capacity on the Italy route. This capacity will be used for code share services on flights operated by Singapore Airlines on the Australia – Singapore – Italy vv route and Etihad Airways on the Australia – Abu Dhabi – Italy vv route.

We note that the Commission already holds copies of each of Virgin Australia's confidential code share agreements with Singapore Airlines and Etihad Airways.

## Allocation sought on the Italy route

Virgin Australia is seeking an allocation of 300 third country code share seats per week on the Italy route, on the basis that:

- the capacity will be utilised by Virgin Australia or one of its wholly-owned subsidiaries;
- the capacity will be utilised for joint services with Singapore Airlines and Etihad Airways;
- the allocation is granted for a period of five years from the date of the determination; and
- the allocation will be fully utilised by 31 July 2018.

## IASC Act and Policy Statement Considerations

We request that the Commission consider this application against the general criteria for assessing the benefit to the public in Paragraph 4 of the Minister's Policy Statement.

The Paragraph 4 criteria provide that the use of entitlements by an Australian carrier under a bilateral air services agreement is of benefit to the public, provided that the carrier is reasonably capable of obtaining the necessary approvals and implementing the proposal.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me on (02) 8093 7114.

Yours sincerely

Lee-Anne Tomkins Head of Government and International Relations