

# **ASSURANCE STATEMENT**

# SGS' REPORT ON SUSTAINABILITY ACTIVITIES IN THE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY REPORT OF AIR CHAIN LIMITED FOR 2020

# NATURE AND SCOPE OF THE ASSURANCE/VERIFICATION

SGS-CSTC Standards Technical Services Co., Ltd. (hereinafter as "SGS") was commissioned by Air China Limited (hereinafter as "Air China") to conduct an independent assurance of the 2020 Social Responsibility Report of Air China Limited (hereinafter referred to as "the Report"). The scope of the assurance, based on the SGS Sustainability Report Assurance methodology, included the text, and data in accompanying tables, contained in this report of Air China. Other disclosed data and information are not within the scope of assurance. We conducted onsite assurance for the (Group-level) data and information provided by Air China Limited located in 30 Tianzhu Road, Airport Industrial Zone, Shunyi District, Beijing, China.

The information in the Report of is the sole responsibility of its management and relevant functional departments. SGS did not involve in the preparation for 2020 Social Responsibility Report of Air China.

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the text, data, graphs and statements within the scope of verification with the intention to inform all Air China's stakeholders.

The SGS protocols are based upon internationally recognized guidance, including the Principles contained within the GRI STANDARDS for accuracy and reliability and the guidance on levels of assurance contained within the AA1000 series of standards and guidance for Assurance Providers.

The report has been assured at a moderate level of scrutiny using our protocols for:

- evaluation of content veracity;
- evaluation of the report against the core option of GRI STANDARDS

The assurance comprised a combination of pre-assurance research, interviews with relevant employees; documentation and record review and validation with external bodies and/or stakeholders where relevant.

Financial data drawn directly from independently audited financial accounts has not been checked back to source as part of this assurance process.

# STATEMENT OF INDEPENDENCE AND COMPETENCE

The SGS Group of companies is the world leader in inspection, testing and verification with a global service network. SGS affirms our independence from Air China, being free from bias and conflicts of interest with the organisation, its subsidiaries and stakeholders.

The assurance team was assembled based on their knowledge, experience and qualifications for this assignment, and comprised of CSR Lead Assuror, CCAA Registered ISO 9001 auditor, ISO 14001 auditor, ISO 45001 auditor and ISO 50001 Verifier.

#### **VERIFICATION/ ASSURANCE OPINION**

On the basis of the methodology described and the verification work performed, we are satisfied that the information and data contained within the Report verified is accurate, reliable and provides a fair and balanced representation of Air China's sustainability activities in 2020.

The assurance team is of the opinion that the Report can be used by the Reporting Organisation's Stakeholders.

We believe that the organisation has chosen an appropriate option for the reporting.

## **GRI STANDARDS CONCLUSIONS, FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

In our opinion the Report is presented in accordance with the core option for GRI STANDARDS and fulfills all the required content and quality criteria.

#### **PRINCIPLES**

# Stakeholder Engagement

Air China has identified stakeholders related to its own activities, taken into account the reasonable expectations and interests of stakeholders, and established participation channels and platforms for stakeholders, and adopted certain methods to communicate and exchange with stakeholders. SGS recommends that Air China enrich the ways in which stakeholders participate in order to further identify the expectations of stakeholders.

# **Sustainability Context**

Air China demonstrated its efforts in sustainable development from economic, environmental and social aspects, and demonstrated these performances in combination with the background of sustainable development.

#### Materiality

Air China focuses on issues based on the interests of stakeholders, which is a reflection of the important impact it has on the economy, environment and society, and reasonably discloses important issues and indicators that have a substantial impact on evaluation and decision-making of stakeholders.

# Completeness

Air China's report covers identifiable concrete aspects and their boundaries, reflecting the important impact on the economy, environment and society, so that stakeholders can evaluate the performance of Air China during the reporting period. SGS recommends that Air China further enrich the relevant information of its subsidiaries.

#### **Balance**

Air China's report basically complies with the principle of balance, and truthfully discloses positive and non-positive information.

# Comparability

Air China's report discloses the relevant performance indicators of Air China Limited in 2020. The key performance table discloses three years of data for their important performance indicators, which enable stakeholders to visually compare and understand their sustainable development performance.

# Accuracy

Air China's report contains accurate information, which can publicly disclose qualitative and quantitative information about a number of performance indicators to stakeholders.

#### **Timeliness**

Our verification shows that the reported data and information are timely and effective of the indicated reporting cycle. Air China publishes social responsibility reports on time every year, and is very punctual overall

# Clarity

The report uses a variety of expressions such as text descriptions, data tables, graphics, and photos, combined with case analysis and narratives, to make it easy for stakeholders to understand.

## Reliability

Air China collated all of the social responsibility reports, collections, and records and analyzed the information and data in the report in a timely manner. The information and data disclosed in the report are true and reliable.

#### **Management Approach**

The Air China report discloses management methods for selected special topics.

#### **General Disclosure**

The general disclosure of Air China meets the requirements of the GRI standards core plan.

# **Topic-Specific Disclosures**

Air China discloses Topic-Specific topics related to the identified important economic, environmental and social substantive issues in accordance with the requirements of the GRI standards core plan.

# **Findings and Recommendations**

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The good practices found in the verification process, the sustainability report and the recommendations in the management process are described in the internal management report of the sustainability report verification and submitted to the relevant management departments of Air China for reference for continuous improvement.

## Limitations of assurance

The limitation of this verification is that only the corresponding data and information at the headquarters level of Air China Limited were traced to the source.

# Signature:

On behalf of SGS-CSTC Standards Technical Services Co., Ltd.

**David Xin** 

Director, Knowledge

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