



September 30th, 2020

For immediate release:

PRESS RELEASE

BELIZE AND THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) SIGN AIR SERVICES AGREEMENT

The Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation is pleased to inform that on September 28, 2020, in Belize City, Belize, Hon. Manuel Heredia, Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation of Belize, signed an **AIR SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN)**. Earlier in the day, Minister of Transportation and Communications for the Republic of China (Taiwan), Hon. Dr. Lin, Chia-lung, signed the agreement in Taipei, Taiwan on behalf of the Republic of China (Taiwan). His Excellency Remus Li-Kuo Chen, Ambassador for the Republic of China (Taiwan), was present at the Laing Building in Belize City to witness Belize's signature to the Agreement.

The negotiations of this Agreement, by both countries' Civil Aviation authorities commenced in 2019 and was completed in February of 2020, as a part of a series of bilateral initiatives to commemorate the 30th Anniversary of diplomatic ties between Belize and Taiwan. This Agreement is signed with the objective of strategically expanding each country's air connectivity and to consolidate a mutual beneficial partnership in aviation, travel and trade between Belize and Taiwan.

Over the past 10 years Belize has seen a 60 percent growth of its regional and international air connectivity, which has been one of the central factors to the unequivocal growth of its tourism sector. Undoubtedly, this Administration's aggressive program to boost air connectivity will be a defining factor in the Post COVID-19 recovery process. To date, Belize has signed a number of similar arrangements with countries including the United States of America, Malaysia, Singapore, the United Arab Emirates, and Honduras.

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