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# Najib: MAB to be profitable by 2018

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**KUALA LUMPUR:** Malaysia Airlines Bhd (MAB) is expected to see strong revenue growth and be profitable by 2018.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak, who is also finance minister, said the strategies executed under the MAS Recovery Plan (PPM) would help MAB record an improved performance in two years' time.

"Since beginning its operations on Sept 1 last year, MAB has registered positive growth in line with PPM's goals, and will continue to focus on various initiatives to help the company recover."

Among the initiatives implemented to reduce operation cost are suspending non-profitable routes and establishing a strategic partnership with Emirates Airlines.

"Code-sharing will open access to Emirates Airlines' wide network of routes, which includes 30 countries in North America, South America and Africa."

MAB, he said, had achieved a respectable on-time performance rate of 95 per cent for domestic take-offs and landings.

MAB has seen steady progress towards sustained profitability since its incorporation in 2014.

PPM covers 12 primary areas, including operation and financial framework, business operation model, leadership, human capital, and regulatory and enabling environment.

Najib said MAB would start offering fully lie-flat seats for Business Class on A330-300 aircraft.

"All 15 aircraft of this type will be equipped with the new configuration and this is expected to be completed in August."