

**Airasia Flight Operations To Remain At LCCT After May 9**  
**Bernama**  
**1 Apr, 2014**

KUALA LUMPUR, April 1 (Bernama) -- All AirAsia and AirAsia X operations will still be based at the current Low-Cost Carrier Terminal (LCCT) even after May 9, 2014, said said AirAsia Bhd Chief Executive Officer, Aireen Omar.

In a statement Tuesday, she said although AirAsia was prepared to move to Kuala Lumpur International Airport 2 (klia2), the transfer would only be carried out after all the issues were addressed.

Aireen said this in response to the announcement by Deputy Transport Minister Datuk Abdul Aziz Kaprawi that the LCCT will be closed by May 9, 2014 to facilitate the opening of the klia2.

She said the recent Ikram Premier Consultings' findings on the readiness of klia2 revealed that there were depressions on the taxiway/apron and runway which would necessitate periodic remedial measures to be undertaken on relevant areas.

"This will prove to be operationally disruptive to a hub airline such as AirAsia group which has about 400 aircraft movements in a day and at least 70 aircraft in its fleet in LCCT," she said.

Aireen said it was crucial to ensure that remedial steps were undertaken prior to a transfer, which would mitigate risks relating to any potential aviation incidents.

"AirAsia also believes that the operational readiness and airport transfer (ORAT) period for a transfer to support the size of AirAsia's operations would substantially be more than the two months prescribed by Malaysia Airports Holdings Bhd (MAHB), which in our opinion is unrealistic and overly-optimistic," she said.

She said the ORAT for the transfer from KLIA main terminal to LCCT in 2006 took longer than two months when AirAsia's operations were significantly smaller.

"In addition, there are other key commercial, operational and contractual open items which are still undergoing discussions between AirAsia and MAHB which need to be resolved prior the transfer to klia2," she said.

-- BERNAMA

Copyright © 2014 BERNAMA

Source: <http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v7/newsindex.php?id=1026948>