New Aviation Strategy to grow local industry

The Northern Territory Government’s vision for the aviation industry will deliver increased accessibility, with airlines offering 24 hour services; and three services from most Australian capital cities throughout the day to Darwin by 2030.

Tourism Minister, Malarndirri McCarthy today launched the five-year road map to help boost tourism, business and aviation services in Darwin, Alice Springs and remote towns and communities.

“Aviation is a key priority of the Territory Government and we have worked hard with key partners and stakeholders for some time to develop this comprehensive five year strategy,” said Ms McCarthy.

“Aviation Futures 2015 is the blueprint to increase and sustain air services to the Northern Territory so that Territorians have increased choices and more affordable options available to them.

“It is a whole of government approach and is designed so that tourism, business and trade opportunities are maximised and the capability of the aviation industry in the Northern Territory achieves sustainable growth.

“This strategy also aligns with the Territory Government’s Territory 2030 which has clear targets including a 50 percent increase in passenger traffic to Darwin by 2014, and a 20 percent increase to Alice Springs.

“Aviation Futures also acknowledges the commercial reality that the global airline industry is volatile and operates in a highly competitive and commercial environment: airlines only operate if routes are profitable.”

The Northern Territory Government’s key priorities for the next five years are:
• Expand Darwin International Aviation Hub
• Attract a full-service international airline
- Develop regular international services or strategic charter programs to Alice Springs and Yulara
- Develop domestic linkages and improved air services to and from Alice Springs, Yulara and Darwin
- Develop a complementary strategy on transport requirements within the NT – addressing regional airport infrastructure and development of air services to regional and remote centres – Tennant Creek and Katherine - leveraging the Integrated Regional Transport strategy
- Assist aviation industry development strategies – Territory 2030 and Working Futures programs
- Work with the Australian Government to minimise cost of providing aviation security at Darwin and Alice Springs airports

The Aviation Futures 2015:

**Media Contact:** Ursula Raymond 0457 825 507