12.7 Proposed Mitigation Measures

12.7.1 Re-instatement of the Sung Wong Toi Inscription Rock

12.7.1.1 The current layout plan reserves a district open area in Area 2H for re-instatement of the Sung Wong Toi Inscription Rock. A small artificial hill is recommended to be erected on the site of the original Sacred Hill (see Drawing No. 22936/EN/001), and that the remains of the Sung Wong Toi rock be removed from their present unworthy setting, and placed on the summit of the hill, on its original site, the hill to be designed to reflect the importance and solemnity of the site and its historical associations.

12.7.1.2 To provide for a suitable setting for the re-provided Sung Wong Toi rock and hill, it is recommended that a suitable public park be provided around the artificial hill erected for the Sung Wong Toi rock. To reflect the importance and solemnity of the site and its historical associations, it is also recommended that this park be designed and built to the highest standards.

12.7.1.3 Since the position of the Sung Wong Toi is of historical significance to a large degree because of its unobstructed view through to the sea, the re-sited Sung Wong Toi Rock should be so placed that it would enjoy an uninterrupted sight-line to the sea. The current layout plan in fact maintains an uninterrupted sight-line through the Lei Yue Mun Channel from the re-erected Sung Wong Toi site to the open sea.

12.7.1.4 During the detailed design stage of the district open area in Area 2H, the details of the proposed artificial hill to be erected on the site of the Sacred Hill and the proposed relocation of the Sung Wong Toi Inscription Rock including an action plan should be submitted to EPD and the Antiquities and Monuments Office well in advance for their review and comment.

12.7.2 Provision of Sensitive Linkage to Fishtail Rock

12.7.2.1 The Fishtail Rock is of great historic and cultural heritage value. According to the detailed mapping of Kowloon in 1863, this was originally a tiny island called Shek-pai within To Kwa Wan Bay (see Drawing No. 22936/EN/001). It comprises a huge and dramatically shaped rock, which looks like the tail of a giant fish diving into the sea. The rock has been worshipped by the local boat people for many generations. There was a Hoi Sham Lung Mu Temple [other name of the temple was called Hoi Sham Miu (which means a temple at the central of the sea) by the local resident] at the foot of the rock: this is shown by a watercolour painting of the bay of 1840s and in a map of 1924.

12.7.2.2 The rock was joined to the land in a reclamation of 1960s. The Hoi Sham Lung Mu Temple was destroyed at that date (apparently in the mistaken belief that it was a recently erected squatter structure). A pedestrian and poorly-designed piece of open space was built around the rock then. The view of the rock from the sea was preserved, however, in this development. The rock represents the way of life and culture of the boat-people in the Kowloon Bay area.

12.7.2.3 The rock is now located at the southeastern edge of existing Hoi Sham Park in Area 3Y of the current SEKD layout plan. In order to retain the historical significance of the Fishtail Rock, a view corridor is incorporated into the current layout plan to provide an unobstructed view from the Fishtail Rock to the Victoria Harbour. Besides, pedestrian linkage between the park and
the New Development Area of SEKD will also be planned to make this heritage site more effective than it is now.

12.7.3 Preservation of the Former Far East Flying Training School

12.7.3.1 The existing buildings of the former Far East Flying Training School at the Hong Kong Aviation Club were only built in 1958, but they are the only reminder of the training school which had played an important role in both civil and military aviation development history in the region for nearly fifty years. The former school site of 1958 also remarks the post war development of Kai Tak Airport. As such, the buildings of the former Far East Flying School at Sung Wong Toi Road are of historical importance. It is therefore proposed to retain and to relocate those buildings to the tourist node of SEKD.

12.7.4 Other Recommendations

12.7.4.1 It is recommended to carry out detailed cartographic and photographic recordings for other post war buildings and structures within Kai Tak Airport, such as the Passenger Terminal Building, the freight and engineering buildings and the small Fire Station Building before the commencement of any demolition works. The recordings should be conducted by the project proponents of relevant projects to the satisfaction of EPD and the Antiquities and Monuments Office.

12.7.4.2 It is also suggested to salvage and reuse the cultural relics of the old airport like the remaining windsock post at the western end of the runway as landscape features in the future Promenade Open Space to remark the original location of Kai Tak airport. The archaeological remains identified in the proposed archaeological site investigation discussed in Section 12.8 below, such as old granite blocks of the enclosing walls of the former Kowloon Walled City, should also be salvaged and could be relocated in the future Open Space and Metropolitan Park.

12.8 Proposal on Archaeological Site Investigation

12.8.1 Land Archaeological Site Investigation

12.8.1.1 Subsequent to a recent discussion with the Antiquities and Monuments Office, an archaeological site investigation has been arranged. The archaeological site investigation includes two trial trenches near the eastern corner of the north apron area surrounded by Olympic Avenue and Sung Wong Toi Road, to investigate the area at the foot of the Sacred Hill which once stood on this site. The report made by Walter Scholfield following visits to the site during the years 1918 and 1937 indicated that there were pre-Han wares and Tang-Song deposits on the shore here before development. The opportunity could be taken to investigate the site of Ma Tau Chung Village as well. The depth of the trial trenches would be down to the original ground level which would be about 10 feet below existing ground level. Excavation would be by mechanical excavator, subject to a watching brief by the archaeologists and agreed by the Antiquities and Monuments Office, and to hand-archaeology when the appropriate levels were reached.

12.8.1.2 Besides, archaeological site investigation would be required prior to any construction work carried out on the site of the old Lung Tsun Pier and along the 1943 coastline to determine the existence of the Kowloon City Public Pier and the rock from the Kowloon Walled City underneath the NAKTA area. Should any site of cultural heritage importance be identified in the archaeological site investigation, any recommended mitigation measures such as preservation in situ or rescue excavation should be required prior to the construction of the proposed development at NAKTA area.