



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **AIRASIA WORLD CHAMPIONS FOR NINTH TIME AT SKYTRAX**

**PARIS, 20 June 2017** - AirAsia is the **World's Best Low-Cost Airline** for the ninth year in a row.

Asia's largest low-cost carrier won the accolades at the 2017 Skytrax World Airline Awards in the Musée de l'Air et de l'Espace at Le Bourget Airport here today.

AirAsia Group Cabin Crew Head Suhaila Hassan, who has been with the company for 20 years, accepted the award, flanked by AirAsia ambassador David Foster and Brazilian football player Roberto Carlos.

Foster is a world-renowned Canadian producer, musician, songwriter and composer who has won 16 Grammy Awards from 47 nominations over the span of almost four decades, while Carlos is a famed left-back who helped Real Madrid win four Spanish La Liga titles and was part of Brazil's 2002 World Cup winning team.

Dubbed the "Oscars of the Aviation Industry", the Skytrax Awards are the global benchmark of airline excellence with over 19.9 million customer surveys completed worldwide by more than 105 nationalities, measuring standards across 49 key performance indicators of an airline's frontline products and services.

On this behalf, Mr. Tassapon Bijleveld, CEO of Thai AirAsia and Mr. Nadda Buranasiri, CEO of Thai AirAsia X also presented the event to witness this honorable occasion.

**AirAsia Group CEO Tony Fernandes** said, "Today, Asean has created a world record. We are now nine times world champion. To put it into perspective, Brazil won the FIFA World Cup five times, Michael Jordan was NBA champion six times and Michael Phelps holds the record for most first place finishes at a single Olympics with eight gold medals.

"We take the world champion title seriously and we will strive to continue to improve for both our guests and shareholders. Over the last 15 years we have created a great brand and over the next 15, we want to move towards One AirAsia, a truly Asean community airline. We also want to recreate ourselves as a digital airline and use technology to drive more value.

"We are humbled for the support shown by our valued guests and we thank them for voting for us nine times in a row. We asked David and Roberto to accept this award with Suhaila to inspire our staff to emulate these two amazing gentleman in music and sports to be world champion and be the very best in all they do."

**AirAsia Group Cabin Crew Head Suhaila Hassan** said, "What an amazing honour to be given the opportunity to accept this award on behalf of AirAsia and my fellow Allstars. They are the real champions. It's been an incredible 20 years, being part of AirAsia's journey from a domestic Malaysian



airline to the world's best. We have a great team fueled by passion, hard work and dedication, and I have no doubt we will continue to live up to our reputation as the world's number one LCC as we expand to China, Vietnam and beyond."

\*\*END\*\*

**PHOTO CAPTION:**

(Middle L-R) AirAsia ambassador David Foster, AirAsia Group Cabin Crew Head Suhaila Hassan, and Brazilian football player Roberto Carlos along with AirAsia cabin crew at the 2017 Skytrax World Airline Awards where AirAsia was crowned the World's Best Low-Cost Airline for the ninth year in a row.

**About AirAsia**

AirAsia, the leading and largest low-cost carrier in Asia by passengers carried, services an extensive network of more than 120 destinations. Since starting operations in 2001, AirAsia has carried more than 400 million guests and grown its fleet from just two aircraft to over 200. The airline is proud to be a truly Asean (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) airline with established operations based in Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines as well as India and Japan, servicing a network stretching across Asia, Australia and New Zealand, the Middle East and the US. AirAsia has been named the World's Best Low-Cost Airline at the annual Skytrax World Airline Awards nine times in a row from 2009 to 2017. AirAsia was also awarded World's Leading Low-Cost Airline for the fourth consecutive year at the 2016 World Travel Awards, where it beat a field of full-service carriers to become the first ever low-cost carrier to win World's Leading Inflight Service.

**For media enquiries, please contact:**

Nuttawut Jitardharn

Corporate Communications [nuttawutj@airasia.com](mailto:nuttawutj@airasia.com)