



SPEECH

Speech on the occasion of the inaugural flight of Condor

By Minister Zita Jesus-Leito

On the 7nd of November 2018

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen,

It is with great pleasure and an honor to be here today in addressing a few words to you at this wonderful event, the inaugural flight of Condor.

More than anything else, please allow me to start by extending a heartfelt warm welcome to Condor on its first touchdown on the soil of Curaçao.

This all started to take form back in September with the signing of the protocol and the conclusion of a new Air Transport Agreement between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Kingdom of the Netherlands in respect of Curaçao. With Condor leading the pack, this agreement led the way to the re-establishment of direct connectivity between Frankfurt, Germany and Curaçao after the final authorization was extended on October 22nd.

The Boeing 767-300 aircraft is a well-known, established and reliable airliner of which Condor has no less than 16 of these. We are delighted that Condor, with its worldwide network, is expanding its attractive range of routes and is now offering direct flights, thus ensuring continuity and comfort to the passengers between Curaçao and Frankfurt and beyond.

With the partnership of Condor and the various tour operators and tourist bureaus, we will now have the ability to bring people from Frankfurt, the surrounding German cities and other European countries **and** with the possibility of further island hopping. By offering Curaçao residents and visitors direct service to another major international hub, Frankfurt, Germany, and of course vice versa, by offering German residents and visitors direct service to the Caribbean, we're growing our international presence and global connectivity. This fits perfectly with our objectives of the Ministry and will certainly lead to success.

This flight is the beginning of what we see translating into a significant increase in stopover European traffic. A much welcome scenario where all three will benefit, Condor, Germany and Curaçao. We are certainly happy with this development and you should be too.

Like the sunny heart once on the tail of Condor aircraft we extend to you a sunny warmhearted Thank You, Danki and let's just say, Welcome Home, Bon Bini and many many happy landings.

Thank you!