

Bali airport to get US\$111.6m upgrade

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Indonesian Vice President Jusuf Kalla said Bali's Ngurah Rai international airport will be expanded under a project to be started in April 2009.

"The expansion project will have to be started not later than April 2009 and the next three months should be used to prepare the tender. The project should be completed within two years' time," Kalla said after a meeting to discuss preparation for the project here Saturday.

The meeting which took place at Ngurah Rai airport was attended by Transportation Minister Jusman Syafil Djamal, Culture and Tourism Minister Jero Wacik, Bali Governor I Made Pangku Pastika and some local officials.

"The budget provided for the construction of international terminal may reach Rp1.2 trillion (US\$111.6 million). If tendered, the bidding price may decline," Kalla said.

Asked about the financier of this project, the vice president said airport management company PT. Angkasa Pura and Bank Mandiri were ready to finance the tender.