

FACILITATION PANEL (FALP)

(Third Meeting, Montreal, 12 to 16 February 2001)

Agenda Item 3: General revision of Annex 9 – Chapters 2 and 3

**REVISION OF ANNEX 9 STANDARDS AND
RECOMMENDED PRACTICES (SARPS) – SECOND PART OF CHAPTER 3**

(Presented by Mr. J. Manning, Australia)

**PROPOSED TEXT
CHAPTER 3. ENTRY AND DEPARTURE REQUIREMENTS
AND PROCEDURES**

Reference

FALP/3-WP/6

I. Entry procedures

1. RECOMMENDED PRACTICE 3.35

1.1 The Australian Customs Service has a facilitation standard of processing 95% of in-bound passengers within 30 minutes of joining the inwards processing queues. Australia's National Facilitation Advisory Committee (NatFAL) regards this goal as meeting the intent behind existing Recommended Practice 6.29 – proposed to be 3.35.

1.2 The requirement in both the existing and proposed provisions to measure performance from disembarkation is considered to be impractical:

- a) the distance of the aircraft from the processing area can vary significantly, depending on the design of the airport, and passengers may also have to be bussed to the terminal in many cases;
- b) it ignores the reality that many airport operators would like incoming passengers to shop before they reach the entry control point; and

- c) it is unrealistic to establish a clearance goal of 45 minutes “regardless of aircraft size and scheduled arrival time” as off schedule arrival of aircraft puts large demands on the infrastructure and resources of airports and it is unreasonable to expect that off schedule arrivals would not have an adverse effect on processing standards, including baggage delivery.

2. **PROPOSAL**

2.1 The processing standard set for the Australian Customs Service has encouraged a significant improvement in processing in-bound passengers. It has provided a focus for Airport Facilitation Committees to work closely together to identify and solve problems and most major airports in Australia now easily meet the standard – and instances where the standard is not met are subject to review and discussion at the National Facilitation Committee.

2.2 The Panel might consider adopting the approach followed successfully in Australia and the Recommended Practice might, therefore, read:

*“3.35 **Recommended Practice.**– Contracting States, in cooperation with operators and airport authorities, should establish as a goal the clearance of 95% of all passengers requiring not more than the normal inspection within 45 minutes of joining the inwards processing queues.”*

S E N D S