



Treaties Committee approves the formalisation of six Air Services Agreements

The Committee has tabled its Report 133 today, approving six Air Services Agreements and two treaties that relate to the Cape Town Convention on international interests in mobile equipment.

Air Services Agreements contain important provisions on the operation of international airline services country-to-country, including matters such as traffic rights, the capacity of flight routes, tariffs, competition policy and security. The series of six Air Services Agreements approved by the Committee formalise already established, non-Treaty arrangements between Australia and the United States, Japan, Kenya, Sri Lanka and Palau regarding the bilateral operation of commercially scheduled air services.

Treaties Committee chair, the Hon Richard Marles MP, said that “these Agreements have already been in place for a number of years as Memoranda of Understanding and thus the treaties here are providing a more formal and legal foundation to already existing arrangements.”

“The Committee expects that the formalisation of these agreements will benefit Australian travelers and Australian businesses, particularly in the tourism and export industries.”

As the Cape Town Convention on international interests in mobile equipment, the Committee has also approved two treaties intended to address issues of inconsistent security and access to finance for mobile equipment creditors.

“We expect that these treaties will reduce creditor risk through the provision of a securities framework that applies across all parties of the Convention, thus catering for the prompt repossession of aircraft assets by a creditor upon insolvency,” Mr Marles said.

The Committee’s views on all these treaties are covered in Report 133, which is available on the committee’s website:

http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/House_of_Representatives_Committees?url=jsct/reports.htm or by contacting the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4002.

MEDIA CONTACTS

Media contact:	The Hon Richard Marles MP (Haley Bamford)	(03) 9350 5777
Background:	Committee Secretariat	(02) 6277 4002