

# Recommendations

## Recommendation 1

**2.92** The committee recommends that the scope of the *Aviation Transport Security Act 2004* and the *Maritime Transport and Offshore Facilities Security Act 2003* be widened to include serious and organised crime in addition to terrorist activity and unlawful interference.

## Recommendation 2

**3.29** The committee recommends that security at major airports be undertaken by a suitably trained government security force.

## Recommendation 3

**3.52** The committee recommends that joint maritime taskforces, mirroring the functions of the Joint Aviation Investigation Teams and Joint Aviation Intelligence Groups in the maritime sector be established in every state and the Northern Territory. These taskforces should include officers of the Australian Federal Police, state or territory police, the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service and the Australian Crime Commission.

## Recommendation 4

**3.56** The committee recommends the formation of a Commonwealth maritime crime taskforce that would act as a national Australian Federal Police led 'flying squad', responding to specific intelligence and also conducting randomised audits of maritime and seaport security.

## Recommendation 5

**3.120** The committee recommends that the Attorney-General's Department conduct a review of current information sharing arrangements between law enforcement agencies and private organisations in the aviation and maritime sectors.

## Recommendation 6

**4.17** The committee recommends that the *Crimes (Aviation) Act 1991* be amended so as to create a new offence of deliberately travelling under a false identity.

## Recommendation 7

**4.27** The committee recommends that it be made a legal requirement to provide photo identification confirming passenger identity immediately prior to boarding an aircraft.

## **Recommendation 8**

**4.44** The committee recommends that the Commonwealth Government review the technical and administrative requirements necessary to facilitate the effective sharing of information between airlines and air cargo agents and law enforcement agencies and the Australian Crime Commission Fusion Centre for the purpose of enhancing aviation security and law enforcement activities. The review should include research into technical requirements for such a scheme, the costs involved and any relevant statutory or other barrier to the sharing of such information. The findings of the review should be reported to the Australian Parliament.

## **Recommendation 9**

**4.63** The committee recommends that the Australian Government provide further resources to support an increased presence for currency and illicit drug detection canine units at Australian airports.

## **Recommendation 10**

**4.81** The committee recommends that access to port security areas prescribed under the *Maritime Transport and Offshore Facilities Security Act 2003* should require verification that the Maritime Security Identification Card belongs to the individual seeking access, either through human gate operators, verification by Closed Circuit Television or any other appropriate solution.

## **Recommendation 11**

**4.94** The committee recommends the development of a system that enables the confidential movement and examination of containers that increases the likelihood that trusted insiders involved in serious or organised crime are not alerted to law enforcement agency interest in a container.

## **Recommendation 12**

**4.109** The committee recommends that the Commonwealth government further invest in CCTV at airports and ports, with consideration of a number of ongoing improvements, including:

- that CCTV cameras should be capable of producing footage of evidential quality;
- the continuing lead role of Customs in coordinating the monitoring of CCTV networks; and
- that CCTV networks should be complemented with automated number plate recognition, and/or facial recognition technology.

## **Recommendation 13**

**4.119** The committee recommends that Customs be given the power to revoke a depot, warehouse or broker's license if it determines, on the strength of compelling criminal intelligence, that an individual or individuals are involved or strongly associated with significant criminal activity.

#### **Recommendation 14**

**5.45** The committee recommends that the Attorney-General's Department, in consultation with the Australian Crime Commission, reviews the list of relevant security offences under the ASIC and MSIC schemes to assess whether any further offences are required in order to effectively extend those schemes to protect the aviation and maritime sectors against the threat of infiltration by serious and organised criminal networks.

#### **Recommendation 15**

**5.72** The committee recommends that the Attorney-General's Department arrange for a suitable law enforcement agency to be given the power to revoke an Aviation Security Identification Card or Maritime Security Identification Card if it is determined that a cardholder is not a fit and proper person to hold a card on the basis of compelling criminal intelligence.

#### **Recommendation 16**

**5.76** The committee recommends that the MSIC eligibility criteria be harmonised with that of the ASIC scheme so as to make two or more convictions of an individual for maritime security relevant offences grounds for disqualification if one of those convictions occurred in the 12 months prior to an application, regardless of whether either conviction led to a term of imprisonment.

#### **Recommendation 17**

**5.94** The committee recommends the expansion of the coverage of the ASIC and MSIC schemes to capture a greater part of the overall supply chain, including some or all of the following:

- staff at cargo unpacking and stuff-unstuff facilities;
- transport workers involved in the transmission of cargo between ports, airports and other parts of the logistical chain;
- customs brokers that do not access port facilities; and
- human resource staff and management at companies with employees that currently must hold ASICs or MSICs.

#### **Recommendation 18**

**5.102** The committee recommends that Auscheck and CrimTrac work together to develop a database system that enables continual assessment of a cardholder's criminal record in order to ensure that cardholders are disqualified very soon after being convicted of a relevant security offence.

#### **Recommendation 19**

**5.115** The committee recommends that use of biometric information, particularly fingerprints, to establish a unique identifier for applicants for the purpose of maintaining an accurate database of cardholders.

### **Recommendation 20**

**5.116 The committee recommends that the Australian Government consider the use of biometric information for the purpose of controlling access to security controlled areas in the aviation and maritime sectors.**

### **Recommendation 21**

**5.124 The committee recommends that AusCheck establish memoranda of understanding with the Australian Federal Police and other key law enforcement and intelligence agencies in order to allow the timely provision of information held in the AusCheck database to those agencies.**

### **Recommendation 22**

**5.138 The committee recommends that current ASIC and MSIC issuing bodies are replaced by a single, government-run, centralised issuing body.**