SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION SERVICE

Question No. 101

Senator Xenophon asked the following question at the hearing on 8 February 2010:

Since the Supplementary Budget Estimates on 19 October 2009, what further steps have been taken to fully implement the recommendations in the Wheeler Report?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

Since 19 October 2009 Customs and Border Protection has continued to work progressively towards full implementation of the Wheeler Report recommendations. In particular:

- one hundred percent recording of Customs and Border Protection's CCTV cameras has been completed at Brisbane airport. Completion at Sydney airport is expected by 30 June 2010, and Melbourne completion by November 2010, due to delays caused by commercial redevelopment at Melbourne airport;
- Aviation Transport Security Regulations to effect the training of Customs and Border Protection staff to intervene with individuals suspected of unlawful interference with aviation will be in place by mid 2010; and
- a legislative bid to further strengthen air cargo controls will be advanced in the first half of 2010.