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

Portfolio

Question No. 158

Senator Di Natale asked the following question at the hearing on 16 October 2012:

Regarding flights from airports in Australia to Mozes Kilangin airport in Tembagapura, Indonesia, and from Mozes Kilangin airport to airports in Australia:

- a) What are the visa and customs arrangements?
- b) Is there a list of equipment shipped on these flights? Please provide these lists?

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

a) All international travellers arriving and departing Australia are required to present for border agency clearance at a designated airport. The flights to and from Tembagapura are processed at Cairns International Airport.

Details of all passengers and crew on an international flight are required to be reported before arrival. On arrival to Australia, all travellers are required to present a valid travel document and a completed incoming passenger card. All non-citizens must present a visa that is in effect to meet immigration clearance requirements.

The incoming passenger card includes a customs declaration. Where a declaration has been made the passenger is questioned to determine the action required to be taken as a result of the declaration.

Customs and Border Protection officers may also question and examine the baggage of arriving and departing travellers where a risk is identified to detect breaches of Customs and other Commonwealth legislation, including the importation and exportation of prohibited or restricted goods.

Departing travellers are required to present a valid travel document and a completed Outgoing Passenger Card to meet the clearance requirements for departure.

 b) Goods imported on these flights are generally blood samples and electronic equipment. Goods exported on these flights are machinery parts such as pumps, truck and trailer parts and surveying equipment. To provide detailed lists of all cargo would be an unreasonable use of resources.