

# ASSOCIATION OF ASIA PACIFIC AIRLINES RESOLUTION NO. 9 Series of 2012

## A RESOLUTION ON PASSENGER FACILITATION

The AAPA ASSEMBLY OF PRESIDENTS, in its 56th meeting duly assembled,

### RECOGNISING THAT:

- I. The global airline industry transports almost three billion passengers annually;
- II. Government agencies, including immigration, customs and health departments play a key role in all countries in facilitating the smooth flow of passengers and cargo transported by air;
- III. The mandatory provision of detailed information about passengers in the form of Advance Passenger Information (API) requirements and, in some cases, additional information drawn from the Passenger Name Records (PNR) is now a common requirement of governments around the world;

### NOTING THAT:

- IV. Several governments have introduced more onerous visa and quasi-visa requirements for inbound passengers, including new requirements to obtain preauthorisation before travel even for passengers with visa-free travel status, as well as the imposition of additional fees or taxes on inbound passengers;
- V. Cooperative efforts are being made by the aviation industry and other stakeholders to use new technologies, including biometrics and other machine readable data, to enhance the travel experience and streamline passenger processing;
- VI. The use of flexible, interactive and largely automated passenger pre-clearance systems is a positive attempt to expedite passenger processing;

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VII. Notwithstanding the large volumes of personal information of passengers transmitted to governments well ahead of travel, air travellers too often are faced with lengthy processing times on arrival in airports;

## **BELIEVING THAT:**

VIII. Any government-mandated regulations or measures related to passenger processing must be designed from the outset to be practical, cost effective, efficient and sustainable:

#### **RESOLVES:**

- IX. TO CALL on government agencies to consult widely with the aviation industry in order to strike a better balance between national border control objectives and the need for efficient passenger facilitation; recognising the corresponding impact on the travel and tourism industry and wider economy;
- X. TO CALL on governments to ensure that sufficient resources are allocated towards both inbound and outbound passenger processing at border controls, taking into account the growth in passenger numbers over time;
- XI. TO CALL on governments to continue to work with other aviation stakeholders, including the airline industry, in order to improve passenger facilitation, including the use of new technologies, thereby enhancing the overall travel experience.

APPROVED this 9<sup>th</sup> day of November 2012.

Certified correct:

ANDREW HERÓMAN Director General

Attested by:

AHMAD JAUHARI YAHYA AAPA Chairman – 2012