

Purpose:

This document provides an introductory guide to airlines and aircraft operators who intend to fly into Australian territory. The information contained herein outlines the biosecurity requirements for aircraft clearance in accordance with Australian Government legislation:

- *Biosecurity Act 2015* including all subordinate legislation.

What must be reported?

The operator of an aircraft must report if any of the following circumstances are applicable to the aircraft:

- a. details of any person on board the aircraft who has, or had, signs or symptoms of a listed human disease during the flight;
- b. details of any person on board the aircraft who died during the flight;
- c. if there are animals or plants (or both) in the cabin of the aircraft;
- d. if any animal in the cabin of the aircraft died during the flight;
- e. if the aircraft is an incoming aircraft and the prescribed disinsection measures for the aircraft have not been taken, or will not have been taken, before the aircraft arrives at its first landing place in Australian territory.

In the event that any of the above circumstances are applicable to the aircraft and if the operator of an aircraft cannot make direct contact with the department, he/she must ensure their Ground Handling Agent or the Air Traffic Controller at the relevant airport contacts the department and reports the prescribed information prior to the aircraft's arrival. The operator of an aircraft must also report any changes to the above information.

Where any of the above conditions are reported, all passengers and crew must remain on board the aircraft until approval to disembark is provided by a biosecurity officer.

Non-scheduled flight

The operator of an aircraft on a non-scheduled flight must report the following additional information with exception:

- a. information identifying the aircraft;
- b. the intended first landing place of the aircraft in Australian territory;
- c. the estimated day and time of arrival of the aircraft at the place referred to in paragraph (b);
- d. the name and contact details of:
 - i. the operator of the aircraft; and
 - ii. if the operator is not the owner of the aircraft—the owner of the aircraft;
- e. details about any animals or plants in the cabin of the aircraft.

When must the report be given?

The pre-arrival report must be given:

- a. at the earlier of:
 - i. as close to the top of descent as is operationally practicable before the aircraft is estimated to arrive at its first landing place in Australian territory; and
 - ii. 30 minutes before the aircraft is estimated to come to a standstill after arriving at its first landing place in Australia territory; or
- b. at the time specified by a biosecurity official.

Note: Aircraft on non-scheduled flights may provide the additional information to the department prior to the aircraft's departure from the last port before entering Australian territory.

To whom must the report be given and how?

The pre-arrival report must be made to biosecurity officers located at the intended first landing place (or at the department office responsible for biosecurity clearance at the intended first landing place) either orally or in writing (including electronically).