The European Union and United States Transportation Security Cooperation Group

11th Meeting

JOINT STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

ON

COORDINATION OF EFFORTS TO ENHANCE AIR CARGO SECURITY

BETWEEN THE

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY,
TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AND THE

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR ENERGY AND TRANSPORT
COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

The European Union and the United States have established productive cooperation to ensure the security of air transport. Both the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and the Directorate-General for Energy and Transport (DG-TREN) of the European Commission (the Participants) recognize the development of enhanced air cargo security régimes in each other's territories to provide a high level of security.

Both Participants are continuing to develop security measures and programs to enhance air cargo security, particularly with regard to the screening of cargo transported on passenger aircraft.

In the context of Article 9, paragraph 7, of the U.S.-EU Air Transport Agreement, both Participants are committed to developing compatible practices and standards to enhance civil aviation security and minimize regulatory divergence between the Participants.

The Participants are actively engaged in a reciprocal process to determine the compatibility of the legal requirements of each side with the legal obligations of the other side with respect to air cargo security, while recognizing and preserving the legal obligations of both Participants.

The TSA and DG-TREN see significant value in coordinating air cargo security measures for flights between the two sides.

To this end, TSA and DG-TREN intend to:

- Seek practical solutions for cargo screening while taking into account the legal requirements of both Participants;

- Strive to put in place commensurate systems to ensure the security of at least half the total volume of all cargo transported on passenger flights between their respective territories, by February 2009;

- Diligently work to put in place practical and commensurate systems to ensure the security of the total volume of all cargo to be transported on passenger flights between their respective territories, by the end of the year 2010;

- To continue productive collaboration, including the ongoing exchange of classified technical information, with the aim of developing common technical standards for detection technologies and the rapid introduction of such systems;

- To work expeditiously on air cargo screening procedures, methods, and technologies, and related security measures, with a view to ensuring equivalent overall levels of security in their territories and in relation to all flights between the two sides; and

- Examine the application of new methods and procedures of security control along the air cargo supply chain and, in particular, those security controls performed by government regulated entities operating throughout the air cargo supply chain in their respective territories.

This Joint Statement of Purpose is part of the Record of the 11th Meeting of the TSCG in Arlington, Virginia, as indicated by the signatures of their Representatives.

Zoltan Kazatsay Deputy Director General Directorate-General for Energy and Transport	Kip Hawley Assistant Secretary Transportation Security Administration
Date: 30.09.2008	Date: 30/9/08