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ACCESS TO AIR TRANSPORT BY PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

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FOREWORD

Pursuant to a resolution of the 26th Session of the ICAO Assembly, the Tenth Session of the Facilitation Division (FAL/10), in 1988, introduced a number of Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) concerning access to air services and airport facilities by elderly and disabled persons into Annex 9 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation — *Facilitation*. In 1995, the Eleventh Session of the Facilitation Division (FAL/11) built upon this work by introducing new SARPs to reflect additional concepts, with the intent of addressing accessibility to all elements of the air transport chain by a person with reduced mobility.

FAL/11 also recommended that ICAO adopt the term “persons with disabilities” to denote people requiring special assistance. The following definition is now included in the Tenth Edition of Annex 9:

Person with disabilities. — *Any person whose mobility is reduced due to a physical incapacity (sensory or locomotor), an intellectual deficiency, age, illness or any other cause of disability when using transport and whose situation needs special attention and the adaptation to the person's needs of the services made available to all passengers.*

The guidance material in this circular was put together by the ICAO Secretariat, with the advice and assistance of the Facilitation Panel, for the purpose of elaborating on the Annex 9 SARPs and assisting the civil aviation community in their implementation. For ease of reference, these SARPs are reproduced in the Appendix.

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