

prehensively assess the appropriateness of commencing such preclearance operations.

**(c) Certifications relating to preclearance operations established at airports**

Not later than 60 days before an agreement with the government of a foreign country to establish U.S. Customs and Border Protection preclearance operations at an airport in such country enters into force, the Secretary, in addition to complying with the notification requirements under subsections (a) and (b), shall provide the appropriate congressional committees with—

(1) a certification that preclearance operations under such preclearance agreement, after considering alternative options, would provide homeland security benefits to the United States through the most effective means possible;

(2) a certification that preclearance operations within such foreign country will be established under such agreement only if—

(A) at least one United States passenger carrier operates at such airport; and

(B) any United States passenger carriers operating at such airport and desiring to participate in preclearance operations are provided access that is comparable to that of any non-United States passenger carrier operating at that airport;

(3) a certification that the establishment of preclearance operations in such foreign country will not significantly increase customs processing times at United States airports;

(4) a certification that representatives from U.S. Customs and Border Protection consulted with stakeholders, including providers of commercial air service in the United States, employees of such providers, security experts, and such other parties as the Secretary determines to be appropriate; and

(5) a report detailing the basis for the certifications referred to in paragraphs (1) through (4).

**(d) Amendment of existing agreements**

Not later than 30 days before a substantially amended preclearance agreement with the government of a foreign country in effect as of February 24, 2016, enters into force, the Secretary shall provide to the appropriate congressional committees—

- (1) a copy of the agreement, as amended; and
- (2) the justification for such amendment.

**(e) Implementation plan**

**(1) In general**

The Commissioner shall report to the appropriate congressional committees, on a quarterly basis—

(A) the number of U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers, by port, assigned from domestic ports of entry to preclearance operations; and

(B) the number of the positions at domestic ports of entry vacated by U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers described in subparagraph (A) that have been filled by other hired, trained, and equipped U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers.

**(2) Submission**

If the Commissioner has not filled the positions of U.S. Customs and Border Protection

officers that were reassigned to preclearance operations and determines that U.S. Customs and Border Protection processing times at domestic ports of entry from which U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers were reassigned to preclearance operations have significantly increased, the Commissioner, not later than 60 days after making such a determination, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees an implementation plan for reducing processing times at the domestic ports of entry with such increased processing times.

**(3) Suspension**

If the Commissioner does not submit the implementation plan described in paragraph (2) to the appropriate congressional committees before the deadline set forth in such paragraph, the Commissioner may not commence preclearance operations at an additional port of entry in any country until such implementation plan is submitted.

**(f) Classified report**

The report required under subsection (c)(5) may be submitted in classified form if the Secretary determines that such form is appropriate.

(Pub. L. 114-125, title VIII, § 814, Feb. 24, 2016, 130 Stat. 218.)

**§ 4434. Lost and stolen passports**

The Secretary may not enter into an agreement with the government of a foreign country to establish or maintain U.S. Customs and Border Protection preclearance operations at an airport in such country unless the Secretary certifies to the appropriate congressional committees that such government—

(1) routinely submits information about lost and stolen passports of its citizens and nationals to INTERPOL's Stolen and Lost Travel Document database; or

(2) makes such information available to the United States Government through another comparable means of reporting.

(Pub. L. 114-125, title VIII, § 816, Feb. 24, 2016, 130 Stat. 220.)

**§ 4435. Recovery of initial U.S. Customs and Border Protection preclearance operations costs**

**(a) Cost sharing agreements with relevant airport authorities**

The Commissioner may enter into a cost sharing agreement with airport authorities in foreign countries at which preclearance operations are to be established or maintained if—

(1) an executive agreement to establish or maintain such preclearance operations pursuant to the authorities under section 1629 of this title and section 1103(a)(7) of title 8 has been signed, but has not yet entered into force; and

(2) U.S. Customs and Border Protection has incurred, or expects to incur, initial preclearance operations costs in order to establish or maintain preclearance operations under the agreement described in paragraph (1).