



## PRIME MINISTER

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### MASTER PLAN FOR BRISBANE AIRPORT

Joint Statement by the Prime Minister, Mr. William  
McMahon and the Premier of Queensland, Mr. J.  
Bjelke-Petersen

The Joint Commonwealth/State Advisory Committee on Brisbane Airport has completed the first major step in developing a master plan for the future of Brisbane Airport. This was announced today by the Prime Minister, Mr. McMahon and the Premier of Queensland, Mr. Bjelke-Petersen.

The Committee comprises representatives of the Commonwealth and State Governments and the Brisbane City Council.

In a joint statement today, the Prime Minister, Mr. McMahon and the Premier of Queensland, Mr. Bjelke-Petersen, said: "The Committee's chief object was to devise a master plan which took into account the foreseeable growth of aviation in Brisbane, the latest plans for the further development of the Brisbane metropolitan area, including port development in the Brisbane River, the Nudgee area, and the Serpentine Scheme, and plans for improving the highway network.

"The ecological problems must be considered and it also had to remove the noise nuisance to the south-west of the Airport without causing unacceptable noise levels in other closely settled areas.

"It also had to take regard of the need to lift the building height restrictions over the heart of Brisbane which at the moment lies below the approach path of the main runway at Eagle Farm.

"The Committee had also to consider that a larger terminal area would be needed to handle the volume of passengers and freight which must be expected in the not too distant future".

The Prime Minister and the Premier said: "The Committee has recommended that the runway system should be moved to the position astride the existing northern boundary of the airport and that the runways should be so re-aligned as to avoid noise in any nearby populated area.

"This means that the building height limit over the central business district would be abolished.

"In the long term the Committee recommended that there could be widely spaced parallel runways and it was with this in mind that it is proposed that the new terminal area should be located in a central position between the runways with direct and convenient surface access from the south-west side of the airport.

"This is a most modern concept". The Prime Minister and the Premier added that the master plan involved the diversion of the floodway. However this would not present any major engineering problem.

The floodway would be maintained by appropriate earthworks and outlet control works to ensure that the probability and level of flooding upstream of Nudgee Road would not increase.

They added that a more detailed assessment of the environmental effect on the foreshore would also be made.

The Prime Minister and the Premier said: "It is recognised that this future development would be a very extensive project with the Commonwealth virtually creating a new airport and with the State and the City of Brisbane financing bigger highway projects which would not only better serve the general area but which will also meet the need for speedy access to the airport".

The Prime Minister and the Premier said that their Governments would give prompt consideration to the Committee's recommendations.

Meanwhile the Prime Minister has asked the Departments concerned to accelerate the detailed planning of the airport and see what can be done to provide preliminary estimates as quickly as possible.

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CANBERRA  
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