

2nd Symposium on ICAO-Standard MRTDs, Biometrics and Security

The Importance of

Machine Readable Travel Documents

to Tourism

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MRTD Symposium ICAO Headquarters, Montréal 6 – 7 September 2006

Tourism's global economic contribution

- Directly nearly 4% of GDP, 3% of employment
- Directly & indirectly over 10% of GDP,8% of employment
- International
 - >808 million arrivals (2005)
 - >\$682 billion receipts (2005)
 - >6% of exports
 - >30% of commercial service trade

Tourism's international scope

- Includes business-related travel as well as solely tourists
- (Only) some 40 per cent of arrivals are by air

World Tourism Organization



Risk Assessment & Management

"The leading international organization in the field of tourism, a global forum for tourism policy issues and a practical source of tourism know-how and statistics"







A specialized Agency of the United Nations (cf ICAO) "with a central and decisive role in promoting the development of responsible, sustainable and universally accessible tourism"



UNWTO

- Some notable global achievements and activities:
 - ➤ Global Code of Ethics for Tourism
 - Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism (with ECPAT and UNICEF)

UNWTO

- Some notable global achievements and activities (cont.)
 - ➤ Sustainable Tourism Eliminating Poverty (ST-EP) programme
 - >World Tourism Barometer
 - >Tourism Satellite Accounts
 - Tourism Emergency Response Network (TERN)

UNWTO

- S.A.F.E. Security And Facilitation Enhancement
 - Continued threat of terrorism
 - >Ground as well as air
 - Costs and irritation
 - >Insurance and liability

S.A.F.E

- Systems approach to:
 - > Facilitation and Security
 - >Air transport and tourism
 - >Rich and poor countries

S.A.F.E.

- Three key aviation linkages
 - "Extension" of certain aviation security standards and procedures to tourist facilities and sites
 - Facilitation of the security process at airports (ICAO Annexes 9 and 17, "Simplifying Passenger Travel" programme)
 - Facilitation of the provision and processing of travel documents (ICAO MRTD programme)

Standards

Visa

ICAO: TAG-MRTD

Doc 9303



Part 1 -Passport



Part 3 - Official **Travel Document**



ISO: SC17 WG3

ISO/IEC 7501

Standards – ICAO Doc 9303



S.A.F.E.

Survey of National Tourism Administrations (NTA's) re MRTDs

MRTD Issuance

- >Fully implemented 38
- Under implementation 14
- Not yet initiated 10

- MRTD Readers
 - ≻In place 39

- *** Biometrics Readers**
 - **≻In place** 10

65 Responses

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Survey of NTA's re MRTD's

Survey has achieved:

- Awareness/promotion amongst NTA's
- Improved aviation and tourism cooperation at national level
- Improved issuing/immigration authority and tourism cooperation at national level
- Strong mandate for continuing tourism participation in ICAO MRTD activities and in SPT

MRTD needs beyond aviation

- **#E-visas**
- Land border crossings
- Cruise ships
- Large hotels
- *Key tourism sites Travel is increasingly marketed in an integrated way

Quality and Trade in Tourism

http://www.unwto.org



UNWTO/Microsoft Initiative

UNWTO and Microsoft to Boost e-Tourism for Development: Africa to be Primary Target

Cape Town, RSA, 11 July 2006/eTN - The UN World Tourism Organization and Microsoft Corporation today announced a long term partnership to expand information communications technology in the tourism sector. It will provide ICT systems and tools for emerging tourism economies to improve their export competitiveness, product quality and support skills. Its primary focus will be on Africa.

In his keynote speech at the Global Leaders Forum for Africa, Microsoft Chairman and

Chief Software Architect Bill Gates cited the public/private partnership with United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) as the kind of implementing program that will help over 40 million people in Africa drive toward future economic growth. Gates said "Microsoft wants to play a hands-on role to help countries and entire regions develop their knowledge-based economy, create jobs, spur growth and enable innovation. We can do this by providing easy and affordable access to technology and helping our partners build robust local software economies".

The collaboration with Microsoft has two immediate projects which were announced today:

- "The creation of a new Portal called "Windows on Africa" developed through co-operation between UNWTO and NEPAD. The portal will showcase Africa in a globally competitive way: it will be able to be replicated at the national and local levels. It will be capable of linking to visitor centres, museums, and libraries. Ultimately, it will even provide real-time advice via PDA's and mobile devices with destination specific data.
- "Support for the UNWTO Emergency Response System by creation of a portal to aggregate information on catastrophes affecting tourism, to provide a new framework for improved industry response. The portal will bring together public and sector specific data, incorporating tools for information sharing and improved messaging. It will assist tourism destinations and stakeholders to respond more rapidly and effectively in emergencies and help recovery programs. The portal will be used initially to strengthen industry preparedness for a potential avian flu pandemic.

"This Agreement is a huge leap forward for Tourism driven; job creation, export income and capacity building for the world's poorest countries - especially in Africa where it will be integrated into our programs to alleviate poverty through sustainable tourism. (ST-EP)". It links Microsoft's outstanding technology and solutions with UNWTO's central role of advancing the sector as an instrument of development," said Francesco Frangialli, Secretary General of UNWTO.

He added "Equally importantly over the next five years we will collaborate closely to build a leading edge ICT dimension into all of our key programs ranging from improved access for tourists through electronic border clearance, to better quality service through distance training and sustainability management at destinations".



MRTD application should benefit

- **ALL modes of transport, not just air
- *ALL aspects of travel, not just transport
- ALL travelers, not just frequent trippers

Watchwords: Commonality, Consistency, Cost-effectiveness and Cooperation

Conclusion

- Close co-operation between aviation and tourism in MRTDs is fundamental:
 - ➤To minimize duplication
 - >To harmonize processes
 - >To ensure interoperability
 - >To share in promulgation
 - >To create synergy

Maintain technical focus but cultivate broader vision

