

A38-16: Consolidated statement of continuing policies related to facilitation

Whereas Annex 9 — *Facilitation*, was developed as a means of articulating the obligations of Member States under Articles 22, 23 and 24 of the Convention and standardizing procedures for meeting the legal requirements referred to in Articles 10, 13, 14, 29 and 35;

Whereas implementation of the Standards and Recommended Practices in Annex 9 is essential to facilitate the clearance of aircraft, passengers and their baggage, cargo and mail and manage challenges in border controls and airport processes so as to maintain the efficiency of air transport operations; and

Whereas it is essential that Member States continue to pursue the objective of maximizing efficiency and security in such clearance operations;

The Assembly:

1. *Resolves* that the Appendices attached to this resolution and listed below constitute the consolidated statement of continuing ICAO policies related to facilitation, as these policies exist at the close of the 38th Session of the Assembly:

Appendix A — Development and implementation of facilitation provisions

Appendix B — National and international action in ensuring the security and integrity of traveller identification and border controls

Appendix C — National and international action and cooperation on facilitation matters

2. *Requests* the Council to keep the consolidated statement related to facilitation under review and advise the Assembly as appropriate when changes are needed to the statement; and

3. *Declares* that this resolution supersedes Resolution A37-20 (Appendix D — Facilitation).

APPENDIX B**National and international action in ensuring the security and integrity of traveller identification and border controls**

Whereas States recognize the relevance of traveller identification and border control management to aviation security and facilitation;

Whereas States recognize that the ability to uniquely identify individuals requires a holistic and coordinated approach, which links the following five interdependent elements of traveller identification and border control management into a coherent framework:

- a) Foundational documents, tools and processes required to ensure authentic evidence of identity;
- b) The design and manufacture of standardized Machine Readable Travel Documents (MRTDs), including e-Passports, that comply with ICAO specifications;
- c) Processes and protocols for document issuance by appropriate authorities to authorized holders, and controls to combat theft, tampering and loss;

- d) Inspection systems and tools for the efficient and secure reading and verification of MRTDs at borders, including use of the ICAO PKD; and
- e) Interoperable applications that provide for timely, secure and reliable linkage of MRTDs and their holders to available and relevant data in the course of inspection operations;

Whereas States require capacity to uniquely identify individuals and require tools and mechanisms available to establish and confirm the identity of travellers;

Whereas the ICAO Traveller Identification Programme (ICAO TRIP) Strategy provides a framework for achieving the maximum benefits of travel documents and border controls by bringing together the elements of identification management, and building on the success of the ICAO MRTDs Programme;

Whereas the passport is the main official document that denotes a person's identity and citizenship and is intended to inform the State of transit or destination that the bearer can return to the State which issued the passport;

Whereas international confidence in the integrity of the passport is essential to the functioning of the international travel system;

Whereas the security of traveller identification and border controls depends on a robust identification management system and the integrity of the travel document issuance process;

Whereas Member States of the United Nations have resolved, under the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy adopted on 8 September 2006, to step up efforts and cooperation at every level, as appropriate, to improve the security of manufacturing and issuing identity and travel documents and to prevent and detect their alteration or fraudulent use;

Whereas Resolution 1373 adopted by the United Nations Security Council on 28 September 2001 decided that all States shall prevent the movement of terrorists or terrorist groups by effective border controls and controls on issuance of identity papers and travel documents, and through measures for preventing counterfeiting, forgery or fraudulent use of identity papers and travel documents;

Whereas enhanced and intensified cooperation among States is required in order to combat and prevent identification and travel document fraud;

Whereas the criminal focus worldwide has been increasingly shifting from travel document fraud to identification fraud;

Whereas ICAO has set up the Public Key Directory (PKD) to verify, validate and authenticate biometrically-enhanced MRPs (ePassports), thereby strengthening their security and the integrity of border controls; and

Whereas Member States request from ICAO Programmes technical assistance and capacity-building support in strengthening their traveller identification and border control programmes;

The Assembly:

1. *Urges* States, through their travel document and border control programmes, to uniquely identify individuals to maximize security and facilitation benefits, including preventing acts of unlawful interference and other threats to civil aviation;
2. *Urges* Member States to intensify their efforts in developing and implementing a robust identification management system and safeguard the security and integrity of the travel document issuance process;
3. *Requests* the Council to direct the Secretary General to implement the ICAO TRIP Strategy to assist Member States to uniquely identify individuals, and to enhance the security and integrity of their travel documents and border controls;

4. *Requests* Member States to intensify their efforts to safeguard the security and integrity of traveller identification and border controls, and to assist one another in these matters;
5. *Urges* those Member States that have not already done so, to issue machine readable passports in accordance with the specifications of Doc 9303, Part 1;
6. *Urges* Member States to ensure that the expiration date of non-machine readable passports falls before 24 November 2015;
7. *Urges* those Member States requiring assistance in building effective and efficient traveller identification and border control systems to contact ICAO without delay;
8. *Requests* the Council to ensure that specifications and guidance material contained in Doc 9303, *Machine Readable Travel Documents*, remain up to date in the light of technological advances, and to continue to explore technological solutions aimed at enhancing security and facilitation of border controls;
9. *Requests* the Council to continue the work on further strengthening the security and integrity of traveller identification and border controls, and developing guidance material to assist Member States to further those objectives;
10. *Urges* the Council to explore ways of intensifying assistance and capacity-building support to Member States in the traveller identification and border control areas, including a proactive leadership role for ICAO in facilitating and coordinating such assistance in the international community;
11. *Urges* all States to join the ICAO PKD; and all receiving States to verify the digital signatures associated with ePassports; and
12. *Urges* those Member States that are not already doing so to provide routine and timely submissions of lost and stolen passport data to the Interpol's Automated Search Facility/Stolen and Lost Travel Document Database.