

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Republic of Tajikistan as an integral part of global community does not stand aside of events taking place in contemporary world. And always makes an effort in the way of fulfilment of its international obligations.

In this direction the decree of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan on implementation of biometric passports in Tajikistan in the beginning of last year could serve as a significant step.

So as a result starting 1 February 2010 Tajikistan successfully made an implementation of its E passport project possible. Of course, this implementation had its routine works and activities starting with announcement of tender, working out technical characteristics and security features of E passport etc.

The tender of Tajikistan E passport project won by Muhlbauer High techs International, Roding, Germany.

In order to facilitate the implementation of Tajikistan E passport project, within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan was established a Personalization Centre.

About Personalization Centre...

And in the administrative centres of 3 regions of the Republic of Tajikistan as well as in capital city Dushanbe, within the Registration Department of the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Tajikistan 4 more enrolment sites were established.

Personalization Centre of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan is also equipped with a mobile enrolment kit to serve disabled and other needed person.

In another step to fully implement Tajikistan E passport project the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan at the first stage,

supplied to its 10 Embassies around the world with mobile enrolments kits, which will enable citizens of the Republic of Tajikistan studying, living or working abroad in case of necessity to apply for biometric passports.

In the future the Tajikistan E passport project will be expanded nationwide.

As saying goes The journey for thousand miles starts with a single step. So Tajikistan started its journey toward improving status of its management of travel documents and identification data.

Definitely there are some challenges remain in fulfilling goals in this direction.

In this regard I would like to note the necessity of cooperation with relevant institutions, first of all ICAO, OSCE, IOM.

There some activities are underway in this direction. For example from June 29 to July 1 2010 a joint team of experts of ICAO, OSCE, IOM paid a visit to Tajikistan, where they are within the framework of Border management project also got familiar with the course of implementation Tajikistan E passport project.

This visit was organized by the initiative of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan under the activities of capacity building Working group.

Implementation of Tajikistan biometric passports project in accordance with ICAO standards and specifications was assessed as a positive step. Regarding improvement of this project as well getting ready to face other related challenges joint team of experts of ICAO, OSCE, IOM presented a report on assessment and recommendations for assistance of management of travel documents and of identification data. This report was taken under consideration and the Ministry working on these assessment and recommendation.

At the end I would like to express my profound gratitude for organizers of this Symposium for providing excellent facilities to make the work of this event successful.

Thank You.

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