



**TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP ON MACHINE READABLE
TRAVEL DOCUMENTS (TAG/MRTD)**

TWENTIETH MEETING

Montréal, 7 to 9 September 2011

Agenda Item 2: Activities of the NTWG

Agenda Item 2.1: Report of the New Technologies Working Group (NTWG)

REPORT OF THE NEW TECHNOLOGIES WORKING GROUP (NTWG)

(Presented by the NTWG)

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This paper is intended to summarize the ongoing work of the NTWG since TAG/MRTD/19 and the future activities of the NTWG.

2. ONGOING WORK OF THE NTWG SINCE TAG/MRTD/19

2.1 Since TAG/19 in December 2009, the NTWG has met on three occasions in Bangkok, Tokyo and Bern. Participation continues to be strong with 40-50 individuals and 12-15 countries represented at each meeting. Members of the NTWG have also participated in the plenary meetings of ISO SC17/WG3 in Singapore and other ISO/WG3 meetings.

2.2 For this meeting of the TAG-MRTD, the NTWG will present 11 Working Papers (WPs) and submits one additional Information Papers (IP) for consideration.

2.3 In addition to the meetings outlined above, the NTWG also met in Ispra, Italy for vendor presentations resulting from the RFI. The results of the RFI are presented in WP/4.

2.4 At TAG/18, the NTWG presented a draft Technical report on Machine Reading Options for TD-1-sized MRTDs. The work is now complete and is presented in WP/20.

2.5 The issue of machine-assisted security verification is one that has been discussed at previous TAG meetings. The work in this area is now complete and presented in WP/2.

2.6 A major activity of the NTWG has been in developing an evidence of identity framework. The work to date is to be found in WP/5.

2.7 The NTWG continues to explore modifications to the Logical Data Structure (LDS). WP/3 outlines the work completed to date and the way forward.

2.8 The NTWG has also been developing standards and specifications around Emergency Travel Documents. WP/6 outlines the issues and the work completed to date.

2.9 At TAG 19, the NTWG reported on the transliteration of Arabic characters for use in the Machine-Readable Zone. The work of the NTWG is now complete and the results are found in WP/17.

2.10 The NTWG has also received a request to modify the Turkish transliteration table and those proposed changes are to be found in WP/18.

2.11 The NTWG has undertaken to revise and update ICAO Doc 9303. At present, specifications and guidance are to be found in a number of separate documents: Doc 9303 itself, a number of Technical Reports and the Supplement, the latest edition of which (10th Edition) is available from the ICAO MRTD web site (www.icao.int/mrtd). The consolidation is underway and the current status is found in WP/8.

2.12 Similarly, the Technical Report on LDS/PKI maintenance is found in WP/7.

2.13 The NTWG has also compiled information on the issuance of ePassports and their use at borders. This information comes from public sources such as web sites and is updated every 6 months or so. Although only a snapshot in time, it does provide an overview of ePassport adoption globally. This information is found in IP/2.

3. FUTURE ACTIVITIES OF THE NTWG

3.1 The NTWG will next meet in November 2011 in The Netherlands and again in April/May 2012 at a site to be determined. Generally, the NTWG will continue its reviews of technologies, their application and the role of MRTDs in facilitating international travel and security. Specifically, the NTWG intends to undertake the following:

3.2 Continue the ongoing work outlined in paragraph 2 above.

3.3 Continue the ongoing work of developing technical reports in all areas authorized by the TAG and subsequently developing these into specifications for eventual incorporation to Doc 9303.

3.4 Develop a comprehensive approach to the policy and process issues that arise from the use of advanced technologies in MRTDs.

4. ACTION

4.1 The NTWG invites the TAG-MRTD to:

a) Note the work of the NTWG to date and the approach it has taken; and

b) Approve in principle the future direction and activities of the endorse NTWG as outlined in paragraph 4, above.