

# EIGHTEENTH SYMPOSIUM AND EXHIBITION ON THE ICAO TRAVELLER IDENTIFICATION PROGRAMME (TRIP)

## PROGRAMME OUTLINE

States, in collaboration with the wider stakeholder community, have invested heavily in the facilitation of seamless and contactless passenger processing for a number of years. The importance of such efforts has undoubtedly grown during the COVID-19 pandemic, given the obligation of limiting close personal interactions and physical touch. In order to respond to an increase in the traveller volumes post COVID-19, while at the same time mitigating security risks, air industry, border control authorities, and travel document issuing agencies are looking for more efficient and secure ways to identify and process travellers. While harnessing the capabilities and opportunities afforded by new and emerging technologies, the focus of the Symposium is to incorporate technology with the interdependent elements of the TRIP Strategy and hence maximize the benefits of using digital representation.

**Overall picture: focus on Machine Readable Travel Documents (MRTD) technologies to enhance a seamless traveller mobility.** The Symposium will place an emphasis on mobilizing innovation and the need to leverage technologies, in order to facilitate seamless and contactless travel processes. Different strategies for enhancing the use of electronic Machine Readable Travel Document (eMRTD) solutions with a view towards contactless travel processes will be discussed. Digital solutions such as the ICAO Digital Travel Credentials (DTC), Digital Travel Authorization (DTA), Visible Digital Seals (VDS) for secure and globally interoperable health-proofs, and the use of the ICAO Health Master List to check the health certificates will be highlighted. The expected outcome of this session is to improve the effectiveness of the management of borders, travel facilitation and security, and in particular travel document security as well as identity management which are of great importance for all international travellers and among them, of course, migrants and refugees who cross international borders. The other sessions will build on topics related to the five TRIP elements, as follows:

- **Evidence of identity.** Today we live in an interconnected world through mobile phones and the internet. Both technology and generational changes are likely to have an impact on how legal identity could be packaged and shared in the future. Smartphones are able to verify physical identity using biometrics stored in central civil registry eco-systems. Automation allows for credible evidence of identity involving the tracing and verification of identity against breeder documents to ensure the authenticity of identity;
- **Machine Readable Travel Documents (MRTDs).** The future generation of travel documents will introduce the ability to substitute a conventional passport with a digital representation of the traveller's identity. This identity can be validated by using the travel document issuing authority's public key infrastructure. This Digital Travel Credential (DTC) has been standardized, which provides enhanced benefits to expedite inspection while also enhancing security by enabling immigration officers to quickly and efficiently check the traveller prior to their arrival welcoming bona fide travellers, and taking appropriate measures against individuals who pose a threat;
- **Document issuance and control.** The digitization of traditional paper-based processes is the new trend. Electronic visa travel systems, secure credentials on mobile phones and biometrics can simplify international travel as they eliminate the need to carry a physical passport or obtain paper-based visas. Appropriate authorities and or issuing authorities are moving towards centralized, thoroughly modernized systems for document issuance with an aim to better utilize the technologies that are available, including electronic verification of the passport and biometric identification capture, automation through borders via e-gates or kiosks, and eVisa application, issuance and usage to better manage the flow and tracking of the authorized holders, while ensuring that controls are in place to prevent theft, tampering and loss;
- **Inspection systems and tools.** Inspection systems and tools for the efficient and secure reading and verification of MRTDs and eMRTDs, including use of the ICAO Public Key Directory (PKD) and increased implementation of the Automated Border Control (ABC) gates; and
- **Interoperable applications.** Combining ePassport data, biometric recognition, PKD and the use of ABCs opens the possibility of automating partially or fully the passenger identification process through the traveller's journey. This is made possible thanks to globally interoperable applications and protocols that provide for timely, secure and reliable linkage of MRTDs and their holders to available and relevant data in the course of inspection operations. There will be a special focus on advance passenger information (API) and passenger name record (PNR) data.