



International Civil Aviation Organization

WORKING PAPER

A38-WP/180¹
EX/71
20/08/13
(Information Paper)

ASSEMBLY — 38TH SESSION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 16: Facilitation and Machine Readable Travel Documents

UPDATE OF PROGRESS IN FACILITATION AND ePASSPORTS IN CHINA

(Presented by the People's Republic of China)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This paper updates the progress China has made since the 37th Session of the Assembly in further advancing facilitation and implementation of electronic passports in China.

<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	This paper relates to Strategic Objectives B - <i>Security</i> .
<i>Financial implications:</i>	No financial implications.
<i>References:</i>	Annex 9 - <i>Facilitation</i>

¹ Chinese version provided by China.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In accordance with the Standards and Recommended Practices related to Machine Readable Travel Documents in Annex 9 of Chicago Convention, and on the basis of the technical specifications in *Machine Readable Travel Documents* (Doc 9303) and its Supplements, the Chinese government has been continuously working to ensure the effective anti-forgery capability of its travel documents, security of the information of their holders and enhancement of border control efficiency through rigorous and advanced technology means, while advancing facilitation for Chinese citizens and foreigners at border check-points.

2. PROGRESS IN FACILITATION AND ePASSPORTS IN CHINA

2.1 To further advance its facilitation programme, China put into effect the newly promulgated Exit and Entry Administration Law of the People's Republic of China as of 1 July 2013. This Law regulates exit/entry administration of Chinese citizens and foreigners, and stay and residence of foreigners in China, with the emphasis on the protection of the legitimate rights and interests of Chinese citizens and foreigners in China. This will further promote foreign exchanges and opening to the outside world. In addition, this Law authorizes the Ministry of Public Security and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, on the basis of the need for exit/entry administration, to collect and keep fingerprints and other biometric identification information of persons who exit or enter China.

2.2 The border inspection authorities of China started the installation of self-service inspection channels in 2005. Up to now, there are 445 self-service inspection channels, and people using such service represent about 33% of the total for clearance. The self-service inspection system, using identification technologies as fingerprint and facial recognition, are able to read, match and verify information of a person at check points, and complete the clearance automatically.

2.3 According to the division of responsibility approved by the State Council of China, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Public Security are responsible for the implementation of the service ePassport and the general ePassport respectively. Following its full implementation of machine readable passports in 2005, China officially launched the ePassport R & D project in the end of 2007. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs developed the service ePassport that satisfies international standards in the end of 2010, and officially issued such type of passport on 1 July 2011. The issuance of service ePassport was rolled-out nationwide in the end of 2012. As of 2013, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been charged to add fingerprint into service ePassport issued within China. The Ministry of Public Security started issuing general ePassport incorporating fingerprint nationwide in May 2012. China plans to complete the necessary work for the issuance of ePassports worldwide by the end of 2014. The ePassports developed in compliance with international standards use substantial amount of new anti-forgery technologies, and embedded with high performance encryption chip, which help to achieve the effective anti-forgery capability of the travel documents, and ensure the security of information for their holders.