



PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME OUTLINE

1. ICAO's global mandate and role in strengthening effective, secure and integral travel document production, issuance and related border security matters.
2. Overview and strategic direction of the ICAO Machine Readable Travel Document (MRTD) Programme, including current and emerging ICAO MRTD standards and specifications, as outlined in ICAO Doc 9303 and its supplements, with reference to passports, visas and ID cards.
3. The particular focus of the Regional Seminar is electronic Passports (ePassports). The programme addresses in detail the advantages and challenges of using biometric data in travel documents; points of importance with regard to implementing ePassports; technical specifications; procurement issues; reading ePassports at international borders and the role of the ICAO Public Key Directory (PKD) to achieve robust global security.
4. Secure issuance of travel documents, including issues related to the evidence of identity "breeder documents", risk management, the integrity of the issuance process and fraud prevention, and related identity management matters.
5. Procurement process — a specialized area that often presents challenges to government agencies when implementing a new travel document, will be addressed in considerable detail. This will include travel document procurement contracts, preparing a tender dossier and other modalities of carrying out a successful tender.
6. Travel document security and border controls in combating and preventing terrorism and related trans-border crime. MRTDs as a key to making the movement of legitimate and properly documented travellers simpler and faster, while maintaining security requirements to combat illegal migration, terrorism and trans-border crime.
7. Assistance and capacity-building needs of States, with reference to travel document security, ICAO compliance and border controls. The role of the ICAO Technical Advisory Group on Machine Readable Travel Documents' (TAG/MRTD) Implementation and Capacity-Building Working Group (ICBWG).
8. The importance of Public Key Infrastructure and ICAO Public Key Directory (PKD) in enhancing the security of ePassports. Areas to be addressed include: the practical security and facilitation benefits of the PKD; PKD's institutional framework and technical structure and the practicalities of joining the PKD and maximizing its benefits.
9. Concluding summary presentation.

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