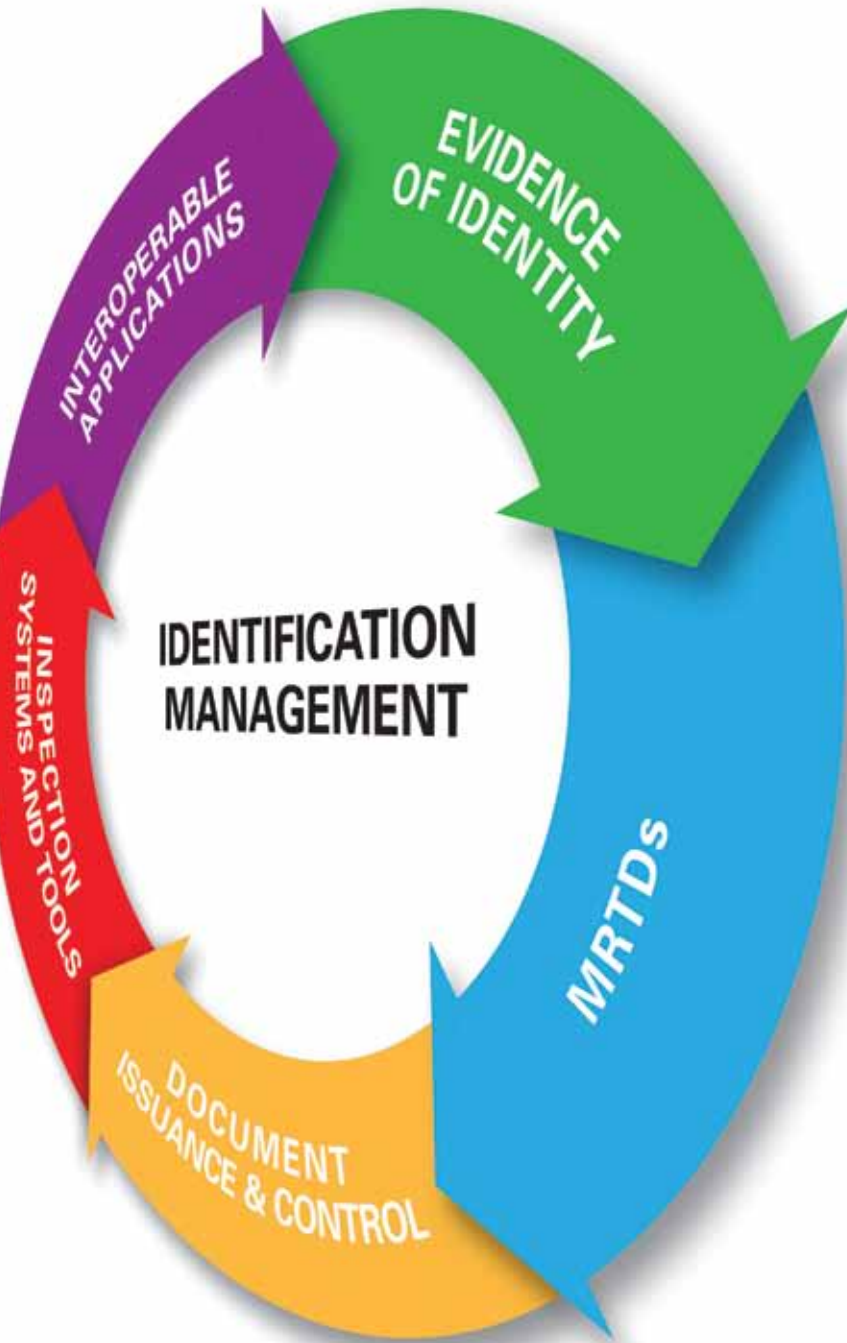


ICAO MRTD REPORT

NEWS AND FEATURES ON TRAVEL DOCUMENT AND IDENTITY MANAGEMENT ISSUES - VOL.8 - NO.3



TOWARDS HOLISTIC ID MANAGEMENT

UNDERSTANDING A DIVERSITY OF CHALLENGES AND PERSPECTIVES

MOVING TOWARDS A TRAVELLER IDENTIFICATION PROGRAMME

ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGE: THE NOVEMBER 2015 DEADLINE

FROM DOCUMENT FRAUD TO IDENTITY FRAUD: ICAO GUIDANCE

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**ICAO MRTD REPORT
VOLUME 8, NUMBER 3, 2013**

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Technical Advisory Group on Machine Readable Travel Documents (TAG/MRTD)

Member	Nominated by	Member	Nominated by
Mr. M. Lynch	Australia	Mrs. R. Ong-de Jong	Netherlands
Ms. L. Pezzack	Canada	Ms. A. Offenberger	New Zealand
Ms. M. Cabello	Chile	Vacant	Nigeria
Mr. M. Vacek	Czech Republic	Mr. Xuefeng Yang	People's Republic of China
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Mr. B.K. Gupta	India	Mr. S. Tilling	Sweden
Mr. J. Nugent	Ireland	Mr. R. Vanek	Switzerland
Mr. H. Shimizu	Japan	Mr. H. Bloomfield	United Kingdom
		Mr. M. Holly	United States

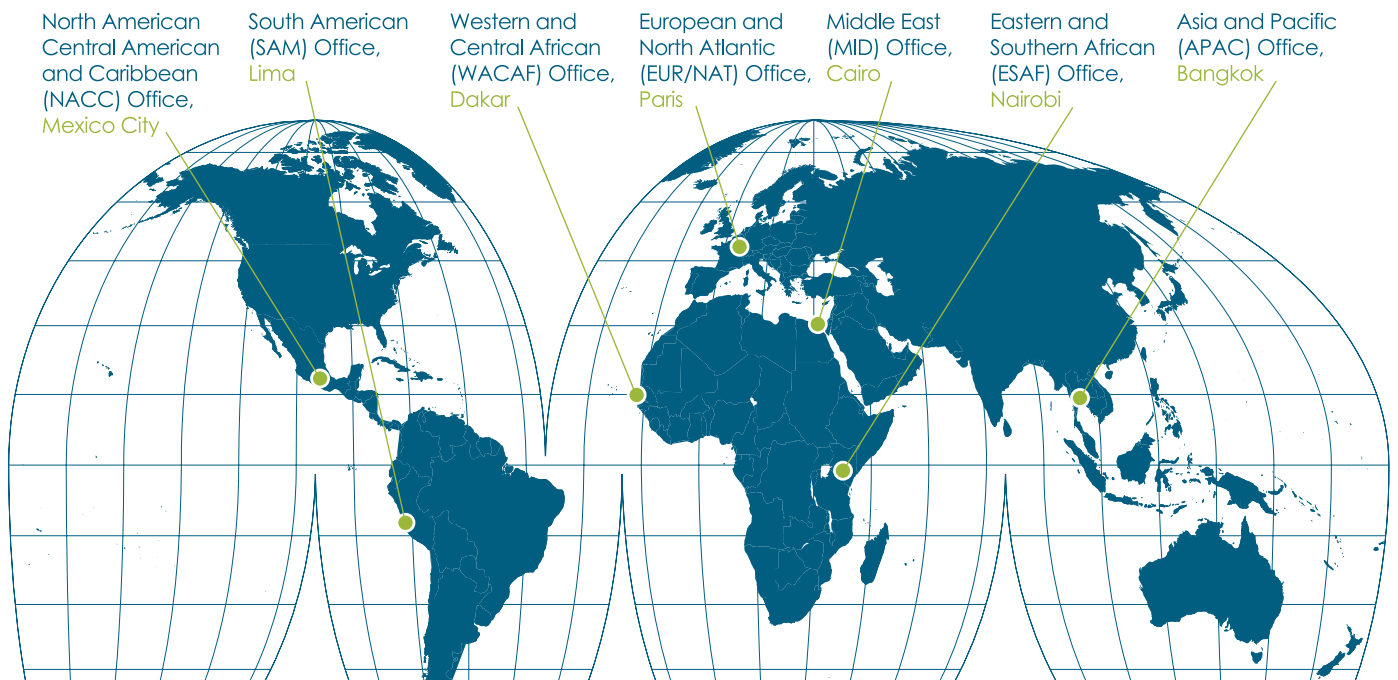
The TAG/MRTD is appointed by the Secretariat, which reports on its progress to the Air Transport Committee.

The TAG/MRTD develops specifications for machine readable passports, visas and official travel documents, electronic machine readable travel documents and guidance material to assist States in implementing these specifications and exploiting modern techniques in inspection systems.

Observer organizations

- Airports Council International (ACI)
- International Air Transport Association (IATA)
- International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL)
- International Labour Organization (ILO)
- International Organization for Standardization (ISO)
- Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)
- International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- United Nations (UN)
- Organization of American States (OAS) - Inter-American Committee on Terrorism (CICTE)

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FROM MRTD TO MRTD 2.0: THE TRAVELLER IDENTIFICATION PROGRAMME

✈ During the last decade, the ICAO MRTD Programme, working through State experts, the Technical Advisory Group on MRTDs (TAG/MRTD), the International Standards Organization (ISO), international and regional partners, the industry and the ICAO Secretariat, has made significant achievements in the world of MRTDs. Consequently, the universal implementation of issuing Machine Readable Passports (MRPs) is nearly a reality. Other achievements involve the approval of the ePassport blueprint articulating the new generation of enhanced MRTDs. The current ICAO-compliant eMRTDs issued by ICAO Member States are probably the most secure travel documents ever issued. Over 100 States currently claim they are issuing ICAO-compliant ePassports.

Along with the ePassport blueprint, ICAO implemented the Public Key Directory (PKD), which provides an organised, simple, secure and cost-effective system for sharing participants' validated up-to-date Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) information. This inspection tool enables participants to verify and authenticate ePassports and fully benefit from the collective investment made in issuing these documents.

The MRTD Programme has always been significantly supported by the ICAO Council. Additionally, in some instances, Council members have actively participated in ICAO events and missions to provide their support and perspective on the importance of the Programme to ICAO Member States.

In terms of Secretariat work and support, the TAG/MRTD New Technologies Working Group (NTWG) has continued successfully developing and maintaining relevant and current



MRTDs Standards and specifications and developing new guidance material. Yet, having an effective group to take care of ensuring the advancement of such Standards and specifications was not sufficient when it came to supporting States' implementation of them. Thus, the Secretariat encouraged and supported the creation of the TAG/MRTD Implementation and Capacity Building Working Group (ICBWG), which has been instrumental in fulfilling States' needs for support and assistance, developing guidance material and effectively and successfully supporting the Secretariat in advocacy, promotion, assistance and implementation initiatives worldwide.

Since 2004, ICAO has organised 17 MRTD events (six more are scheduled for 2013 and 2014); published 21 issues of the *MRTD Report* at a rate of three issues per year; organised and delivered over 15 sub-regional workshops and over

20 individual States' assessment and assistance projects; and assisted over 100 States in MRTD-related issues. Thousands of State representatives have benefitted from these events and products and thousands more will in the coming years.

As we celebrate our collective achievements, we should not forget that there are still challenges ahead. For example, despite the current MRP issuance obligations, not all States are ONLY issuing MRPs. Some passports currently issued by States are not ICAO-compliant and have an expiration date beyond 24 November 2015. This practice jeopardises the interoperability and security objectives States have agreed upon with the issuance of only MRPs. This 'sunset' deadline is approaching rapidly and it is important that government officials and all the traveller identification community learn about what this deadline may involve (see the article in this issue).

Another important challenge for the international travel document community refers to reinforcing some 'weak links' in the identification management process. As travel document security and issuance processes have significantly improved, criminal focus worldwide has increasingly shifted from travel document fraud to passport issuance and identity and identification fraud. In particular, weaknesses in foundational documents and processes related to identification management are currently and widely exploited, creating enormous personal and social damages and losses and significantly undermining the trust in travel documents States have so thoroughly and carefully established throughout the decades. And this problem may worsen if State participation in the ICAO PKD is disregarded when implementing ePassports projects. Moreover, the issue may become exponentially acute if these robust and secure travel documents are not properly verified at borders using the PKD.

These are just some of the challenges States and the Secretariat currently face. They come from different sources, but they all significantly affect the traveler identification supply chain cycle, jeopardising the ultimate goal of the MRTD Programme: to contribute to the capacity of Member States to uniquely identify individuals by providing appropriate authorities worldwide with the relevant supporting mechanisms to establish and confirm the identity of travellers.

To respond to these challenges, address the issues and find suitable solutions, States, the Secretariat and the international community would need to have an 'all-inclusive' and holistic approach in relation to identifying and confirming the identity of travellers.

In 2010, the ICAO Assembly approved a Resolution that gave grounds for the development of a new work item called Evidence of Identification. The Resolution resulted in

available guidance material to assist States in strengthening foundational identification documents, processes and systems. (The ICAO Guide, Towards Better Practice in National Identification Management V.3, can be download from our MRTD web site.)

Along with this Resolution, the MRTD Programme launched the MRTD Vision 2020, a consultative process aimed at assuring the relevance of the MRTD Programme. The process continued throughout the current triennium in the form of 'strategic consultations' and resulted in a renewed vision, mission and strategy for the MRTD Programme: *The ICAO Traveller Identification Programme (ICAO TRIP) Strategy*.

Last spring, the ICAO Council approved an Assembly working paper on the ICAO TRIP Strategy, providing a framework for achieving significant enhancements in aviation security and facilitation in the future by bringing together the elements of identification management and building on ICAO leadership in matters related to Machine Readable Travel Documents (MRTD). At the centre of the ICAO TRIP Strategy is the key proposition for States, ICAO and all stakeholders to address individually and collectively: a holistic, coherent, coordinated approach to the interdependent elements of traveller identification management is essential. The Strategy also confirms and reinforces ICAO's leadership in this field.


Along with the TRIP Strategy, the Council also proposed a new Assembly Resolution to reinforce the Strategy as ICAO policy. This Resolution would be the ground on which the new Programme will be developed and implemented.

The last 40 years of the ICAO MRTD Programme have been productive in enhancing the facilitation and security of air transport, identification and travel documents management and border control. All Member States, TAG/MRTD experts, international partners and the Secretariat can be proud of these achievements. And I believe the years ahead will produce greater and more significant outcomes. The holistic perspective promoted by the TRIP Strategy calls for enhanced and expanded cooperation to achieve the goals and objectives identified. I encourage all stakeholders to commit to its implementation, reinforcing and strengthening the efforts and investments made by States.

This will be the beginning of a new era for the MRTD Programme. We celebrate the TRIP Strategy in this issue of the *MRTD Report* with a 'renewal of vows' and a commitment to its successful implementation.

The road ahead is exciting, challenges are to be expected and impressive results are achievable if we all continue to work together.

Onward!



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SETTING AGENDA FOR THE FUTURE: FROM MRTDs TO THE ICAO TRAVELLER IDENTIFICATION PROGRAMME STRATEGY

 The MRTD field has been rapidly evolving into the broader global agenda of traveller identification management. At the 38th Session of the ICAO Assembly (24 September–4 October 2013), Member States adopted the ICAO Traveller Identification Programme (ICAO TRIP) Strategy, which aims to establish the goal and objectives of traveller identification management, lead and reinforce a global approach and provide direction for action by ICAO, States and the many international, regional and industry partners in identification management. The ICAO TRIP Strategy presents a framework for multidimensional integrated efforts and synergies, under ICAO's leadership, to support ICAO's Strategic Objectives in the 2014-2016 triennium and beyond.



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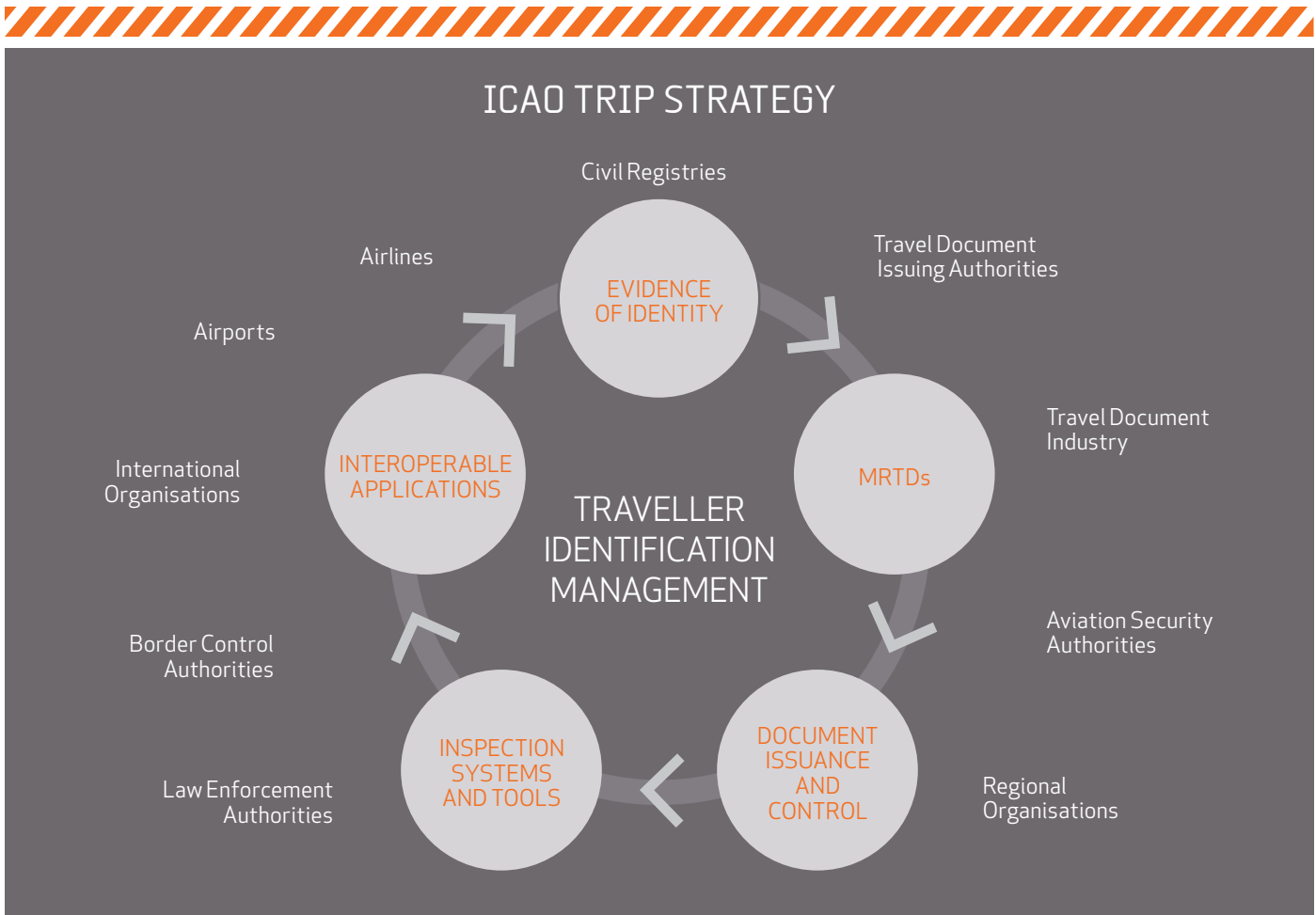
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...ICAO's mission is to contribute to the capacity of Member States to uniquely identify individuals...

FIVE KEY ELEMENTS

At the centre of the ICAO TRIP Strategy is the key proposition for States, ICAO and all stakeholders, individually and collectively, to address: that a holistic, coherent, coordinated approach to the interdependent elements of traveller identification management is essential, encompassing the following elements:

- Evidence of identity: credible evidence of identity, involving the tracing, linkage and verification of identity against breeder documents to ensure the authenticity of identity;
- MRTDs: the design and manufacture of standardised MRTDs, including ePassports, that comply with ICAO specifications;
- Document issuance and control: processes and protocols for document issuance by appropriate authorities to authorised holders and controls to prevent theft, tampering and loss;
- Inspection systems and tools: inspection systems and tools for the efficient and secure reading and verification of MRTDs, including use of the ICAO PKD; and
- Interoperable applications: 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.



For ICAO and its Member States, the vision in traveller identification management is: *all Member States can uniquely identify individuals*. When the elements of identification management are optimally achieved, States will be in a position to identify individuals by their travel document with the highest possible degree of certainty, security and efficiency.

Recognising the benefits of traveller identification management to aviation security and facilitation and the vision that all Member States can uniquely identify individuals, ICAO's mission is to contribute to the capacity of Member States to uniquely identify individuals by providing appropriate authorities worldwide with the relevant supporting mechanisms to establish and confirm the identity of travellers. The ICAO TRIP Strategy also provides the basis for a detailed Business Plan to be developed —commensurate with resources available— and corresponding actions to be taken.

Travel documents are a matter of strategic importance for international civil aviation under the ICAO's Council approved

Strategic Objective C – *Security and Facilitation* and Strategic Objective D – *Economic Development of Air Transport*. Since the beginning of the 1980s, ICAO's leadership and activities in travel documentation policy and operational matters have made a significant contribution towards the enhancement of aviation security and facilitation—notably through uniform and progressive development of travel document Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs), guidance material and providing assistance to States in the implementation of effective and efficient travel document and border control systems.

Travel documents serve the broad transport sector by contributing to border integrity not only in air transport but also in maritime and land transport settings. These important benefits extend the contribution of ICAO travel document related activities beyond ensuring border integrity at international airports. The new Strategy provides significant enhancement for the future in both aviation security and facilitation by bringing together the elements of holistic identification management into an integrated result-oriented framework. ■

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MESSAGE TO PASSPORT ISSUING AUTHORITIES WORLDWIDE

Addressing the Challenge: The 24 November 2015 Deadline



✈ The approaching 24 November 2015 deadline is increasingly on the agenda of MRTD working meetings and conferences and is even being mentioned by the media. With November 2015 only two years away, the time will fly by quickly.

The professional traveller identification community, however, is not always entirely clear what meeting the deadline involves. Official references written in convoluted legalese and technical language are not easy to interpret and understand. Questions abound. What is the November 2015 deadline all about? Why is complying with Annex 9, Standard 3.10.1, so important? What happens if a Member State doesn't comply with the deadline? Are there any good practices that can be implemented to make meeting the deadline easier? Is any assistance or technical advice available from ICAO?

This article was written primarily for passport issuing authorities because they play a central role in meeting the deadline. In a broader sense, its aim is the global traveller identification community which needs to be aware of what the deadline requires and how to meet it. We hope the information in this article provides a practical, user-friendly overview of the main issues related to the deadline and a few sources of useful reference.

THE 24 NOVEMBER 2015 DEADLINE: WHAT IS IT ALL ABOUT?

The 24 November 2015 deadline originates from Standard 3.10.1 in Annex 9 – *Facilitation*. ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) are contained in Annexes to the Chicago Convention, the main international law instrument regulating civil aviation matters globally. Annex 9 – *Facilitation* contains SARPs related to border controls and inspection formalities, including MRTDs.

The deadline refers to non-machine readable passports (non-MRPs). In accordance with Annex 9 – *Facilitation*, Standard 3.10.1 reads as follows: '[f]or passports issued after 24 November 2005 and which are not machine readable, Contracting States shall ensure the expiration date falls before 24 November 2015'. This effectively means that all non-machine readable passports should be out of circulation by this date.

Standard 3.10.1 is best understood in conjunction with Standard 3.10, which stipulated the 1 April 2010 deadline for the issuance of ICAO-compliant machine readable passports (MRPs). As Standard 3.10 has been generally implemented universally, the Standard 3.10.1 deadline for removing non-MRPs from circulation by 24 November 2015 presents the next important universal deadline for MRTD compliance.

Defining what makes a MRP ICAO-compliant presents some technical complexity that is beyond the scope of this article. However, in order to ensure that no non-MRPs

are left in circulation after 24 November 2015, it is important to understand the meaning of a 'not machine readable' passport. Some obvious instances of 'not machine readable' include a passport that is handwritten, has no Machine Readable Zone (MRZ) or includes another family member in addition to the holder of the passport.

Some other cases can be more difficult to spot, such as errors in MRZ and the biodata page, which require a closer look by an expert assessor. But in short, in order to be 'ICAO-compliant' and 'machine readable', a passport has to fully comply with the specifications of Document 9303, Part 1, Volume 1. If it does not, the passport should be out of circulation by 24 November 2015.

An important but often forgotten point is worth stressing. The requirement that non-MRPs expire by 24 November 2015 applies to *all* types of passports: Ordinary, Diplomatic and Service. However, it does not seem to apply to temporary travel documents or passports of limited validity in cases of emergency, which usually have a short validity period and are issued by consulates to distressed nationals so they can return to their home country.

ICAO Standards are legally binding for all ICAO Member States. However, there are instances when a Member State may be unwilling or unable to comply with a specific Standard, either for



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a specific period of time or indefinitely. Departures from international Standards are regulated by Article 38 of the Chicago Convention. Generally, when a State is unable to comply with a specific Standard, it has an obligation to 'give notice' to the Council of ICAO by 'filing a difference' under Article 38. A difference is filed by the State using a prescribed form that is available from the ICAO Secretariat.

DOES STANDARD 3.10.1 CALL FOR OBLIGATORY BIOMETRIC PASSPORTS (ePASSPORTS)?

The answer is straightforward: no, it does not! 24 November 2015 is *not* a deadline for ePassports. No ICAO Standard for the introduction of ePassports exists so far. Some States and industry partners appear to mistakenly believe that the 2015 date is a deadline for the introduction of ePassports. It is a relatively widespread misconception that needs to be dispelled.

A Standard on obligatory ePassports may become a requirement some day in the future—if ICAO Member States agree to it. But nothing is foreseen in the immediate future. Even if political will emerged universally to elevate ePassports to an obligatory ICAO Standard, the technicalities of multilateral policy making would take quite a few years until such a new Standard is adopted.

COMPLIANCE WITH 24 NOVEMBER 2015 DEADLINE: CURRENT STATE OF PLAY AND THE NEED FOR FURTHER OUTREACH

The deadline challenge was originally highlighted by the ICAO MRTD Implementation and Capacity Building Working Group (ICBWG) at the TAG/MRTD 20th Meeting held in September 2011, which brought the matter to the Secretariat's attention and recommended intensifying advocacy and information dissemination efforts to promote universal compliance with Standard 3.10.1. At that time, the Secretariat had no formal knowledge about the state of play for compliance with the



GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ARE WELCOME TO CONTACT THE ICAO SECRETARIAT FOR INQUIRIES AND FURTHER ADVICE CONCERNING THE 24 NOVEMBER 2015 DEADLINE:

Jitu Thaker, Technical Officer, Facilitation, ICAO
jthaker@icao.int

For inquiries related to filing a difference to Standard 3.10.1; responses to the Questionnaire enclosed with State Letter EC6/3-12/70.

Erik Slavenas, Programme Officer, ICAO
eslavenas@icao.int

For any other inquiries or information and assistance requests related to the implementation of Standard 3.10.1, including copies of the State Letter or filing a difference form.

24 November 2015 deadline. However, anecdotal evidence from the working group and industry partners suggested that a number of States may be unaware of the deadline and implications to their citizens holding non-MRPs that expire after 24 November 2015.

The TAG/MRTD 21st Meeting in December 2012 endorsed a communications plan with regard to the 24 November 2015 deadline for implementation by the Secretariat with the assistance of the ICBWG. The purpose of the communications plan is twofold: to encourage the compliance of States with the 24 November 2015 deadline for the expiration of non-compliant passports; and to minimise possible inconvenience to the travelling public. The communications plan encompasses



DOES STANDARD 3.10.1 PROVIDE A DEADLINE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ePASSPORTS?

- No, it does *not*!
- The 24 November 2015 is *not* a deadline for ePassports. No obligatory eMRP Standard exists so far.
- Some States and industry partners appear to mistakenly believe that the 2015 date is a deadline for the introduction of ePassports. It is a misconception that needs to be dispelled.
- An ICAO Standard on obligatory ePassports may become mandatory some day in the future—if ICAO Member States agree to it. But nothing is foreseen in the immediate future.

The deadline refers to non-machine readable passports (non-MRPs).

intensified advocacy and communication efforts to raise Member States' awareness about the deadline requirements as well as producing and disseminating guidance materials on Standard 3.10.1 implementation challenges and practices.

Which brings us to the main point: what is the likelihood of universal compliance with the deadline? Not very high so far



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QUESTIONNAIRE IN STATE LETTER EC6/3-12/70

NAME OF STATE : _____

Please circle the appropriate response

1. All non-machine readable passports have expired, or are due to expire, before 24 November 2015 Yes / No
2. If the answer to question 1 is **"No,"** please respond to the following questions:
 - 2.1 The number of non-machine readable passports in circulation beyond 24 November 2015 will be approximately _____
 - 2.2 All non-machine readable passports are due to expire by (date) _____

it appears. Anecdotal evidence from the ICBWG and the traveller identification industry suggests a 'considerable' number of non-MRPs in circulation that will expire after 24 November 2015. Recognising the need for reliable figures, the ICAO Secretariat issued a State Letter EC6/3-12/70 to all ICAO Member States to raise awareness and ensure States have adequate time to comply with the Standard.

The State Letter, dated 31 December 2012, provided a brief background of the issue, urged governments to invite their citizens holding non-MRPs to apply for MRPs and included a

brief Questionnaire to gather information on worldwide application of Standard 3.10.1.

The responses to the Questionnaire, while moderately reassuring, are still too incomplete to provide a full picture. By mid-June 2013, about one-third of all ICAO Member States had replied with only five indicating they were unable to comply with Standard 3.10.1 and meet the 24 November 2015 deadline. It is quite probable, however, that the States that did not reply to the Questionnaire on time face far greater challenges in complying with the deadline. In any case, more replies are needed to have a systematic picture concerning compliance with Standard 3.10.1.

The State Letter and Questionnaire are available from the ICAO Secretariat upon request and all Member States are encouraged to reply at their earliest convenience.

FREE RESOURCES

A Machine Readable Passport (MRP) has to comply fully with the specifications of Document 9303, Part 1. Volume 1. Document 9303 and Supplement can be download free of charge at www.icao.int/Security/mrtd/Pages/Document9303.aspx

POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES OF NON-COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARD 3.10.1

Important as it may sound, this is not an easy topic to address. At this stage, ICAO has no official position or information on the possible consequences of not meeting the deadline. Therefore,

THE 1944 CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION (THE CHICAGO CONVENTION)

- Is the main international legal instrument regarding civil aviation and ICAO's mandate;
- Aims to promote the safe and orderly development of international civil aviation throughout the world;
- Regulates aviation safety, security, efficiency, air navigation matters, aviation environmental protection and related areas;
- Signed on 7 December 1944 by 52 States;
- In force from 5 March 1947 (26th ratification received).
- Available in six Official Languages at www.icao.int/publications/Documents/7300_cons.pdf

...make the public aware of the 24 November 2015 deadline.

any such debate is purely speculative. However, given the importance of potential consequences, the ICBWG has been exploring possible scenarios in order to provide early warning and encourage measures that would assist States with meeting the deadline.

While international law has no centralised enforcement authority, States have a number of remedies they can resort to in addressing non-compliance issues. One such measure is self-help, that is, a State may apply corrective or preventive measures against another State that does not comply with the provisions of international law. According to the working group, other Member States *may* apply bilateral sanctions after 24 November 2015, for instance, refusing admittance to holders of non-MRPs or making visa processing more onerous and costly because of associated risks. While no official information has been submitted to ICAO so far, anecdotal evidence suggests that a few major States are

considering such an approach and their border control officials have warned some visitors holding non-MRPs to renew their passports before 24 November 2015.

If such sanctions were introduced and applied, they would bring costs and inconvenience to holders of non-MRPs after the deadline. Consequences might include financial losses, increased costs, delays, refused entries, cancelled trips and disappointment.

Given the uncertainty and potential high costs to the holders, a good strategy for mitigating the risk is to make the public aware of the 24 November 2015 deadline and encourage the timely renewal of non-MRPs.

WHAT THE STANDARD SAYS:

Standard 3.10.1: 'For passports issued after 24 November 2005 and which are not machine readable, Contracting States shall ensure the expiration date falls before 24 November 2015.'

WHAT THE STANDARD MEANS:

No non-MRPs are to be in circulation after 24 November 2015. (All non-MRPs should have expired by that deadline).

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STATUS OF RESPONSES TO QUESTIONNAIRE IN STATE LETTER EC6/3-12/70 (AS OF 6 JUNE 2013)

Region	Total responses	Q1: Yes	Q1: No	Answers Q2.1/Q.2.2
Asia and Pacific	16/38	14	2	217/2016 – 1.5m/2020
Eastern and Southern Africa	6/24	6	–	–
European and North Atlantic	25/56	23	2	300,000/2017 50,000/2018
Middle East	9/15	9	–	–
North America, Central America and Caribbean	10/21	9	1	–/2017
South America	3/13	3	–	–
Western and Central African	5/24	5	–	–
TOTALS	71/191	66	5	

THE CHICAGO CONVENTION: ANNEXES 1 TO 19

- Annex 1 *Personnel Licensing*
- Annex 2 *Rules of the Air*
- Annex 3 *Meteorological Service for International Air Navigation*
- Annex 4 *Aeronautical Charts*
- Annex 5 *Units of Measurement to be Used in Air and Ground Operations*
- Annex 6 *Operation of Aircraft*
- Annex 7 *Aircraft Nationality and Registration Marks*
- Annex 8 *Airworthiness of Aircraft*
- Annex 9 *Facilitation*
- Annex 10 *Aeronautical Telecommunications*
- Annex 11 *Air Traffic Services*
- Annex 12 *Search and Rescue*
- Annex 13 *Aircraft Accident and Incident Investigation*
- Annex 14 *Aerodromes*
- Annex 15 *Aeronautical Information Services*
- Annex 16 *Environmental Protection*
- Annex 17 *Security: Safeguarding International Civil Aviation Against Acts of Unlawful Interference*
- Annex 18 *The Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air*
- Annex 19 *Safety Management*

For details, refer to the Annexes Booklet at www.icao.int/Documents/annexes_booklet.pdf

RECOMMENDED PRACTICAL STEPS

Reasons for non-compliance differ and every Member State faces a different set of challenges in meeting the November 2015 deadline. While no one solution fits all, a few guiding principles emerged in discussions by the MRTD Programme and ICBWG that may provide some food for thought to Passport Offices in achieving compliance with Standard 3.10.1. They include:

- The first step in managing the challenge is recognising you have a problem that must be solved. Is your State able to meet the 24 November 2015 deadline? If yes, go out and celebrate. If not, read on.
- If your State is unable to meet the 24 November 2015 deadline, it is important to put together a constructive plan of action. Most problems can be solved—except those that have never been addressed.
- Assess the extent of the problem. How many non-MRPs in your State expire after 24 November 2015? What is their expiration date?
- Inform ICAO by responding to the Questionnaire sent with State Letter EC6/3-12/70. (Upon request, the document is available to government agencies from the ICAO Secretariat).
- File a difference with ICAO concerning Standard 3.10.1 as required by Article 38 of the Chicago Convention. Differences are usually filed by the national civil aviation administration.
- And now the most important step! Carry out an information campaign to inform your citizens about the 24 November 2015 deadline. Encourage them to renew their non-compliant passports.
- Avoid negative messages and do not focus on potential difficulties to holders of non-MRPs. Instead, stress the importance of meeting the deadline and how compliance with

24 November 2015 is *not* a deadline for ePassports.

the ICAO Standard is your country's international obligation. Stress to your citizens that travel on ICAO-compliant machine readable passports will facilitate their journey and make it more secure.

- If practicable, implement facilitated processing for non-MRP renewal applications, such as a separate counter with shorter waiting times, a reduced renewal fee or similar such measures, which are entirely at the discretion of the issuing authority.
- Keep an eye out for any updates on the 24 November 2015 deadline (web page coming soon!) at the MRTD Programme website: www.icao.int/Security/mrtd/Pages/default.aspx

FINAL POINTS

ICAO sets the Standards required for aviation safety, security, efficiency and regularity and promotes the safe and orderly development of international civil aviation throughout the world. It works for the benefit of its 191 Member States. If



your Passport Office faces challenges in implementing ICAO Standards or ensuring compliance with MRTD specifications, we urge you to contact the ICAO Secretariat to discuss the issue and the possible solutions. Problem solving is made easier and more effective when we join forces and work towards a common goal. ■

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FROM DOCUMENT FRAUD TO IDENTITY FRAUD: ICAO PROVIDES GUIDANCE



✈ The rapid growth of identity fraud affects many areas of society and raises serious concerns for security and safety. Today there is a shift away from travel document fraud (alteration, counterfeit) towards attempts to obtain a genuine passport based on false identities. Identity fraud is an enabler for criminal activities—from organised crime to terrorism. Weak identity management in the travel document issuance and processes and border sectors are targeted to facilitate these activities. This effect has further highlighted the risks of fraudulently obtaining a genuine passport.

Much work has been done in the area of travel documents to combat document fraud and increase passport security and associated systems for the personalisation and issuance of such documents. For years, the ICAO MRTD Programme has guided the travel community towards increased security improvements for the physical document and its use at border control points. As a result, the current generation of ICAO-compliant travel documents is highly secure and very difficult to alter without being detected. In addition, border authorities have upgraded their document inspection systems and passenger checks to improve security at border control points and increased security at both ends of the travel process.

The ability of a criminal to perpetrate travel documents and other similar types of fraud relies upon deceiving the authorities into accepting a non-reliable identity document during the application (enrolment) process. This process requires, among others, the applicant providing 'Evidence of Identification' in order to substantiate and justify the claim of entitlement. Often, to accomplish this, applications are accompanied by documentation generally known as breeder or foundational documents.

ENHANCED SECURITY AND INTEGRITY

At the 37th Session of the ICAO Assembly held in 2010, Member States were urged to intensify their efforts to safeguard the security and integrity of breeder documentation and requested the Council to take appropriate measures to establish guidance. ICAO's mandate in regards to Evidence of Identification is to assist States to properly and uniquely identify individuals, as part of the travel document issuance process and as they move across borders. ICAO's goal is to draw attention to the need for security and integrity in the application and enrolment of travel documents in order to achieve a consistent level of security and integrity across the travel document continuum.

The travel document itself needs to be secure, the issuing processes need to be methodical and of high integrity and the checks made on a document at borders need to be thorough and trustworthy. To assist Member States in improving their issuance and handling processes, the Subgroup on Evidence of Identity, which reports to the New Technologies Working Group (NTWG) of the MRTD Technical Advisory Group, developed the Guide entitled 'Towards Better Practice in National Identification

...the Guide is intended to be used by individuals and agencies engaged in the full spectrum of identity management...

Management V.3'. This Guide aims to set out a framework of outcomes to be achieved in order to assure confidence in a person's identity prior to issuing that individual a travel document.

THE ICAO GUIDE

The Guide highlights the need for consistent efforts concerning all aspects of travel document issuance procedures where a higher level of confidence may be achieved. It suggests that the examination and decision processes and, particularly the establishment of confidence in a person's identity within this process, is an area that can easily fall behind in the integrity of its security when compared with the travel document.

Today, Travel Document Issuing Authorities (TDIAs) need effective strategies and frameworks for managing and evaluating identity information, when establishing identity, and for supporting quality decision-making processes in regard to applications for travel documents. For such reasons, the Guide is intended to be used by individuals and agencies engaged in the full spectrum of identity management, including the staff of issuing authorities, inspection, police and immigration authorities as well as those engaged in other document entitlement endeavours, including issuers of drivers licenses, national identity cards, voter registration, etc.

In particular, the Guide is especially relevant to those involved in civil registry and other vital records related management activities in order to encompass the very important and pivotal



role performed by those engaged in numerous related entitlement functions, such as birth and death records, citizen records, marriage and divorce records and other civil registry matters.

The Guide serves as an excellent practical guidance tool that can provide useful and efficient recommendations. It can be downloaded from our MRTD link: www.icao.int/Security/mrtd/Pages/Guides.aspx ■

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THE INTERPOL TRAVEL DOCUMENT: A SECURE AND INNOVATIVE TOOL



ABOUT RALPH MARKERT

He is General Project Manager of the INTERPOL Travel Document initiative and Assistant Director of the INTERPOL International Partnerships and Development Directorate. He has been an officer with Germany's Bundeskriminalamt for more than 25 years and joined INTERPOL in 2006

 Ralph Markert of INTERPOL outlines in this article how the implementation of its ePassport Booklet and eIdentification Card facilitate international travel for its law enforcement officials and describes how the organisation's various tools and services prevent and fight transnational crime.

In our increasingly globalised world, it is easier and cheaper than ever before for people and goods to cross international borders. Criminals too are exploiting this ease of travel to cross borders more freely and commit serious crimes, making the air transport industry a crucial actor in ensuring global security. Robust and effective border security measures at the global, regional and national levels are key elements that contribute to the strength of civil aviation.

Aviation security and border management are therefore interlinked and have become key areas of cooperation between countries. Together they form a central security issue on policy and operational agendas. Border management has been and still is regarded as an instrument for collaborative action taken against common threats and in cases of natural disasters. For the majority of countries, the protection of national borders against international organised crime and terrorism is a top priority.

Border security consists of coordinated activities undertaken by national governments and authorities to centralise border security efforts with the goal of developing an overarching security management system within their frontiers. INTERPOL supports the border management efforts of its member countries



...62 INTERPOL member countries have recognised the INTERPOL Travel Document...

through the implementation of its various tools and services, resulting from its mandate to prevent and fight transnational crime through enhanced international police cooperation.

INTERPOL AND BORDER SECURITY

INTERPOL is the world's largest international police organisation, seeking to connect the police forces of its 190 member countries to combat transnational crime. Its General Secretariat headquarters are located in Lyon, France, and operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Additionally, INTERPOL has seven regional bureaus around the world and representative offices at the United Nations in New York and the European Union in Brussels. At the heart of each member country are the INTERPOL National Central Bureaus (NCBs) staffed by highly trained national law enforcement officials that exchange critical information and provide essential police support.

INTERPOL continually evolves and innovates to effectively respond to emerging criminal threats, a constantly changing phenomenon operating across physical and digital borders. INTERPOL offers a range of tools and services that help its member countries enhance their border security procedures and coordinate border security efforts with their neighbours. The organisation coordinates activities, offers training opportunities and cultivates partnerships with other international organisations to ensure the safety and security of all national borders.

To meet the growing challenges of 21st century transnational crime, the organisation designed and implemented its own state-of-the-art technical and operational infrastructure — showcased by the global police communications system I-24/7 (INTERPOL, 24 hours a day, seven days a week). A multitude of tools and services are made available across this system to NCBs and beyond so that national law enforcement officials may query databases and receive the latest intelligence.

Additionally, to support member countries' operational needs, INTERPOL conducts integrated training operations, such as the Smuggling Training Operation Programme (STOP). The programme aims to detect organised criminal groups that provide stolen or lost travel documents to illegal immigrants or individuals involved in organised crime. At the heart of the programme is the extension of access to I-24/7 and, through it, INTERPOL's databases to police at strategic border points and the training of border officials to effectively use them.

At the request of member countries, INTERPOL can also provide specialised teams to assist national police. INTERPOL Incident

Response Teams (IRT) are deployed at the request of a member country during a crisis situation, while INTERPOL Major Event Support Teams (IMEST) are deployed to assist member countries in the preparation, coordination and implementation of security arrangements for major events. To date, some 80 IRTs and 90 IMESTs have been deployed to member countries throughout the globe, providing a range of investigative and analytical support.

INTERPOL TRAVEL DOCUMENT INITIATIVE

INTERPOL is constantly striving to develop new police cooperation tools, particularly with a view to enhancing the investigative capacities of police departments within its member countries and providing them with the necessary means to more effectively carry out cross-border operations.

With this in mind, in 2009, the organisation developed the INTERPOL Travel Document, a new and powerful operational tool designed to facilitate the international travel of law enforcement officials carrying out official duties on INTERPOL-related matters.



INTERPOL is constantly striving to develop new police cooperation tools...

The aim was to enable the organisation to provide rapid assistance to its member countries, without the possible delays of visa procedures. The INTERPOL Travel Document is an electronic and secure international travel document issued by the INTERPOL General Secretariat that comes in two formats: an ePassport Booklet and an eIdentification Card.

The INTERPOL Travel Document does not replace a valid national passport. It is a visa facilitator that must always be presented with a valid national passport. Holders will benefit from a special visa status determined by each member country when entering or transiting through that country (for example, a visa waiver or visa upon arrival at no cost) Member countries may also assign additional conditions, such as the provision of a letter of invitation

from the receiving member country. The list of recognising member countries and the conditions of use of the document can be found on the INTERPOL website.

EXPANDING RECOGNITION

Since its endorsement by member countries at the 79th session of the INTERPOL General Assembly in 2010, several regional organisations have expressed their support for the initiative and encouraged member countries to take all necessary measures to recognise and implement the INTERPOL Travel Document at a national level. These include the African Union, the Southeast Asian Nations Chiefs of Police Association (ASEANAPOL), the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Economic Cooperation Organization and several African police chiefs' organisations (CAPCCO, EAPCCO, SARPCCO and WAPCCO).

As a result, in the two years since its creation, 62 INTERPOL member countries have recognised the INTERPOL Travel Document in one or both its forms (ePassport Booklet and/or eIdentification Card) and granted special visa status to its holders. A total of 115 other member countries are also currently in the process of recognising the document within the scope of their national laws.



INTERPOL'S 62 RECOGNISING MEMBER COUNTRIES

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Armenia, Belarus, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina-Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo Djibouti, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Fiji, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Grenada, Guinea, Jordan, Laos, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Madagascar, Maldives, Mauritius, Monaco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sint Maarten, Somalia, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Uruguay, Yemen and Zimbabwe.

TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENTS

The success of this initiative is closely linked to the management and security of the INTERPOL Travel Document itself. In this perspective, INTERPOL developed a second generation ePassport Booklet in collaboration with Morpho (Safran Group) and Entrust to ensure that the document contains the most advanced security features such as a 3D photo, laser engraving, Kinegram and polycarbonate paper. The second generation document was presented to INTERPOL member countries for the first time at the 81st INTERPOL General Assembly session in 2012.

A strict identity management policy has been established to guarantee that the INTERPOL Travel Document not only complies with international standards in terms of security and data protection, but also serves as a reference for international documents security. For example, each stage of production, from the enrolment of personal data to the collection of the document, is carried out at the INTERPOL General Secretariat. Data is not exported but stored in an encrypted, autonomous central database for the entirety of the document's validity and two years thereafter. Upon expiry, holders must return the documents concerned to the INTERPOL General Secretariat for their secure destruction.

These procedures are closely monitored by the Commission for the Control of INTERPOL's Files, an independent body in charge of preserving the security and integrity of the information processed by the organisation. The development and implementation of the initiative is also supervised by a specially created INTERPOL Travel Document Committee. The Committee ensures the application and observance of the initiative's security principles, for example, by reviewing the eligibility of individuals benefiting or wishing to benefit from an INTERPOL Travel Document when this eligibility is challenged.

To ensure the full implementation of the INTERPOL Travel Document initiative and its compliance with international security

standards, an INTERPOL Travel Document Security Charter was adopted by member countries in 2012. The Security Charter strictly defines the roles and responsibilities of each stakeholder of the initiative, namely, holders of the document, member countries (in particular the Heads of the NCBs) and the INTERPOL General Secretariat in order to guarantee the security and the validity of the INTERPOL Travel Document.

PARTNERS FOR SUCCESS

International organisations such as ICAO and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) also play a key role in the development and implementation of the initiative. By assigning the three-letter code 'XPO' and the two-letter code 'XP' to the INTERPOL Travel Document, ICAO and ISO have enabled the document to be scanned by border authorities like national passports and other machine readable travel documents. INTERPOL further collaborates with ICAO as a member of the ICAO Technical Advisory Group (TAG) and an observer of the ICAO Public Key Directory (PKD) Board, which seeks to promote the global interoperability and enhance the security of electronic travel documents.



The International Air Transport Association (IATA) is also actively participating in the implementation of the initiative, providing airlines and border authorities with official information on the conditions of use of the INTERPOL Travel Document in recognising INTERPOL member countries.

This initiative perfectly illustrates how a successful international partnership between INTERPOL, its member countries, private companies and international organisations can enhance border security. INTERPOL will continue to build upon and strengthen such partnerships to ensure that border security officials will always benefit from the best and most innovative solutions, enabling them to preserve the integrity of their borders. ■

MRTD AND BORDER CONTROL NEWS



Canada

Effective July 2, primary responsibility for Passport Canada moves from Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade to Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC). This move is in line with the duties CIC already performs, such as determining Canadian citizenship.

Ireland

Dublin Airport is piloting Automated Border Control (ABC) gates to facilitate passage of eligible passengers through immigration. The system uses facial recognition, cross checks the captured image against the passport biometric and border authority checklists and verifies access. Each gate will process up to 1,000 passengers daily.

Jamaica

Jamaica has incorporated advance passenger information (API) into its border management system, a security and tourism initiative to improve passenger facilitation and manage security resources effectively. Pre-departure analysis of data decreases the need for outbound passengers to queue at immigration checkpoints. The data is received systematically before flights depart Jamaica allowing a risk analysis to be conducted before passengers leave the island. The new system went live in January.

Nigeria

The US has been assisting Nigeria in the implementation of an information management and communication system based on biometrics that will enhance the security of border controls and migration management.

Peru

In a move designed to speed up immigration controls and combat identity fraud, Peru has announced plans to introduce ePassports later this year. The initiative could see around 500,000 of the documents issued annually to the population of 29 million. Smart cards for foreign residents will also be introduced. Upgraded travel document security is aimed at reducing forgery attempts and related border crime.

Lithuania

Lithuania will hold the Presidency of the Council of the European Union in the second half of 2013. Its priorities for the EU Home Affairs Council include financing the Home Affairs area in 2014–2020, legal migration issues, management of external EU borders, the future of EU law enforcement agencies and cyber security.

Latvia

A major eID card project was completed in Latvia, the government having passed the relevant legislation in 2011 to introduce a new type of personal identification document, the identity card, for legal acceptance along with passports. Every citizen or resident living or working in Latvia can apply for an eID card or residence permit which is accepted as a valid travel document throughout the European Union, including the Schengen zone.

Turkey

Turkey has launched an online visa system (eVisa) for tourists and businessmen from 94 countries, which replaces sticker and stamp-type visas formerly issued at the border. After completing the application form, the eVisa is emailed to the applicant who must print out the eVisa, present it to immigration and customs officers upon arrival and have it in their possession throughout travel.

Uzbekistan

The Uzbekistan ePassport system was implemented and officially accepted by the government. The two-year implementation project created an end-to-end identity management system including citizen enrolment, ePassport personalisation, document verification, border control and authentication and a robust Public Key Infrastructure (PKI).

Philippines

The Philippine Bureau of Immigration will use biometric technology to process the arrival and departure of international travellers, including capturing fingerprints and facial images. Scheduled for completion in 2018, the initiative is expected to enhance national border security and boost the agency's capability to thwart entry of foreign terrorists and other aliens of concern.

Kyrgyzstan

The Kyrgyz State Border Service has been upgrading border control infrastructure and delivering an automated border management system. The two-year technical cooperation project, funded by Japan, will install the new equipment at 15 border crossings, including two airports and 13 rail and road checkpoints.

Sri Lanka

The Department of Immigration and Emigration will adopt a cutting-edge technology, mobile passport readers, to enhance its border control operations. The reader will swipe and scan any passport at any given time providing a full description of the passport holder instead of doing it at an immigration or emigration counter at an airport. The mobile reader can check the passports of large numbers of cruise passengers disembarking at harbours.

Indonesia

The Indonesian smart ID card project is nearing completion. Launched in 2011, it is one of the largest national eID deployments across the globe. The eKTP cards for 172 million citizens are part of a nationwide multi-application eID system that comprises data capturing solutions, servers, data storage, biometric matching and smart cards plus various infrastructure and networking solutions.

ELECTRONIC IDENTIFICATION VIA SMARTPHONES



ABOUT MICHAEL HEGENBARTH

Senior Director of Standardisation and Consulting at Bundesdruckerei GmbH, he is one of the original developers of communication security techniques based on smartcards used in digital signature applications. Since 1986, he has acted as chairman and delegate for various international card standardisation groups in ISO/IEC, CEN and ETSI. He has also chaired the ISO/IEC working group SC17/WG8 for contactless interfaces since 1990 where he initiated the ISO/IEC 14443 project in 1991. In 1997, he came up with the idea of combining mobile phones with contactless interface, which has been promoted under the term NFC since 2002. He has also been chairman of Germany's standardisation committee for cards and personal identification since 1993.

✈️ As attempts are made to gain greater independence, security experts are searching for new solutions to make the ID functions of electronic documents also usable by means of mobile devices, explains Michael Hegenbarth, Senior Director of Standardisation and Consulting at Bundesdruckerei GmbH, in the following article.

Whether shopping, conducting bank transactions or communicating with public authorities, more and more people are handling both private and business transactions on the Internet. In 2012, global sales in eCommerce alone were estimated at more than US \$820 billion. At the same time, there is a continuous flow of new devices onto the market that could very well be used for mobile identification processes when operated as powerful reading devices in combination with electronic ID documents (eID).

In light of this, the focus is moving more towards Near Field Communication (NFC). Now that we've had the 'electronic wallet,' the 'virtual car key' and various ticketing systems, NFC-enabled smartphones or tablets are also becoming reading devices for eID documents. This would finally make the online functions of electronic ID documents available for mobile applications, too, where eID functions are involved. Despite considerable demand—it is estimated by 2015 80% of all countries will have introduced electronic documents—there are still not enough systems that can keep up with this dynamic pace of innovation. This is largely due to incompatible or weakly harmonised international standards.

NEAR FIELD COMMUNICATION CONTINUES TO PUSH AHEAD

Rarely has a new technology been able to become so firmly established on the market like Near Field Communication. The international transmission standard (ISO/IEC 18092) is now already being used for a vast range of commercial data transfers and in approximately 115 million NFC-enabled smartphones. In 2013, sales are expected to more than double with 285 million devices sold worldwide.

But NFC does not impress with superlatives, instead, it's more to do with its perfected miniaturisation. This especially applies to its limited maximum transmission range of 10 centimetres.

And that's exactly what makes it so special. Since the risk of eavesdropping increases potentially with long range transmissions, the weak NFC signal generated by energy saving, low cost transmitters practically rules out unauthorised data access. Unlike commercially used Bluetooth radio, no special login or PIN input is required to pair the devices. All the user has to do is to bring two NFC-enabled transmission and receiving units close to each other and the data transfer in the 13.56MHz license free frequency range can be automatically started.



ADVANTAGES FOR BOTH COMPANIES AND CONSUMERS

Even now, NFC promises to be more than just a wireless connectivity technology. Especially in technology obsessed Japan, an entire cosmos of new applications has become established with the NFC-compliant FeliCa system. The applications enable almost intuitively controlled communication with digital content and offers, the most popular ones of which are location-based marketing products and advertising media that lead directly to other information or integrated ticketing systems—thanks to an NFC tag with integrated URL (Uniform Resource Locator). For applications of this kind, more than 78 million FeliCa-enabled devices are in use in Japan alone—and the number of users who order concert tickets, book a hotel or pay for public transport using their smartphones is growing continuously.

International credit card companies like Visa and MasterCard have long since been aware of this trend. With their payWave and PayPass payment platforms, they want to save customers—especially in Asia and in countries with high credit card acceptance—from having to dig into their pockets to pay out small amounts. In light of a forecasted market volume of 1.8 billion euro, this idea is also triggering interest among European suppliers. A fact that is clearly demonstrated by solutions like France's ERGOSUM system, the German Girogo micro payment format or mpass, the mobile phone payment service advertised by network operator O2. In a nutshell, it seems the time has come to find out more about what Near Field Communication can do.

THE NEXT STEP: MOBILE eID APPLICATIONS

This is also increasingly related to the topic of mobile identification. In this case, however, the technical requirements are much more demanding and touch on international standardisation work.

And that's where we come across one of the key barriers, namely, the limited field strength of today's NFC capable smartphones. That's because the one aspect that has benefitted NFC applications up to now, especially those specific to passive card functions, is also what prevents them from becoming a full scale verification client. The reason for this is that ISO/IEC 14443 standardised document chips, which are powered via the magnetic field of compatible reading devices, need more energy for their cryptographic security protocols than most of today's NFC devices can currently deliver. Further, incompatible transmission methods are an obstacle. Designed for comparatively 'simple' communication with NFC chips or tags, NFC units usually work with Type A modulated field signals. According to ISO/IEC 14443, however, Type B modulation is also used for contactless data exchange with document chips. The field strength measurements initiated by Berlin-based Bundesdruckerei indicate that even newer NFC devices that comply with Type B modulation are not sufficiently compatible. In general, the quality of ISO/IEC



14443 interface compatibility of today's NFC smartphones is still very poor. What's missing here once again is improved harmonisation of the valid standards: ISO/IEC 18092 for NFC technology and ISO/IEC 14443 that handle the contactless data exchange of the complex security protocols of ID documents.

This consequently means that neither the field strength nor the type and quality of signals used or needed enables satisfactory interoperability and therefore makes smooth data exchange difficult and unreliable in general.

THE EXAMPLE OF THE NEW GERMAN ID CARD

The German eID management system that uses the new electronic ID card is an excellent example of this dilemma. In order to be able to make extensive use of the card's online functions, so-called authorisation certificates have to be exchanged. Besides the above-mentioned compatibility problems, these certificates cannot be received by commercially available NFC chips because of their considerable data volume. At most, the ID card PIN can be changed using a mobile phone.

The problem could be partially alleviated in this special case by critically examining the firmware used for NFC chips. This case had been detected with the German ID card, however, it does allow conclusions to be drawn for international difficulties with international interoperability. The existing ISO/IEC 7816-4 smartcard standard, also implemented in every ePassport, provides a sufficient number of options for this. The problems linked to the transmission of extended length data, for instance, could be solved with so-called chaining, namely, NFC-compatible portioning into data blocks of no more than 256 bytes.

HOW NFC DATA EXCHANGE WORKS

The basis for fast and convenient data transfer is the precise modulation of amplitudes and transmission speeds. This involves two technical units: an Initiator, which acts as the information transmitter, and a Target that receives the data package and processes it further.

The main difference in relation to all other contactless technologies up to now is that the exchange between the communicating devices is not restricted to active-passive mode, as is the case with RFID, Bluetooth or WiFi, but is also possible in peer-to-peer, namely, active-active mode.

In passive mode, only the Initiator unit generates the radio frequency (RF) field needed to power the Target, which accesses this via load modulation in order to make the data required available to its active partner, for instance, a card reading device (active-passive communication). This data exchange, which is standardised via the Logical Link Control Protocol (LLCP) and limited strictly to card functionalities, is ideal for payment and simple authentication applications.

In contrast, in active mode, both communication units can be used for query functions or to exchange data (peer-to-peer communication). In the case of this form of transmission, which is standardised via the Near Field Communication Interface Protocol (NFCIP), both the Initiator and the Target device require a separate source of energy—for instance, an integrated battery in order to generate the required magnetic field.

COOPERATION AS THE KEY TO SUCCESS

Does this mean that there is no truly feasible solution in sight? Certainly not. After all, what appears to be missing are co-operative solutions rather than technical ones. And yet, it still holds true: standards are only good and correct as long as they are in line with the latest state-of-the-art and international market needs. But if the underlying conditions change, then possible adaptation processes must be considered in constructive cooperation.

This should focus on the question of data security—even more than before. That's because critics are repeatedly warning there are insufficient standards for Near Field Communication in order to protect the data transmitted in a reliable manner against unauthorised access—one word that comes to mind is keylogging.

Whether it will be sufficient to steer security relevant functions via an isolated operating system is essentially irrelevant. What's more important is that the security aspects of mobile identification must be perceived more clearly, taken up by market stakeholders and included in the work conducted by international standardisation committees.

LOOKING TOWARDS INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

The NFC Forum, which was founded in 2004, has an important role to play in such scenarios. This forum was a driving force behind the implementation and standardisation of near field technology and advocates compatibility and interoperability with other contactless technologies. The topic of identification using a smartphone is also gaining ground here—although the commercial interests of the more than 150 international companies are not always on par with the requirements of eID systems.

It would be good if the experience gained with a successfully implemented eID management system and the latest research results, like those obtained by German security experts, could be included in such discussions. The application and infrastructure know-how of the world's leading device manufacturers and mobile phone network operators could be actively combined with the expertise of long-standing document manufacturers and the security relevant aspects of contactless technology.

In light of growing market pressure, many stakeholders believe that this kind of approach is already vital as the next step. That's because one thing appears to be certain: commercially isolated island solutions will unlikely move mobile eID applications forward or successfully establish them because they will have to comply with global interests and standards.

This, by the way, also applies to Secure Elements, which are currently being used in different variants and determine which applications can be used on different devices.

THE FUTURE MARKET OF MOBILE VERIFICATION

It has yet to be seen in this conflict situation how long it will take for state-of-the-art eID documents to provide greater mobile security in combination with smartphones, PDAs (personal digital assistants) or tablets.

As certain as it seems to be that NFC technology with its simple, configuration-free functionality and its far-reaching resistance to attackers and malware will be used for powerful eIDs, it is also certain there is still much to do in terms of interoperability.

This has also been confirmed by companies like Germany's Bundesdruckerei, which has been working on the topic of NFC and mobile identification for some time now: "We are increasingly moving in globally networked areas and people expect, and rightly so, that we design these areas to be not

just comfortable, fast and efficient, but that we make them as secure as possible," states Ulrich Hamann, CEO of Bundesdruckerei, the world's leading systems supplier.

NFC technology is in fact opening up promising options. However, the gap has not yet been fully bridged to the many billions of ISO/IEC 14443 standardised contactless products currently in circulation, including millions of official documents. "If we are to be able to provide powerful mobile communication and interaction in this area, too, we will need not just innovative technology like NFC, but more importantly, excellent protection for data," explains Hamann. And this protection can only be made available through internationally binding and precisely aligned guidelines that have been lacking to date.

SUMMARY

Near Field Communication has a very good chance of becoming established as a key technology in the field of modern eID applications. For this to happen, national and international standards, public and private sector interests as well as commercial and national security demands will have to be carefully brought together. This is the only way that mobile NFC devices will be able to perform card, reader and client functions at the same time and also enable ISO/IEC 14443

Rarely has a new technology...become so firmly established on the market like Near Field Communication.

standardised verification processes. The demand for such ubiquitous ID solutions that are geared towards international conditions and needs is growing at a rapid pace. Creating a feasible link between the mobile terminal devices, which are increasingly dominating the market, and electronic ID documents, which every citizen will have in the medium term, is one of the greatest and most interesting challenges from an economic perspective facing the global IT market. It is high time that the security benefits of electronic identities be used to create consistently mobile and globally available eID management. ■

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Participants of the Colombia Sub-Regional Workshop and Consultations on Capacity Building in Travel Document Security and Identification Management.

MRTD CAPACITY BUILDING EFFORTS CONTINUE IN THE AMERICAS:

Trinidad and Tobago, Saint Lucia and moving to South America

✈ For the past few years, the use of false identity and fraudulent travel documents has been increasing worldwide. The ability of terrorists and criminals to operate with anonymity across borders has become a powerful tool for individuals to commit unlawful and illegitimate activities. As a result, national agencies have been confronted with the need to strengthen their migration and identification management capabilities.

To help mitigate terrorism and trans-border crime, ICAO has been working closely with regional and international organisations in assisting States to overcome these issues by making the issuance and handling processes of travel documents a matter of strategic importance for international civil aviation.

Leadership and Vision in Global Civil Aviation



Since the 37th ICAO Assembly in 2010, ICAO's work has focussed on assisting Member States to intensify their efforts in safeguarding the security and integrity of 'breeder documents' used in the issuance process of travel documents. To achieve this objective, ICAO has been working closely with the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism of the Organization of American States (OAS/CICTE) in a Canadian funded joint project on capacity building in travel document security and identification management in the Americas. As it is important to provide MRTD capacity building efforts in the Americas by promoting ICAO MRTD Standards, recommendations and guidance material, the objective of the project is to assist the Americas States to achieve compliance with the Standards contained in ICAO Annex 9 – *Facilitation and Document 9303 – Machine Readable Travel Documents* and the best international practices for issuing travel documents.

The initial activities of this joint project were described in the *MRTD Report's* Summer 2012 edition (Vol.7, No.2). This article highlighted the outcomes of the sub-regional workshops held in Mexico (2011) and Panama (2012) and the technical gap assessment mission that took place in the Dominican Republic (2012). This year, the ICAO and OAS/CICTE joint project began with two gap assessment missions held in Trinidad and Tobago and in Saint Lucia. The project began its assistance journey in South America with a sub-regional workshop for the Andean States that was carried out in Colombia. The last sub-regional workshop of this joint project will be directed at the Southern Cone States, a geographic region in South America composed of its southernmost areas, and is expected to take place during the second semester of this year.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO AND SAINT LUCIA

The MRTD gap assessment missions took place this year in Trinidad and Tobago on 5-7 February and in Saint Lucia on 23-29 April. In both missions, the assessment team consisted

...it is important to provide MRTD capacity building efforts in the Americas by promoting ICAO MRTD Standards, recommendations and guidance material.

of a lead expert and two officials from ICAO and OAS/CICTE. The scope of the assessments focused on passport issuance and personalisation, including the integrity of the issuance process, as well as Evidence of Identification, 'breeder documents' chiefly the registration of 'life events' such as birth, baptism and death, documents used as travel documents and related inter-agency cooperation matters.

The methodology included fact-finding from diverse sources, including visits to key targeted sites like passport, immigration and civil registry offices as well as the study of background documents, legislation and other sources. The information collected, when applicable, was analysed by the *ICAO Guide for Assessing Security Standards for Handling and Issuance of Travel Documents* developed by the ICAO Implementation and Capacity Building Working Group (ICBWG) of the MRTD Technical Advisory Group, which focused on compliance with ICAO Document 9303 and good international practices in passport issuance and identification management.

The two gap assessment missions had the following objectives:

- Assessing the two countries' passport and issuance process, taking into account their compliance with ICAO Standards and specifications and good international practices;
- Examining their national identification management as it relates to the issue of travel documents and also 'breeder documents', including birth and baptism certificates and national identification cards; and
- Identifying any current or potential weaknesses in the administrative and operational capacity as they relate to passport issuance and identification management and producing recommendations for consideration and action where appropriate to government agencies.

Both assessments concluded to the great satisfaction of all, particularly the atmosphere of openness and transparency, a significant factor that added to the success and relevance of the



From left to right: Translator; Raymond Gabin, Chief of the Immigration Section, Canadian Embassy in Colombia; Paola Fernandez, Project Manager, OAS/CICTE; Segio Bueno-Aguirre, Director General of Immigration, Colombia; and Mauricio Siciliano, MRTD Officer, ICAO.

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The workshop emphasised the holistic approach toward issuance and handling...of travel documents, security and identification management.



From left to right, Passport Office staffer; Nathalie Teatín, MRTD Project Coordinator, ICAO; Lucius Lake, Head of Immigration Department, Saint Lucia; and Robin Chalmers, ICBWG Expert and Team Leader.

missions and also demonstrated the strong interest, commitment and trust of the two governments. Overall the gap assessments provided a comprehensive view into the administrative and operational capacity of the pertinent agencies in Saint Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago, including the extent of inter-agency cooperation and data sharing, with particular reference to identification documents that are acceptable for inter-island travel. If implemented, the recommendations generated will play an integral part of both Saint Lucia's and Trinidad and Tobago's ongoing improvements in their border control and security programmes, as well as for future capacity building initiatives.

MOVING TO SOUTH AMERICA'S COLOMBIA

The fifth Sub-Regional Workshop of a series of six ICAO and OAS/CICTE joint projects was held on 3-5 April in Bogota, Colombia. The workshop, hosted by the Government of Colombia, particularly Immigration Colombia, was attended by 35 government officials who represented the passport, civil registry and immigration offices of the Andes States of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru.

The workshop emphasised the holistic approach toward the issuance and handling procedures of travel documents, security and identification management and looked at the ways countries can self-assess their passport issuance processes by using the *ICAO Guide for Assessing Security Standards for Handling and Issuance of Travel Documents*.

International technical experts from various fields of identification and border management and travel document security led the workshop. Each expert delivered a presentation and facilitated round-table discussions and working groups. Participants from the Andean States delivered national presentations on the security features of their travel document and identification management systems, their key challenges, ongoing initiatives and best practices. Prior to the workshop, participants completed the preliminary survey developed by the ICBWG. These findings helped to generate informed discussions and identify gaps and priority areas during the five sessions of the workshop, which focused on:

- Issuance of secure Machine Readable Travel Documents (MRTDs) and electronic or eMRTDs, according to ICAO Standards and specifications;
- The new holistic traveller identification management approach (TRIP Strategy) of the MRTD Programme that was approved by the ICAO Council and its relation to the entire supply chain process of issuing travel documents;



From left to right: Representatives from Trinidad and Tobago government agencies; Steven Grant, Team Leader and Consultant, Border Management Technical Expert; and Kimberly Polacek, Project Assistant, OAS/SMS/CICTE.

- Evidence of Identification and improving and modernising national civil registry systems and introducing secure birth certificates and/or other breeder documents;
- Enhancing the technical knowledge and security awareness of immigration and passport staff by empowering them to perform their daily duties in an informed and professional manner;
- Strengthening the cross-border cooperation between the Andean States and, to consolidate their efforts in identification management and border security, outlining the need to work towards managing and controlling their joint borders; and
- Providing guidance, capacity and tools through discussion of a case study using the *ICAO Guide for Assessing Security of Handling and Issuance of Travel Documents* to improve their passport issuance and border control systems and processes.

Some of the outcomes the successful workshop obtained included: increase the interoperability and collaboration among national, regional and international agencies; improve document security and identification management; improve the border control framework; and the need for technical capacity building assistance. These outcomes will serve to identify, improve and create more initiatives that will assist in strengthening cross-border cooperation between the Andean States and other States in their efforts to improve identification management and border security integrity. ■



Case study working session in Colombia using the ICAO Guide for Assessing Security of Handling and Issuance of Travel Documents with Carlos Gómez, Chief of the Service I+D+i, Fábrica Nacional de Moneda y Timbre Real Casa de la Moneda, Spain.



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FOCUS ON SINT MAARTEN: MRTD REGIONAL SEMINAR FOR THE AMERICAS

✈ ICAO, with the support of the Government of Sint Maarten, held a Regional Seminar on MRTDs, Biometrics and Identification Management in Philipsburg, Sint Maarten, Dutch West Indies, from 9-11 July 2013. The purpose of the Seminar was to assist Member States from North American, Central American and Caribbean Regions in implementing ICAO MRTD specifications and related ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices. The Seminar specifically addressed the needs of States to further enhance the integrity of the passport issuance process and ensure effective identification management in order to maximise border security and facilitation benefits.

The Sint Maarten MRTD Regional Seminar concentrated on the very foundation of travel document and border security: a robust national identification management system. Seminar presentations and discussions explored in depth the key components of identification management, including the role of civil registries, Evidence of Identification (EoI), social footprint and investigative methods of confirming ID management, manufacturing and personalisation of national ID cards, data sharing between national agencies involved in identification management and much more.

An industry exhibition complemented the Seminar with a broad range of products and services related to MRTDs, biometric identification, travel document security applications and border inspection systems. Seminar participants had an opportunity to interact with ICAO industry partners and experts to discuss the latest available MRTD technologies.

INDEPENDENT STATUS

The location of the Seminar highlighted historical constitutional changes that took place recently. The Netherlands Antilles has been dissolved and its constituent islands have acquired a new status. Since 10 October 2010, the Kingdom of the Netherlands consists of four countries: the Netherlands, Aruba, Curaçao and Sint Maarten. No longer a Netherlands dependency, Sint Maarten has become a new autonomous country within the kingdom with its own governments. The Netherlands will, however, continue to assist Sint Maarten during the transitional period as it sets up new national institutions.

Sint Maarten has been developing rapidly and its economy relies significantly on tourism and free trade. At the same time, the country is not immune to the pressures of trans-border crime in the Caribbean region, including human smuggling and trafficking, drug trafficking and money laundering. The absence of systematic border controls between the Dutch and French sides of the island facilitates considerable movement of persons and goods but also presents some security vulnerabilities. The Regional Seminar was an opportunity to address those challenges and discuss options and priorities for future capacity building activities to maximise facilitation and security benefits to both the residents of and visitors to Sint Maarten.



Sarah Wescot-Williams, Prime Minister of Sint Maarten, opened the MRTD Seminar.



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Sarah Wescot-Williams, Prime Minister of Sint Maarten, opened the Seminar extending a warm welcome to the more than 120 delegates from 24 countries. The Prime Minister said she was very much looking forward to discussing relevant international standards and best practices on border and identification management as a result of this Seminar. "With the technology available to us, despite our limited resources globally, there is so much that can be done and that we can do together while simultaneously maintaining our own sovereignty as far as border management and travel documents are concerned," she concluded.

PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS

Compared to past MRTD Regional Seminars, this event was about MRTDs—but not just about MRTDs. It focused on something even more essential: the need for a robust national identification management system. The presentations and discussions explored key components of identification management, including the role of civil registries, Evidence of Identification, social footprint and combating identification fraud. Solid and reliable identification management is the foundation on which travel document security and effective border controls are built. The Seminar also moved on to explore the implementation of ICAO MRTD specifications, Standards and Recommended Practices.

The redefined focus of the Sint Maarten Seminar was not accidental. It was aligned with new policy developments at ICAO. 2013 has been a defining year for the MRTD programme and the global traveller identification community. The proposed ICAO



From left to right: Garleen Tomney-McGann, MRTD Programme Assistant, ICAO; Mauricio Siciliano, MRTD Officer, ICAO; Sarah Wescot-Williams, Prime Minister of Sint Maarten; Leona Romeo Marlin, Head of Civil Registry, Sint Maarten; and Emilia Thomas, Policy Advisor to the Prime Minister.



Sint Maarten participants to the MRTD Regional Seminar.

Traveller Identification Programme (ICAO TRIP) Strategy, already endorsed by the Council, will be presented to the ICAO Assembly in the fall. The Strategy, responding to driving global forces and the needs of Member States, provides a framework for achieving maximum benefits for the travel documents of the future. It brings together the elements of identification management and builds on ICAO leadership in MRTD matters.

The key point of the ICAO TRIP Strategy is a recognised need for a holistic and integrated approach to traveller identification management, an approach that links the five elements of traveller identification and border controls into a coherent framework: Evidence of Identification, document issuance and control, MRTDs, inspection systems and tools and interoperable applications.

The Seminar's programme addressed those complex challenges directly. It covered the existing ICAO MRTD Standards and specifications, emerging technologies, the broader identification management framework, challenges and good practices.

CONCLUSIONS

Some important messages that emerged from discussions at the Seminar included:

- The ICAO Traveller Identification Programme (TRIP), as approved by the Council of ICAO, has established strategic orientation and key outcomes for global efforts in enhancing traveller identification management. The TRIP Strategy emphasises a holistic approach to identification management in order to maximise security and facilitation benefits. It contributes to the States' capacity to uniquely identify individuals by providing authorities with tools and guidance on how to establish and verify the identity of travellers.
- Compliance with ICAO MRTD Standards and specifications is of key importance to maximising security and facilitation benefits for States and their citizens. In particular, compliance with ICAO Standards is a legal obligation of all Member States of ICAO.

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- The 1 April 2010 deadline for mandatory introduction of ICAO-compliant Machine Readable Passports (MRPs) has been generally met worldwide. The next major MRTD compliance challenge is meeting the 24 November 2015 deadline, by which time all non-machine readable passports should expire (Standard 3.10.1 in Annex 9). States facing difficulties in ensuring compliance are invited to keep ICAO informed and encourage their citizens to renew any non-compliant passports before the deadline (for more information, see article in this issue).
- Effective security and facilitation is not just about travel documents. MRTDs are important—but they are just part of the broader traveller identification management framework, a framework that integrates identification management, MRTDs, border controls and other elements in a comprehensive manner. This is the main direction of the new ICAO Traveller Identification Strategy which reconfirms and consolidates the relevance of identification management to the needs and expectations of our Member States.
- Admittedly, some States worldwide still struggle with the implementation of Annex 9 – *Facilitation*. This calls for intensifying capacity building assistance efforts, intensifying technical dialogue with States in need and mobilising assistance from the donor community. The ICAO Secretariat has been exploring ways on how to intensify assistance through capacity building projects and technical consultations.



Sint Maarten's national anthem was sung at the opening event.

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Seminar participants explored new technologies and products at the exhibition.

- Seminar exchanges proved to be particularly constructive in addressing the challenges of cross-border cooperation and data sharing. This is a vital area that requires further regional cooperation, confidence building measures, joint activities and information exchange in preventing identification fraud.
- Seminar discussions highlighted the special challenges the Dutch, French and British overseas territories face in combating identification fraud and trans-border crime. They face the same pressures as other States in the region but are often excluded from some regional cooperation frameworks. A strong message emerged from this Seminar: an important priority is exploring new more inclusive and more effective forms of regional cooperation and data sharing.
- The security of the passport issuance process and Evidence of Identification are areas that require particular attention. This is an area where identification fraud efforts have been shifting to globally and can be exploited for terrorist and trans-border crime purposes. ICAO will continue with the ongoing work of codifying good practices in secure issuance and identification management for the benefit of all States.

OTHER CHALLENGES

Some capacity gaps were identified during the frank and constructive discussions at the Seminar. The ICAO Secretariat, its Technical Advisory Group on MRTDs and the Implementation and Capacity Building Working Group will be following them up and exploring ways on how to address them through practical capacity building projects. States are encouraged to maintain dialogue with ICAO about their current and newly emerging MRTD, identification management and border challenges. The more ICAO and related international organisations know what States' needs are the better placed they will be to develop an effective technical assistance

strategy. National government agencies are invited to keep in touch with the ICAO MRTD Programme—and ICAO Regional Offices—about their needs and challenges. ICAO's close cooperation and confident technical dialogue with Member States are keys to success.

The Regional Seminar was the result of excellent cooperation between many parties. The hosts, the Government of Sint Maarten and especially the Cabinet of the Prime Minister and the Civil Registry of Sint Maarten provided enormous assistance and support in organising this important event. Their hospitality was outstanding and gave the Seminar participants an opportunity to discover the beauty and charm of Sint Maarten and its people.

The ICAO MRTD team are particularly grateful to Leona Romeo Marlin, Head of Civil Registry, and Emilia Thomas, Policy Advisor, Cabinet of the Prime Minister of Sint Maarten. They were ICAO's main contacts and partners in organising the Seminar. Their support, contribution and willingness to go the extra mile whenever needed were quite essential to making this event a success.

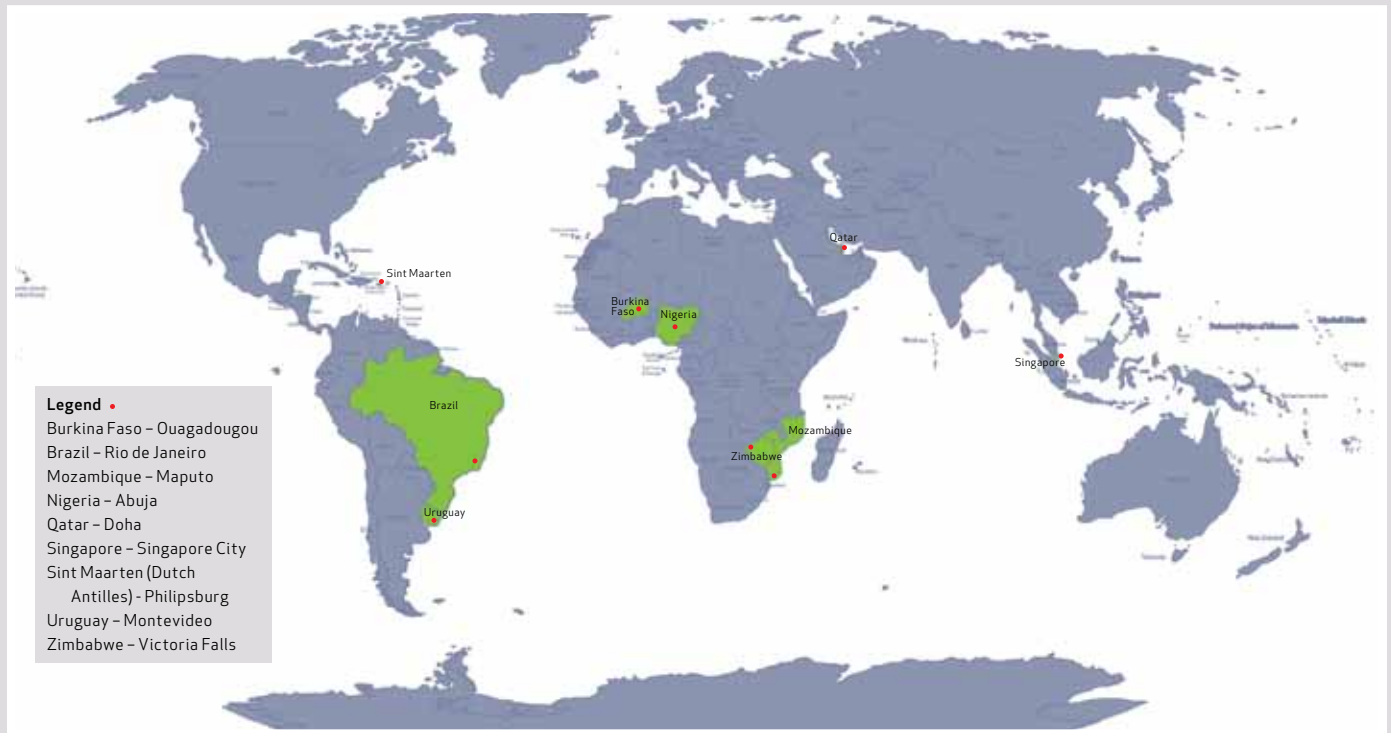
As usual, MRTD Seminar speakers and facilitators consisted of top experts in the field, policy makers and senior managers, practitioners and researchers, with many from the relevant working groups of ICAO, ISO and other international organisations.

The presentations and other Seminar materials are available for reference on the ICAO MRTD website at www.icao.int/Meetings/mrtd-SintMaarten2013/Pages/Presentations.aspx ■



Participants at the Seminar presentations and discussions.

IN SEARCH OF MRTD REGIONAL SEMINAR HOST STATES FOR 2015 AND BEYOND



Every year, ICAO organises two Regional Seminars on MRTDs, Biometrics and Border Security Standards. Relying on the generous support of Host State authorities, Regional Seminars have taken place in Brazil, Mozambique, Nigeria, Qatar, Singapore, Sint Maarten (Dutch Antilles), Uruguay and Zimbabwe. Upcoming Regional Seminars will be held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso (12-14 November 2013), Tashkent, Uzbekistan (April 2014) and Madrid, Spain (Fall 2014).

BENEFITS OF HOSTING

The MRTD Regional Seminars promote best practices related to secure passport issuance and border control systems, while emphasising the importance of issuing ICAO-compliant machine readable passports and participation in the ICAO Public Key Directory (PKD). These events also highlight the relevance of the MRTD Programme in reinforcing national and international security and combating trans-border crime and terrorism. These Seminars have a strong regional focus and address challenges that a specific region may face as well as provide an opportunity for States, especially Host State authorities, to learn about ICAO MRTD technical specifications, discuss their technology concerns, requirements and assistance needs with the ICAO Secretariat, MRTD experts and the donor community and explore options for further capacity building activities.

BENEFITS OF A MRTD EXHIBITION

The MRTD Regional Seminars are each complemented by an exhibition at which companies display a broad range of products and services related to MRTDs, biometric identification, travel document security applications and border management systems. An exhibition of this nature provides an opportunity for Member States to familiarise themselves with the latest available technologies and solutions and discuss any special requirements or challenges they may have directly with on-site company representatives.


CONTACT

For details about becoming a Host State of a MRTD Regional Seminar, please contact Garleen Tomney, MRTD Programme Assistant, at gtomney@icao.int.

For more information on vendor opportunities, please contact Keith Miller at kmiller@icao.int.

ICAO MRTD EVENTS

For more information on MRTD events worldwide, visit the MRTD Programme website at www.icao.int/Security/mrtd/Pages/Events.aspx.

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