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**WORKING PAPER**

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## ASSEMBLY — 39TH SESSION

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

#### Agenda Item 16: Aviation Security – Policy

#### BIOMETRIC BASED ACCESS CONTROL AT AIRPORTS IN INDIA

(Presented by India)

##### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

India has undertaken an ambitious project to have biometric based access control systems in all its airports. This automated online process aims to make the security architecture at Indian airports more robust.

<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	This working paper relates to Strategic Objective C – <i>Security and Facilitation</i> .
<i>Financial implications:</i>	This paper has no financial implications.
<i>References:</i>	None

## 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In India, entry into the airport including the check-in area is restricted to passengers and holders of relevant Aerodrome Entry Permit (AEP). It is difficult to distinguish between a genuine paper ticket and a cancelled one at the access point although effective deterrence is achieved by also checking the documents of exiting persons. Identification against paper ID cards has limitations of visual cognition, smudging, etc. It is also time-taking and some identification documents do not have a photograph. Further, different levels of background checks are mandated for different duration of AEPs and it has been noticed that some persons refused AEP by one authority, approach another authority for AEP of a different durations. During rush periods, visual matching of AEP to the person tends to be difficult. In order to avoid the above problems, India has embarked on a project to limit access to persons either with a valid ticket or an AEP which has the person's biometric features embedded in it.

## 2. FEATURES OF THE NEW SYSTEM

2.1 Under the new system, the 2 D bar code on the ticket or the AEP will be "read" by the reader which will display the photograph of the AEP holder. Access will not be allowed against a cancelled ticket.

2.2 Depending on the level of sterility required, different zones will have different systems of access control. For less restricted zones, only the AEP will be sufficient. For greater restriction, the zone will be accessed after the system has "read" the card and the biometric feature of the person and matched them. For even higher restriction, AEP + biometric + PIN (Personal Identification Number) has been mandated.

2.3 Gates and turnstiles are linked to the reader. The AEP reading will be contactless but, due to security reasons, the AEP needs to be brought close to the reader.

2.4 All the applications for AEP will be online, hence bypassing authorities will not be possible. Further, the data will be encrypted with a Key Management System precluding any manipulation.

2.5 All the systems are compatible with the pan Indian identity card Aadhar.