



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

MIDDLE EAST OFFICE

MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL FACILITATION SEMINAR

(Cairo, Egypt, 24 - 27 February 2014)

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Middle East Regional Facilitation Seminar was held at the ICAO Middle East Regional Office in Cairo, Egypt from 24 to 27 February 2014. The Seminar was organized by ICAO and attended by a total of sixty four (64) participants from fourteen (14) States (Bahrain, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, United Arab Emirates and Yemen) and one (1) Organization (IATA). The list of participants is at **Attachment A** to this Summary of Discussion.

1.2 The main objective of the Facilitation Seminar, the first to be held in the Middle East Region for many years, was to update States on developments in ICAO's Facilitation Programme, with a focus particularly on its work programme for the next triennium (2014-16) and issues of contemporary interest, such as compliance/implementation issues related to Annex 9 – Facilitation to the Chicago Convention, Advance Passenger Information (API) and Passenger Name Record (PNR) data exchange programmes, inadmissible persons and deportees, access to air transport by persons with disabilities, air cargo facilitation, etc.

1.3 Mr. David Sterland, RO/AVSEC was the ICAO MID focal point and facilitator supported by Mr. Adel Ramlawi, RO/AGA, Mr. Jitendra Thaker, Technical Officer - Facilitation, ICAO Headquarters, Mrs. Christiane Dermakar, Programme Officer – Public Key Directory, ICAO Headquarters, and Mr. Robert Davidson, Assistant Director, Border Security Policy, IATA Headquarters.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 Mr. Mohamed Khonji, Regional Director, ICAO MID Regional Office, opened the Seminar and addressed the participants. After describing the significant growth in aircraft movements and passenger traffic being experienced in the Middle East region which places an increased demand on the facilitation of civil aviation, Mr. Khonji outlined the main elements of ICAO's Facilitation programme. He described how ICAO's Strategic Objectives for 2014-16 combine Security and Facilitation, recognizing the importance of balancing both objectives and with the goal of enhancing global civil aviation security and facilitation. The recent 38th ICAO Assembly

had resolved that there is a clear need for national and international action to ensure the security and integrity of traveller identification and border controls.

2.2 The Seminar comprised four days of presentations (24-27 February) given by ICAO, IATA and State representatives (civil aviation authorities, airport and airline operators) covering all important Facilitation topics and providing feedback on implementation issues. The seminar programme is attached to this Summary of Discussion (**Attachment B**).

2.3 The first day of the seminar provided an introduction to the ICAO Facilitation programme, a review of Annex 9 compliance issues (based on USAP results), and the specific requirements regarding the expiry of non-machine readable passports before 24 November 2015 (Standard 3.10.1 of Annex 9). Discussions highlighted the need for uniformity, the balancing of national laws and international obligations, the need for compliance, and the requirement to notify ICAO of differences under Article 38 of the Convention on International Civil Aviation. States were encouraged to inform their citizens who are holding non-machine readable passports to replace them before the 2015 deadline to ensure their travel is facilitated.

2.4 The second day of the seminar focused entirely on the subject of Advance Passenger Information (API) and Passenger Name Record (PNR) data. Following a presentation by ICAO on the regulatory framework provided by Annex 9 and the associated guidance material, IATA conducted a workshop on the implementation aspects given the practical experience of the airline industry in this regard. A number of MID States spoke about their experience and plans in relation to the implementation of such programmes. IATA introduced their API-PNR Passenger Data Toolkit which is designed to assist implementation programmes (available via the IATA website).

2.5 The third day of the seminar featured presentations given by ICAO and IATA on the subject of Inadmissible Persons and Deportees. Egypt and Jordan gave presentations on their experience in handling issues related to these categories of passengers. The ICAO Secretariat provided a briefing on the new Traveller Identification Programme (TRIP) and on the Public Key Directory (PKD). Key aspects of the ICAO TRIP were described, including 'evidence of identification', MRTDs, document issuance and control, inspection systems and controls, and interoperable applications. Finally, ICAO presented the requirements and guidance relating to Persons with Disabilities and their access to air transport services.

2.6 The fourth day of the seminar provided information on National Air Transport Facilitation Programmes. These were regarded as an essential component in the coordination of facilitation activities at the national level, involving all relevant agencies and stakeholders. Bahrain and Sudan gave presentations on their national facilitation programmes, emphasizing the importance of national coordination and the need for the harmonization of relevant laws between different government Ministries. ICAO provided briefings on the latest developments regarding the prevention and management of public health events in civil aviation (the CAPSCA programme), and on developments in air cargo facilitation. States were reminded of the importance of ratifying the Montreal Convention of 1999 (Unification of Certain Rules for international Carriage by Air) and the bearing this has on the security and facilitation of air cargo.

2.7 The fourth day concluded with presentations by ICAO on the issue of defining requirements and guidance in the area of unaccompanied minors travelling by air, on priorities for the Facilitation Programme for the next triennium (2014-2016), and on the work of the ICAO Facilitation Panel. The seminar was provided with a closing address by Mr. M. Khonji who thanked participants and IATA for making the seminar successful. Participants appreciated the role of ICAO in

organizing the seminar and suggested that additional workshops be arranged in the future to enable a more detailed examination of the various aspects of Facilitation.

3. CONCLUSION

3.1 The Seminar was successful in all intended respects, particularly in identifying Facilitation requirements, implementation challenges and sources of assistance to help States and other stakeholders in the coordination and delivery of Facilitation measures. The participants appreciated the material delivered by the speakers and actively contributed their views and experience relating to Facilitation.

3.2 All of the materials presented during the Seminar have been placed on the ICAO MID website for ease of access and use by participants. At the same time, participants have been made aware of the Facilitation materials available on the main ICAO and IATA websites and via the ICAO Secure Portal. Participants were encouraged to remain in close contact with ICAO (HQ and MID Region Office) and IATA to seek support and guidance on issues relating to the implementation of Facilitation measures.

3.3 As further assistance from ICAO, participants were made aware of the forthcoming ICAO/WCO Joint Conference on Air Cargo Security and Facilitation to be hosted by Bahrain in Manama, 16-17 April 2014.



International Civil Aviation Organization

ICAO Regional Facilitation (FAL) Seminar

(Cairo, Egypt, 24 to 27 February 2014)

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REGIONAL FACILITATION SEMINAR

(Cairo, 24-27 February 2014)

AGENDA

DAY 1: Monday, 24 February 2014

- 0800 – 0915 Registration of delegates
- 0915 – 0945 Opening of the meeting
– M. Khonji (ICAO Regional Director, Cairo) and introductions
- 0945 – 1000 Introduction to event
– J. Thaker & D. Sterland (ICAO)
- 1000 – 1030 Coffee Break**
- 1030 – 1130 Introduction to the ICAO Facilitation Programme
– J. Thaker (ICAO)
- 1130 – 1200 The Facilitation Panel
– J. Thaker (ICAO)
- 1200 – 1230 Lunch Break**
- 1230 – 1300 FAL Programme: 2014–2016
– J. Thaker (ICAO)
- 1300 – 1330 Annex 9: Compliance Issues
– J. Thaker (ICAO)
- 1330 – 1400 Annex 9 & Aviation Security Audits
– D. Sterland (ICAO)
- 1400 – 1430 Compliance with Standard 3.10.1 of Annex 9
– J. Thaker (ICAO)

DAY 2: Tuesday, 25 February 2014**Special Focus: Passenger Data (API and PNR)**

- 0900 – 1000 Advance Passenger Information (API) & Passenger Name Record (PNR) Data:
The ICAO Perspective
– J. Thaker (ICAO)
- 1000 – 1030 Coffee Break**
- 1030 – 1200 API & PNR: The Industry Experience
– R. Davidson (IATA)
- 1200 – 1230 Lunch Break**
- 1230 – 1430 Workshop on API and PNR
– R. Davidson (IATA)

DAY 3: Wednesday, 26 February 2014

0900 – 0930	Inadmissible Persons and Deportees – J. Thaker (ICAO)
0930 – 1000	Inadmissible Persons and Deportees – IATA
1000 – 1030	Coffee Break
1030 – 1100	Inadmissible Persons and Deportees – States' experience
1100 – 1130	ICAO Traveller Identification Programme (TRIP) – C. Dermarkar (ICAO)
1130 – 1200	ICAO Public Key Directory (PKD) – C. Dermarkar (ICAO)
1200 – 1230	Lunch Break
1230 – 1300	Unaccompanied minors: An Emerging Issue – J. Thaker (ICAO)
1300 – 1330	National Air Transport Facilitation Programmes – C. Dermarkar (ICAO)
1330 – 1430	National Air Transport Facilitation Programmes – States' experience

DAY 4: Thursday, 27 February 2014

0900 – 0930	Persons with Disabilities – J. Thaker (ICAO)
0930 – 1000	Persons with Disabilities – States' experience
1000 – 1030	Coffee Break
1030 – 1115	Collaborative Arrangement for the Prevention and Management of public health events in Civil Aviation (CAPSCA) – A. Ramlawi (ICAO)
1115 – 1200	Developments in Air Cargo Facilitation – D. Sterland (ICAO)
1200 – 1230	Lunch Break
1230 – 1400	FAL Programme: 2014–2016 and Implementation Issues – ICAO and States
1400 – 1430	Closing

Note: The programme may be amended, as required.