TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP ON
MACHINE READABLE TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

Fifteenth Meeting

(Montreal, 17 to 21 May 2004)

Agenda Item 2:   Report of the Document Content and Format Working Group
Agenda Item 2.1: Progress in updating Doc 9303 and proposed amendments

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ICAO DOC 9303 PART 1 TO ACCOMMODATE THE
BIOMETRICS DEPLOYMENT TECHNICAL REPORT

(Presented by the New Technologies Working Group (NTWG))

1.   **BACKGROUND**

1.1   The Fifth Edition of ICAO 9303 Part 1 was published in 2003. Since that time ICAO has decided to incorporate biometric and other data stored on a contactless chip. This will need substantial modifications to be made to the Fifth Edition. These modifications will involve the addition of the appropriate parts of the Biometrics Deployment Technical Report, being presented to this TAG meeting by the NTWG, coupled with the deletion or amendment of some sections of the existing document, most of which would remain unaltered.

1.2   It is important that an authoritative document be available to States at the earliest opportunity. To achieve this, DCFWG proposes to the TAG a two stage process.

2.   **STAGE 1**

2.1   A modified Fifth Edition should be produced with parts of the NTWG Biometrics Deployment Technical Report incorporated in the first instance as a new Annex K. (Note: Annex code letters are standardized so that the same letter covers the same topic in each Part of ICAO Doc 9303. As a result, not all Annex letters are represented in every document).

2.2   The addition of the new Annex K will result in the changes to the following sections/paragraphs of ICAO Doc 9303, Part 1. These may be made as inserted amendments in the first instance.

2.2.1   Section II paragraph 3 will be extended to include definitions relative to biometrics and chips.

2.2.2   Section IV Paragraph 1 (Scope) will have an additional sentence added to draw attention to Annex K covering biometrics and microchips.

2.2.3   Section IV Paragraph 6.5 (Data element directory - MRZ) will be modified to incorporate the change to the MRZ to indicate when a passport is chip enabled.

2.2.4   Section IV Paragraphs 16, 17, 18 & 19 (Data Storage Capacity, Machine Assisted Identity Confirmation & Machine Assisted Document Verification.) need substantial modification to reflect that the contactless chip is now the standard for data storage and facial recognition from a stored image the globally interoperable standard, with fingerprint (image) and iris recognized secondary technologies. Other technologies (e.g. bar codes, hand geometry) are available for States to use for their own or agreed bilateral purposes. The NTWG Technical Report on Machine Document Verification may be referred to here if its final version makes any specific recommendation of the technology to be used.

2.2.5   Section IV Paragraph 20.3.1. (Passport Card) should be modified to include a document code for a chip enabled passport card.

2.2.6   Section IV Annex B and Annex C will be modified to emphasise which technologies are globally interoperable and which are available for States own or agreed bilateral use.

2.2.7   Section IV Annex E (Bar codes) will be modified to emphasise that bar codes are only to be used by States for their own or agreed bilateral use.

2.2.8   Section IV Annex F (Contactless chip) will be modified to remove references to IC card specifications other than ISO/IEC 14443. Paragraph F4 (Location of the Contactless IC) may need clarification.

3.   **STAGE 2**

3.1   Work on the second stage will be started as soon as Stage 1 is completed. This will involve a more detailed reworking of the whole of ICAO Doc 9303, Part 1 with the objective of integrating the Biometrics Deployment Technical Report fully into the document rather than adding it as an annex.

3.2   The NTWG, in preparing their Biometric Deployment Technical Report, has included matters which are essential for the successful operation together with other matters which can be described as suggested best practice. An example of the latter is the suggestion that a chip passport reader should have a pilot light to indicate that it is switched on. DCFWG proposes that only the essential matters be incorporated into the body of the document. Best practice items can be incorporated into an informative annex on the general lines of Annex A. DCFWG will liaise with NTWG to ensure that each topic appears in the appropriate place.

4.   **ACTION BY THE TAG/MRTD**

4.1   The DCFWG invites the TAG/MRTD to endorse this proposed two-stage course of action.

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