



International Civil Aviation Organization

WORKING PAPER

TAG-MRTD/16
WP/2
13/9/05
English only

TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP ON MACHINE READABLE TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

Sixteenth Meeting

(Montreal, 26 to 28 September 2005)

Agenda Item 1: Development of specifications for MRTDs

Agenda Item 1.1: Approval of the 6th Edition, Doc 9303, Part 1 (working draft)

DOC 9303 PART 1 – PUBLICATION AND ISO ENDORSEMENT

(Presented by the Document Content and Format Working Group)

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 At its fourteenth and fifteenth meetings, the TAG/MRTD decided to standardise an optional biometric scheme for MRPs involving facial recognition, optionally supported by fingerprint and/or iris recognition. It was also decided that the necessary data would be stored on a contactless integrated circuit contained within the structure of the MRP.

1.2 This decision brought the need for a revision to ICAO Doc 9303 Part 1. The current Fifth Edition was only published in 2003. However, it permits a range of both biometric and data storage means which are no longer compatible with the TAG decision.

2. ACTIVITIES OF DCFWG

2.1 The leader of ISO/WG3 Task Force 2, which supports the work of DCFWG, was contracted by the ICAO Secretariat, under a Special Service Agreement, to undertake the editing of a Sixth Edition of Doc 9303 Part 1. The work involved examining the content of the Fifth edition with the intention of removing any material which was no longer relevant and updating the technical content where appropriate. In addition, the content of the three Technical Reports on Biometrics Deployment, Logical Data Structure, and Public Key Infrastructure, had to be appropriately edited for incorporation into Doc 9303.

(3 pages)

Tag-mrtd16.wp.02.en.doc

2.2 Under the specifications of the Sixth Edition, a State will have the option of issuing an MRP, essentially in the form that has been standard since 1980, or additionally incorporating a contactless integrated circuit with globally interoperable biometric and other data. It was therefore decided that Doc 9303 Part 1 should, in the future, appear in two Volumes. Volume 1 would contain the specifications for the basic MRP, to which *all* MRPs, whether electronically enabled or not, would have to conform. Volume 2 would contain the additional specifications for the electronically enabled MRP (which has become known as the e-Passport) would have to conform. It was therefore important to ensure compatibility between the two volumes so that there was no conflict between the specifications.

2.2.1 **Volume 1**

Volume 1 essentially contains the specifications found in the Fifth Edition. There are many detailed amendments, the following being the major changes:

- A new Foreword explains the background to the new structure of Part 1.
- Section III has changed completely. Previously it consisted of specifications that were common to all MRTDs; it was felt that this concept made the document more difficult to absorb. As a result, all the specifications that relate to a basic MRP now appear in Section IV. The new Section III covers security matters with appendices on document security, machine assisted document verification, and security of document issuance. The last topic is based on two papers produced by Mr. John Hotchner of the US State Department; DCFWG felt they were too detailed for inclusion in the main document, so they have been summarised, with reference to the fact that they would be made available in full on the ICAO MRTD web site and should be consulted by States.
- The specification for the portrait to be displayed on the data page of the MRP (and included in the data stored on the contactless IC of an e-passport) has been updated. This is to ensure that all MRPs contain a portrait of high quality and that even if a State does not intend to issue an e-passport in the first instance, it can build up a database of portraits which can be used for facial recognition purposes at the time of application and issue of MRPs, as well as minimising the problems of introducing an e-MRP at some time in the future.
- Specifications for short term or emergency passports are also included.
- All reference to biometric identification is deleted, this being covered in Volume 2.
- The Fifth Edition permits the use of one and two dimensional bar codes for additional data storage. In the Sixth Edition, the use of these is not prohibited, but it is emphasised that they are now for the use of the issuing State only or under bilateral agreements; they are not globally interoperable.

2.2.2 **Volume 2**

The totally new Volume 2 contains the specification for the e-passport. It consists of four Sections: a Foreword, Biometric Deployment, Logical Data Structure and PKI. The latter three are based on the three Technical Reports presented to TAG 14. The Biometric Deployment Technical Report was

written as a review of the extensive work undertaken to arrive at the decision to use facial recognition, backed optionally by fingerprint and iris, with data stored on a contactless integrated circuit, leading to the specifications. For Doc 9303 Volume 2, the review of the development work is removed leaving only the specifications together with some justification. As presented to TAG 14, the LDS covered a number of data storage technologies; in Volume 2 only the storage of data on a contactless integrated circuit remains. The PKI Section is essentially identical to the Technical Report.

2.3 **DCFWD Review of the Editorial Work**

2.3.1 The editorial work began in the Summer of 2004. A first draft was reviewed by DCFWD in October at a meeting in Paris. Further drafts were considered at a meeting in Vienna in February 2005. At all stages, the drafts were posted on the website established by Standards Canada, and input invited from interested parties including, of course, the NTWG and the ISO WG3 Task Force members. There were many contributions by e-mail.

2.3.2 It was the intention to finalise the document by the end of March 2005. However, two matters caused the time-frame to be extended. The NTWG received a number of comments and queries which it logged and reacted to under the name '9303 Supplement'. Some of these required clarifications to be made to the new Part 1. Also, the US Department of Homeland Security wished to publish a Regulation defining what the US required of the MRPs of Visa Waiver Countries. It was anxious that all possible clarifications from the 9303 Supplement should be included in the main document. It took some time to achieve this, and the final document was submitted to the ICAO Secretariat in July 2005.

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

3.1 The TAG/MRTD is invited to:

- a) approve the publication of the Sixth Edition of ICAO Doc 9303 Part 1 in its new two-volume format;
- b) recommend that ICAO should, as soon as possible, make available the English language electronic (PDF) version of the Sixth Edition for purchase through its electronic sales unit;
- c) support ISO endorsement of this Sixth Edition, and to mark the current publication "ISO pending" in the meantime; and
- d) acknowledge the work done not only by DCFWD, but also by key members of NTWG and ISO/WG3.

— END —