



International Civil Aviation Organization

WORKING PAPER

TAG-MRTD/16
WP/9
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 1.3: Report of the Document Content and Format Working Group

REPORT OF THE DOCUMENT CONTENT AND FORMAT WORKING GROUP

(Presented by the Document Content and Format Working Group)

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Document Content and Format Working Group is pleased to report on its work since TAG-MRTD/15. DCFWG acknowledges the input and continuing support of ISO WG3.

2. MEETINGS

2.1 The DCFWG has held four meetings since TAG-MRTD/15.

2.1.1 *Paris, France – 27 - 29 October 2004*, Hosted by Imprimerie Nationale.

Work on the new Part 1 of 9303 started. A division into two volumes was decided and basic outlines agreed. Work progressed on durability issues and test methods of e-Passports. Applicability of digital photos for face recognition was discussed and photo guidelines elaborated.

Mr. John Mercer had already previously announced his upcoming retirement. Mrs. Claudia Hager, Austria, was nominated as his successor. After consultations with the ICAO Secretariat, she was unanimously elected by the DCFWG as the new Chairperson.

(3 pages)

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2.1.2 *Vienna, Austria – 28 February - 1 March 2005*, Hosted by Austrian State Printing House (OeSD).

First meeting chaired by Claudia Hager.

The major topic was the editorial work of ICAO 9303 Part 1, volumes 1 and 2. Many issues were discussed, inconsistencies corrected and editorial work was done. Some issues had to be forwarded to NTWG for consultation. A research paper on Fantasy and Camouflage passports was presented and prepared for TAG-16. There was a presentation by the EU on cooperation and harmonisation.

2.1.3 *Aarau, Switzerland – 6 - 7 June 2005*, Hosted by Trueb.

Work on 9303 Part 1 was completed, apart from some open issues of a technical nature. It was agreed that its quick publication will be proposed, at TAG-16. Work on 9303 Part 3 is about to be started, also divided into 2 volumes. Illustration on border control processes and chip placement were improved and the implication of introduction of e-passports were discussed in connection with border control. The necessity of test institutes for e-passports was highlighted and agreed. It was agreed that a WP would be submitted to TAG-16. A draft paper on dealing with inadmissible persons was revised. The issue of version numbers for documents was discussed; it was decided that they are related to passports numbers anyway. A variety of topics were discussed as miscellaneous items, some of which did result in WPs for the TAG.

2.1.4 *Montreal, Canada, prior to TAG-MRTD/16 – 26 September 2005*.

Attendance and representation to be announced. The meeting will review the Working Papers to be submitted to the Plenary, the first draft of the revision of Doc 9303 Part 3 will be distributed and the work plan for the following year will be discussed.

2.2 The first meeting following TAG-16 will be hosted by PWPW in Warszawa, scheduled for 24-25 October 2005. The major topic will be the editorial work for 9303 Part 3.

3. ACTION

3.1 The following working papers are being submitted to the TAG-16 meeting:

3.1.1 WP/2: Doc 9303, Part 1 --- Publication and ISO Endorsement;

3.1.2 WP/3: The Production of the Third Edition of Doc 9303, Part 3;

3.1.3 WP/4: Transliteration Rules for Countries with non-Latin National Script;

3.1.4 WP/5: Alternative Documents (Fantasy and Camouflage Passports);

3.1.5 WP/6: Procedural Improvements to Annex 9 --- *Facilitation* Concerning Inadmissible Persons and Deportees;

3.1.6 WP/7: Travel Document Quality Assurance and Testing;

3.1.7 WP/8: Interoperability of Steganography and Digital Watermarking; and

3.1.8 WP/9: Report of the Document Content and Format Working Group.

3.2 It is noteworthy that attendance at DCFWG meetings by representatives of other working groups, and vice versa, has increased. This has led to a greater exchange of information and greatly improved and better cooperation.

4. **FUTURE WORK PLAN**

4.1 DCFWG – in close cooperation with NTWG and EPWG – has the following agenda for upcoming meetings:

4.1.1 Revision of Doc. 9303 Part 3, and creation of Volumes 1 and 2.

4.1.2 Work on input for alternative document data base.

4.1.3 Set up list of test institutes for e-passports.

4.1.4 Follow up developments on steganography.

4.1.5 Deal with current issues coming up with e-passport introduction.

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

5.1 The TAG/MRTD is invited to:

- a) take note of this report and approve the future work plan.

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