



International Civil Aviation Organization

WORKING PAPER

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TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP ON MACHINE READABLE TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

Sixteenth Meeting

(Montreal, 26 to 28 September 2005)

Agenda Item 2: Implementation of e-passports
Agenda Item 2.1: Progress and issues

TECHNICAL REPORT ON USE OF SMART CARDS WITH MACHINE READABLE PASSPORTS (1ST EDITION)

(Presented by the New Technologies Working Group)

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 During the Fifteenth meeting of TAG/MRTD (Montreal, 17 to 21 May 2004), the proposal for on-going development work by the NTWG on Hybrid Card/Book Options for Biometric Enabled Passports was approved in principle by the TAG. Further, approval was given for the development of a full Technical Report for subsequent consideration and adoption by the TAG/MRTD.

1.2 The hybrid technical report has undergone several rounds of discussions and comments. A total of 4 revisions were brought up. The first draft (presented as version 1.0) was presented at the NTWG meeting in Tokyo (31 August 04 to 03 September 04). Subsequently, it was presented at Auckland (7 – 10 December 04) and Lyon (30 May to 2 June 05). After each revision was presented and deliberated, comments were taken and incorporated into succeeding draft revisions until the final version 1.3. Since then no more comments were received. NTWG, as part of its ongoing work program, has finalized the First Edition of the Technical Report on the Use of Smart Cards with Machine Readable Passports. This provides a framework for a detachable smart card to be used together with a MRZ booklet. The primary emphasis of this document is to describe briefly what the hybrid system is about, how it could be considered in the context of Machine Readable Passports, and some benefits of such a system.

1.3 The hybrid concept was conceived as an ID-1 size biometric-enabled passport card that would be associated with but detachable from a passport book. There are several benefits of using such a hybrid option with its detachable passport card, namely, lower cost and ease of implementation. Also, the hybrid concept allows for third party application versatility, which may include domestic Air Travel initiatives and secured identity. Additionally, as chip technology develops, there may be a wish to upgrade or replace them and the hybrid system provides an easy way to achieve it at lower cost. The hybrid system is also in alignment with ICAO's long term vision of an electronic Passport Card.

2. ACTION BY THE TAG/MRTD

2.1 The TAG/MRTD is invited to:

- a) approve the 1st Edition of the Hybrid Technical Report on the Use of Smart Cards with Machine Readable Passports and recommend that it be published on the ICAO MRTD website.

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