International Civil Aviation Organization

TAG-MRTD/17-WP/17
7/3/07
English only

WORKING PAPER

TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP ON MACHINE READABLE TRAVEL DOCUMENTS (TAG-MRTD)

SEVENTEENTH MEETING

Montréal, 20 to 22 March 2007

Agenda Item : 2 Implementation of ePassports
Agenda Item :2.1 Progress and Issues

GUIDELINES on e-MRTDS & PASSENGER FACILITATION

Presented by new Technologies Working Group (NTWG)

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 At TAG-MRTD 16 held in Montreal from 26 to 28 September 2005 a proposal for a Technical Report on Automated Border Control Systems was presented.

1.2 The TAG suggested that this report will be better identified as a “guideline” and that it should broaden the scope to include systems based on e-passport functionality and not just on enrolment. The group also suggested such guidelines could eventually be included in Chapter 6 of Annex 9.

1.3 This Working Paper informs the TAG about the progress is made and the subjects/issues to be dealt with in the guidelines.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The strategy to improve facilitation and expedite low-risk travellers through (automated) inspection controls while achieving a high level of compliance was already set out in WP/12, presented during TAG-MRTD-11.

2.2 Due to the impact of several international terrorism actions and the heavy workload of the introduction of the e-passport, the NTWG was unable to work on a solution on improvement of facilitation for border control.

2.3 With the introduction of the ICAO standards for e-passports, many States have already implemented the necessary infrastructure, to issue e-passports.

2.4 Meanwhile some States have introduced, or are planning Automated Border Control schemes, in the context of today's demands where security, privacy and confidentiality play an important role along with travel facilitation.

2.5 Since the e-passport contains standard electronic information and biometric identifiers which are global interoperable and highly secure, the goal of ICAO is to promote the use of the e-passports as the token for the automated border control clearance system.

3. PROGRESS TO DATE

3.1 Since TAG 16 a sub working group of the NTWG of experts in the field of Automated Border Clearance Systems has been formed.

3.2 The sub working group had three meetings in The Hague, London and at Schiphol Amsterdam Airport.

3.3 An outline of the issues to be considered in implementing ABC systems has been completed.

3.4 Draft guidelines version 0.4 is available to the members of the NTWG.

3.5 This draft received a positive reaction from the members of the NTWG and one member even indicated that his organization had already used parts of the document for the establishment of a trial ABC system.

3.6 The draft is not yet sufficiently advanced for presentation to the members of the TAG as content needs to be added and refinements made to the organizational aspects of the document.

3.7 Attached is the table of content which sets out how the draft guidelines are proposed to be organized.

3.8 Approximately 65% of the text has been drafted.

4. ACTION BY TAG/MRTD

The NTWG invites the TAG/MRTD :

a) to note the work has already done to date on the guidelines for e-MRTDS & Passenger Facilitation;

b) to incorporate missing issues which have to be addressed in this document;

c) to approve the continuation of the on-going work in this area; and

d) to indicate the next steps after the document has been completed.

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ATTACHMENT

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ANNEX A EXISTING ABC PROGRAMS

PRIVIUM

IRIS (Iris Recognition Immigration System)

SMARTGATE

MiSensePlus Trial

eIACS (enhanced Immigration Automated Clearance System)

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