

## **ICAO TRIP**

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# E-PASSPORT ISSUANCE, RULES, PROCESS AND CHALLENGES; NIGERIA'S EXPERIENCE

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# Introduction

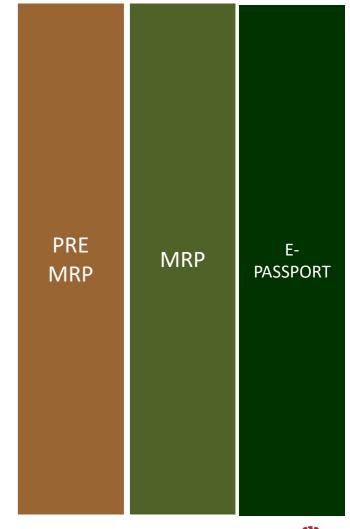
This presentation seeks to share Nigeria's experience on e-passport issuance, rules, processes and challenges by examining:

- i. Nigeria's Journey to e-Passport
- ii. Rules Guiding Document and Issuance
- iii. Process, and
- iv. Challenges





# Nigeria's Journey to e-Passport







# Nigeria's Journey to e-Passport

First Nigerian Passport



- Manual
- Hand written
- Introduced in 1948
- 63 page
- Brown colour
- Named: British West African Passport

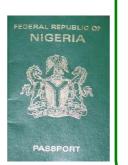
Second Generation Nigerian Passport



Third Generation: (MRP)



- Introduced in 1960 at Independence
- 32 page
- Green colour
- Manual
- Hand written



- Machine Readable Passport (MRP)
- Introduced in 1998
- Computer-based Passport

Fourth Generation: e-Passport

- Introduced in 2007
- Electronic MRTD
- Biometric Passport





#### Major Factors that Prompted Nigeria's Migration to e-Passport

- Proxy issuance i.e Non-physical appearance of applicant
- Multiple issuance Going to different Centres to acquire
- Identify theft Forgery, falsification, alteration of age, picture and pagination
- Security features were weak





#### **Benefits of e-Passport**

- Elimination of multiple acquisition as applicants' data are stored in a Central Data Base.
- It has no provision for proxy acquisition i.e. the applicant must be physically present.
- Enhanced security features.
- It complied to the standards of ICAO Document 9303.





# Rules Guiding Documents and Issuance

Nigerian e-passport is guided by the rules provided by:

- Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria Sec. III chapter 24-25 which defined Nigerian citizenship and eligibility to Nigerian Passport
- Chicago Convention 1944 which Nigeria is signatory
- ICAO Doc 9303
- Nigeria also as an ICAO Board Member
- ▶ Immigration Act, 2015 where Passport offences and guidelines are defined
- Standard Operating Procedures set by Nigeria Immigration Service





## **Our SOP**

- Document Fraud Experts involves in Issuance Process
- Breeder documents electronically stored (e-Archiving)
- Document verification
- Senior officers assigned as approving officers
- Frequent review of issuance process
- Passport offences criminalized and backed by law
- No use of still passport photograph, applicants must be physically present for photo capturing.





#### **Process**

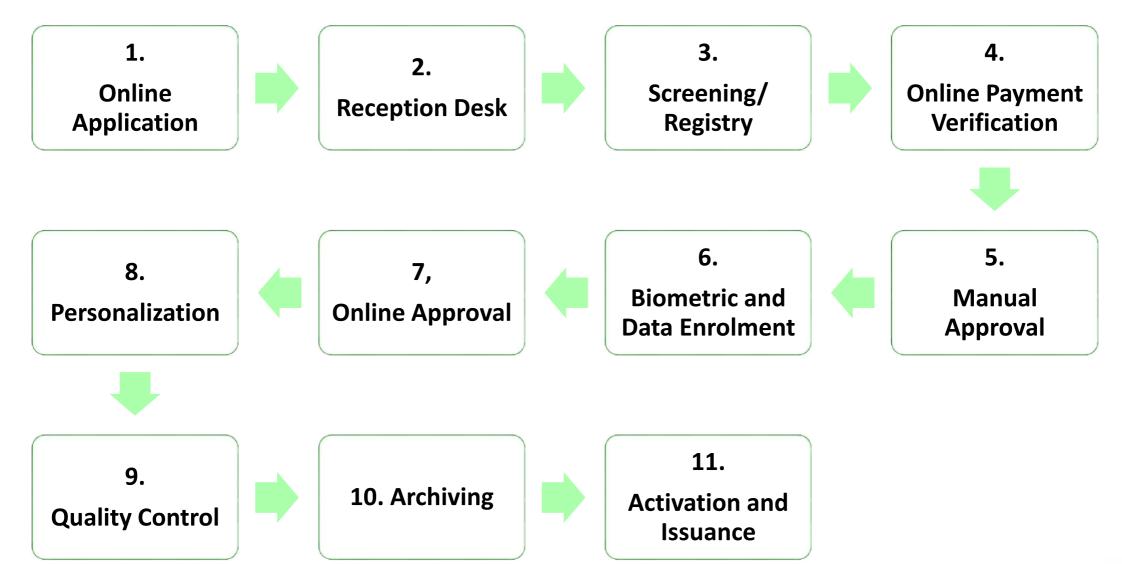
There exist Eleven (11) service windows in processing of Nigerian e-passport.

Service Windows is the division of activities that culminate into the issuance of e-passport.





## **Process**







#### ...Process

Nigerian e-passport project is operated on Public Private Partnership basis for the technology and supply of booklets.

- √ 42 Passport Issuing centres in Nigeria
- √ 44 Passport Issuing Centres abroad.
- ✓ Over 10 million e-passports has been issued since the introduction of e-passport in Nigeria.





# Challenges

- Constant Changes in technology
- Inability to take full benefits of PKI/PKD
- Nigeria's Fiscal Policy issues leading to booklet scarcity
- Breeder documents forgery
- Conflict between public service and service delivery in business model environment





# The New Nigerian e-Passport



- After 10 years of existence of Nigerian e-Passport, the NIS did a document and process review of its e-passport project in 2017.
- The review led to approval of a new e-passport with the following features:
  - Improved quality;
  - Enhanced security;
  - Polycarbonate technology that enhances the quality of the passport;
  - Ten year validity booklet that saves frequent visit to passport offices;
  - Automation of issuance process to bring about transparency and address touting/middlemen;





# Thank You



