



Twelfth Symposium and Exhibition on the Traveller Identification
Programme

Closing Remarks by Mr. Boubacar Djibo,
Director, Air Transport Bureau

17 November, 2016

Distinguished Delegates,
Panelists and honoured guests,
Ladies and gentlemen,

It has been an honour to have participated with you at this twelfth ICAO Symposium and exhibition on the Traveller Identification Programme.

ICAO greatly appreciates the time and thoughtful viewpoints you have shared with us this week. And, we have been fortunate to have representatives drawn from all of the government and industry stakeholders involved in the implementation of the TRIP Strategy. Some 568 participants took part, representing 81 States, 15 international organizations and 50 industry partners.

Over the last few days, as we addressed our theme of Strengthening Aviation Security through Improved Traveller Identification, we have explored every element of the ICAO TRIP Strategy. And we have recognized that the implementation of the strategy provides the basis for ICAO's leadership on Traveller Identification Management.

As with previous years, the Symposium provided a global forum for the exchange of information on all aspects of traveller identification management and the ICAO TRIP Strategy. I trust it provided you with valuable insight on current and emerging issues.

In addition, I wish to thank our industry partners for the exhibits which complemented the Symposium, showcasing a broad range of products and services related notably to travel document security applications, border inspection and automated border control systems, and identity management.

Cooperation, in all its forms, remains the fundamental premise upon which the relationship between ICAO, its Member States and our many

industry partners is built. This forum provides us with an invaluable opportunity to shape the future of global traveller identification together.

We have heard many views and examples over the last three days on the challenges, opportunities and achievements that come with our work in this field.

- The need for secure breeder documents to ensure robust evidence of identity
- The security enhancements in our new MRTDs and ePassports
- The massive national investments in travel document issuance
- The importance of accurately reading ePassports at our borders
- The role of global databases to help manage risks to aviation
- The need for constant vigilance to combat fraud

The important role of the ICAO Public Key Directory was reiterated many times toward ensuring the authentication of ePassports. This is important to help improve – and maintain – border security and facilitation.

Much was spoken too of the important Resolutions of the United Nations in the area of aviation security and facilitation. These touch all

aspects of the work being conducted on traveller identification. They highlight how the many international organizations in this field are working together – and we heard many examples of this during the presentations this week.

Within the UN system, we will continue to highlight the benefits of facilitation and identity management for States, as well as their contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals adopted under the UN's Agenda 2030.

I was especially pleased that we can begin coordination on the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding between ICAO and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) that has been finalized during the Symposium . Working together, we recognize the close connection between aviation, migratory movements, border management and facilitation.

This is a high point for me to end on because it is a great example of how we must all continue to work together – across all borders and organizational boundaries – as we strive to keep international civil aviation safe, secure and enjoyable for all passengers.

It remains for me to offer my sincere thanks to everyone involved in making this Symposium and exhibition a success. It would be impossible for me to name every person involved in this great team effort. But I would just like to highlight:

The ICAO delegations for their participation and support;

All our government and industry partners for their excellent presentations and exhibits;

All the interpreters who have done a superb job in assisting us over the past three days; and

All of the ICAO team who have worked diligently, largely behind the scenes, to enable us to enjoy this week's programme.

And while we look forward to welcoming you to the Thirteenth Symposium and Exhibition on the Traveller Identification Programme

next year, I wish to remind you of the ICAO TRIP Regional Seminar coming up in Antigua at the end of January.

Best wishes to you all for safe travels home as we now close the Twelfth Symposium and Exhibition on the Traveller Identification Programme.

Thank you very much.

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