The link API/INTERPOL

Fabrizio di Carlo

INTERPOL Specialized Officer

Session 6

Advance Passenger Information (API) Interactive Session

OBJECTIVES

Matching passenger data through INTERPOL databases

1. Examining how API interacts with national border security systems and various INTERPOL databases to conduct passenger matching and effectively screen airline passengers

2. Identifying best practices to ensure the best use of API as an intelligence tool and to conduct effective passenger screening and risk assessment

DATA TO BE CAPTURED AND TRANSMITTED*

1. **Data relating to the Flight (Header Data)**

2. **Data relating to each individual passenger**
   (a) Core Data Elements as may be found in the Machine
       Readable Zone of the Official Travel Document
   (b) Additional data as available in Airline systems
   (c) Additional data not normally found in Airline systems and
       which must be collected by, or on behalf of the Airline

* **Guidelines on advance passenger information (API) WCO/IATA/ICAO 2014**

DATA RELATING TO EACH INDIVIDUAL PASSENGER*

- Issuing State or Organization of the Official Travel Document
- Official Travel Document Number
- Official Travel Document Type
- Expiration Date of Official Travel Document
- Surname/Given Name(s)
- Nationality
- Date of Birth
- Gender

* Core Data Elements as may be found in the Machine Readable Zone of the Official Travel Document

API INTEGRATION WITH EXISTING INTERPOL SYSTEMS

API provides Border Control Agencies with data they could otherwise access upon the passenger's arrival and presentation at an immigration inspection desk

However, the utility of API–related data can be understand only if considered into an integrated approach

API-related data need to be coupled with INTERPOL databases (SLTD & Nominals)

NOTICES	DIFFUSIONS	MESSAGES
A request or an alert	A request or an alert	A request or an alert or any data
Published by the Organization at the request of an NCB	Sent directly by an NCB or an International entity	Sent directly by an NCB or an International entity
Data recorded in INTERPOL's database beforehand	Data simultaneously recorded in INTERPOL's database	By default not recorded in INTERPOL's database unless the source so requires
Sent to all Members	Sent to one or several NCBs (or international entities)	Sent to one or several NCBs (or international entities)
Specific restrictions for International Organizations	Possibility to place access restrictions	By default restricted to sender and recipients

INTERPOL SLTD database

175 participating countries
183 countries screening documents
155 countries triggering alerts (hits)

Mandatory Field

- DIN (Document Identification Number)
- Issuing Country (ICAO three-letter code)
- Type of document
- Type of fraud (Stolen blank or lost by bearer/stolen from bearer or revoked or invalid)

80+ M records
2,3+ B consultations in 2018
230,000 alerts

TDAWN APPLICATION

Travel Documents Associated With Notices

Application which extracts, from Notices, travel document identifiers in a separate domain to enable authorized users to search them through a query with a Document Identification Number (DIN) of a travel or identity document.

Purpose

To enable authorized users to detect persons subject to INTERPOL Notices by performing checks on associated travel documents.
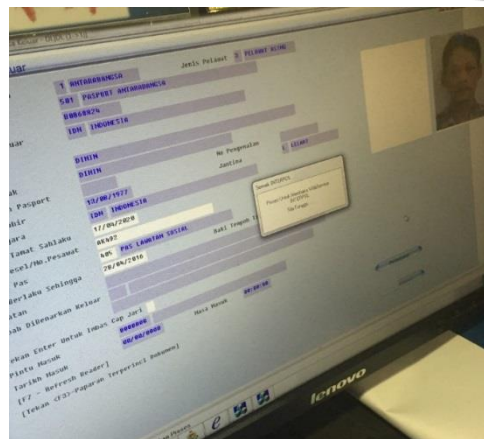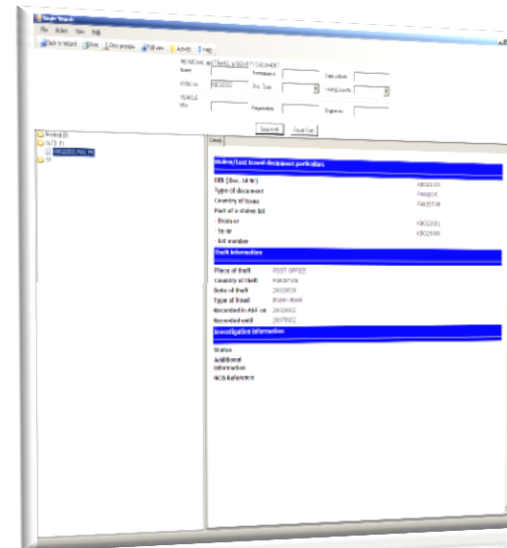
INTERPOL INTEROPERABLE SERVICES

- **FIND (with interactive API)**

- **I-Batch (with Batch Style API)**

CONCLUSION

- Advanced Passenger Information (API) are definitely essential to Border Agencies to make accurate, comprehensive decisions about which passengers require additional inspection at the port of entry based on law enforcement and other information

- On the same time API related data needs to be fully integrated within a national and coordinated information flow that entails both a huge border agencies cooperation and a full technical compliance.

- Finally, international watch lists integrated within existing national systems shall ensure both technical interoperability and data compatibility in order to guarantee full and smoothly data processing.

RECOMMENDED BEST PRACTICES

- The utility that follows the API implementation is evident when API data is scrupulously checked against national and international watch list;

- In the implementation and the management of API, a strong cooperation between all national stakeholders, airlines, international organization and NCB is pivotal;

- For the correct use of the system, SOP has to be implemented for a clear and accurate API data processing flow and appropriate management of positive match;

- The use of i-API should be encouraged as it enables 2-way real-time communication on a passenger-by-passenger transaction basis initiated during check-in (full integration to FIND).

- Countries are encouraged to timely and accurately update INTERPOL databases

- Single window is recommended for a better cooperation among stakeholders

- Countries are encouraged to handle API data according to UN/EDIFACT PAXLST standard

Contact Details

Name: Fabrizio Di Carlo
Email: f.dicarlo@interpol.int