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IOM: Building Capacity of Member States in API/PNR Implementation

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Outline

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IOM and API/PNR

- Strengthening border management capacities of Member States is among IOM's key priorities and API/PNR are firmly part of the immigration and border management architecture that IOM assists its Member States with.

- Large field presence allows IOM to assist Member States with API/PNR implementation in practice and do so in a holistic manner.

- Often serves as the key in-country liaison with national counterparts in the context of collaborative approach with other UN and partner agencies.

- API/PNR are an inherent component of cooperation frameworks which IOM has in place with other key API/PNR players (IATA, ICAO, WCO and others).

- Internal API Working Group established.

Key Areas of IOM's Technical Assistance

Technical Assessment

Legal Framework

Operational Set-up & Stakeholder Liaison

System Implementation & Data transmission

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IOM API/PNR Programming: Global Mapping

Azerbaijan

Georgia

Armenia

Central Asia
Kazakhstan/Kyrgyzstan
Tajikistan/Turkmenistan
Uzbekistan

Ukraine

Moldova

Western Balkans
Albania/Bosnia & Herzegovina
Kosovo*/Montenegro
North Macedonia/Serbia

Bangladesh

Sri Lanka

Nigeria

Turkey

Belize

Djibouti

Rwanda

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All-of-UN approach
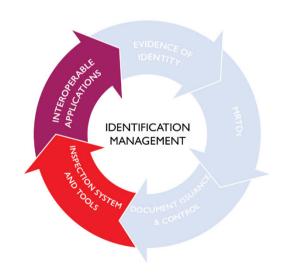## Together with Member States, Airlines and Partners

Case Study: Azerbaijan

- Collaboration between the Government of Azerbaijan, UN Countering Terrorist Travel Programme led by UNOCT, UK Border Force Hunter Project and IOM.

- Regular coordination calls in order to enhance synergies and jointly contribute to deliverables defined in the national API/PNR roadmap of the government.

- Legal and technical assessments conducted in coordination with all stakeholders including UNOCT and UK.

- IOM serves as the key in-country liaison with national counterparts on the ground in addition to being one of the technical partners.

MIDAS and API: Interoperability

- MIDAS (Migration Information and Data Analysis System) – UN Border Management Information System.

- Currently exploring interoperability between MIDAS and UN Countering Terrorist Travel Programme's "goTravel".

- When an API message is received, MIDAS instantly checks the passengers' data against National and INTERPOL Alert Lists and sends alerts to immigration officers in case of positive matches.

- Work with governments on data protection and related legislation.

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Challenges encountered so far….

- Thorough understanding of API/PNR takes time – Needs for continued advocacy and awareness raising

- Changing political priorities

- Challenges related to cooperation among law enforcement agencies at the national level (e.g. who lead on API/PNR, where the PIU will be based)

- Lack of meaningful privacy and data protection at the national level (not just legislation)

- Lack of available resources and dependence on donor funding

- Lack of relations and interactions between national governments and air carriers

- An environment with a number of stakeholders involved (private sector, governments, UN and other organizations)

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The Way Forward

- Continued advocacy and awareness raising on API/PNR for Member States who do not have systems in place yet

- Strengthen coordination and collaboration among various API/PNR players and deliver as One

- Develop and facilitate collaborative relationships and partnerships between Member States and existing PIUs (EU and non-EU) – peer to peer cooperation

- Contextualized approach for each Member State (legal, technical and operational)

- Advocacy also required for donor governments on the importance of API/PNR in line with UNSCRs and ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices in order to support other governments

Thank You

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