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**Agenda Item 3: Global and Regional Developments**  
**3.1.2 Annex 9, FAL Panel, Facilitation Manual**

**ICAO TRAVELLER IDENTIFICATION PROGRAMME (ICAO TRIP) STRATEGY**

(Presented by the Secretariat)

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This working paper presents the ICAO Traveller Identification Programme (ICAO TRIP) Strategy, which provides a framework for achieving significant enhancements in aviation security and facilitation in the future by bringing together the elements of identification management and building on ICAO leadership in matters related to Machine Readable Travel Documents (MRTD).

*Strategic Objectives:*

- Security and Facilitation

*References:*

- Doc 9958, Assembly Resolutions in Force (as of 8 October 2010)
- Doc 9990, Report of the High-level Conference on Aviation Security
- High-level Conference on Aviation Security, HLCAS-WP/9
- Annex 9 — *Facilitation*

## 1. Introduction

1.1 It is recalled that Annex 9 — *Facilitation* sets out the international framework of Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs), and technical specifications incorporated by reference, in travel document matters. The General Principles of Annex 9 require Contracting States to take the necessary measures to minimize the time required for the accomplishment of border controls, minimize the inconvenience caused by the application of administrative and control requirements, foster and promote the exchange of relevant information between Contracting States, and develop effective information technology to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of their procedures at airports. Annex 9 also establishes that no documents other than those provided for in Annex 9, Chapter 3, shall be required by Contracting States of visitors for entry into and departure from their territories.

1.2 Travel documents, comprising passports and other identity documents accepted for border integrity purposes, underpin the ideals of international civil aviation, cooperation and trust because they are used to readily and reliably confirm the identity of persons, and thereby enable seamless and secure international travel. Travel documents are, however, only as satisfactory as the identification-related systems behind their production, issuance, control and inspection. In consideration of this, the travel document field is rapidly evolving into the broader sphere of identification management. This information paper presents the ICAO Traveller Identification Programme (ICAO TRIP) Strategy – to establish the goal and objectives of traveller identification management, to lead and reinforce a global approach, and to provide direction for action by ICAO, States and the many international, regional and industry partners in identification management.

## 2. Background

2.1 ICAO forecasts that scheduled passenger traffic around the world will more than double from a preliminary 3 billion in 2012 to 6 billion by 2030, and the number of flights will increase from 30 million to 60 million. Considering that the presentation and inspection of travel documents is a routine aspect of international air travel requiring State programmes, specialized infrastructure and personnel, as well as a processing time for the travel incurred, the scale of future aviation activity brings into sharp focus the need for travel documents and related systems that are up to the task of tomorrow's efficiency facilitation and security challenges.

2.2 The importance of robust travel documents to international security cannot be overstated. The ability of terrorists and criminals to operate with anonymity across borders – beyond the knowledge of or suspicion on the part of a State and international authorities regarding their true identity and movements – is a powerful enabler for persons to advance unlawful and illegitimate activities. The 38th Session of the ICAO Assembly endorsed the ICAO TRIP Strategy that provides a holistic, coherent and coordinated approach to the identification management processes leading up to issuance of travel documents, crucial aspects that ensures the legitimacy of secure travel documents.

2.3 Travel documents are, therefore, a matter of strategic importance for international civil aviation under the ICAO's Council-approved Strategic Objective C — *Security and Facilitation* and Strategic Objective D — *Economic Development of Air Transport*. As such, ICAO's activities must be positioned to provide the necessary focus, orientation and support.

2.4 ICAO's leadership and activities in travel documentation policy and operational matters have made a significant contribution to enhancing aviation security and facilitation, notably through uniform and progressive travel document standards and specifications, assistance to States in implementing effective and efficient travel document systems, oversight activities within the scope of the Universal Security Audit Programme (USAP), and, by means of the ICAO Public Key Directory (PKD), the provision to States of a single automated ePassport validation service on a cost-recovery basis, thereby helping to further secure and streamline border clearance processes. MRTDs, of course, serve the broad transport sector by assuring border integrity and efficiency in maritime and land transport settings as well.

2.5 These challenges and opportunities are the setting for a global traveller identification management strategy that is the framework for multidimensional integrated efforts and synergies, under ICAO's leadership, to support ICAO's Strategic Objectives in the 2014-2016 triennium and beyond.

### 3. ICAO TRIP Strategy

3.1 At the centre of the ICAO TRIP Strategy is the key proposition for States, ICAO and all stakeholders to address, individually and collectively: that a holistic, coherent, coordinated approach to the interdependent elements of traveller identification management is essential, encompassing the following elements:

- a) Evidence of identity – credible evidence of identity, involving the tracing, linkage and verification of identity against breeder documents to ensure the authenticity of identity;
- b) MRTDs – the design and manufacture of standardized MRTDs, including ePassports, that comply with ICAO specifications;
- c) Document issuance and control – processes and protocols for document issuance by appropriate authorities to authorized holders, and controls to prevent theft, tampering and loss;
- d) Inspection systems and tools – inspection systems and tools for the efficient and secure reading and verification of MRTDs, including use of the ICAO PKD; and
- e) Interoperable applications – globally interoperable applications and protocols that provide for timely, secure and reliable linkage of MRTDs and their holders to available and relevant data in the course of inspection operations.

3.2 In consideration of the scope of activities involved, traveller identification management necessarily engages a broad collection of mandates and interests at the global and State levels that directly or indirectly contribute to its effectiveness and efficiency, and travel document systems. **Appendix A** presents a visual representation of holistic traveller identification management and the stakeholders whose contributions support this integrated approach.

3.3 For ICAO and its Member States, it follows that the vision in traveller identification management is: *all Member States can uniquely identify individuals*. When the elements of identification management are optimally achieved, States will be in a position to identify individuals by their travel document with the highest possible degree of certainty, security and efficiency. The proposed ICAO TRIP Strategy provides a plan to achieve this vision and is detailed in **Appendix B**.

3.4 Recognizing the benefits of traveller identification management to aviation security and facilitation, and the vision that all Member States can uniquely identify individuals, ICAO's mission is *to contribute to the capacity of Member States to uniquely identify individuals by providing appropriate authorities worldwide with the relevant supporting mechanisms to establish and confirm the identity of travellers*.

3.5 Under the ICAO TRIP Strategy, and in accordance with the decisions of ICAO's governing bodies, these mechanisms constitute four pillars:

- a) Development of the international framework of Standards, Recommended Practices, specifications (Doc 9303) and guidance material;
- b) Implementation assistance for the benefit of States' programmes, with focus on building assistance partnerships to recruit and mobilize financial and in-kind resources;
- c) Assessment of compliance with the international framework, with emphasis on cost-effective methods to produce recommendations to address deficiencies; and
- d) Delivery of the PKD, including governance, management, administration and operations.

3.6 The ICAO TRIP Strategy provides the basis for detailed work plans to be developed, commensurate with resources available, and corresponding actions to be taken.

3.7 With renewed focus and in conjunction with identification management partners, and building on progress to date, ICAO will continue to produce and provide globally endorsed measures, tools, services and other means to:

- a) mitigate risks to aviation security and broader national security through robust methods of identification management and border control;
- b) assist in the detection and prevention of terrorism and crime through the prevention of the fraudulent use of identification documents;
- c) facilitate genuine travellers through the airport process by automated clearance processes to increase throughput;
- d) reduce staff and training costs by standardizing and simplifying document verification processes;

- e) enable interoperability and the use of standard technologies for identification management for both States and industry, leading to efficient operations and cost reduction;
- f) increase States' confidence in their ability to verify that documents have been appropriately issued and have not been altered; and
- g) provide for cost-effective deployment of security and border control personnel and resources on a risk-management basis.

4. **Conclusion**

4.1 The ICAO TRIP Strategy establishes a comprehensive framework to lead Member States, ICAO and traveller identification partners into the future.

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