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Международная
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المدني الدولي

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Tel.: +1 514-954-8219 ext. 6156

Ref.: EC6/3-12/70

31 December 2012

Subject: Implementation of Standard 3.10.1 of
Annex 9 – *Facilitation*

Action required: Provide information on
expiration of non-machine readable passports
by **31 March 2013**,

Sir/Madam,

I have the honour to draw your attention to Standard 3.10.1 of Annex 9 – *Facilitation*, that states: “*For passports issued after 24 November 2005 and which are not machine readable, Contracting States shall ensure the expiration date falls before 24 November 2015.*”

Standard 3.10.1 was adopted by the Council on 7 March 2005, at the same time it adopted Standard 3.10. The latter obliges Contracting States to issue “only Machine Readable Passports in accordance with the specifications of Doc 9303, Part 1, no later than 1 April 2010.” During previous discussions in the Air Transport Committee on Standard 3.10, concerns had been expressed that the long validity periods of some States’ passports might mean that the universal possession of machine readable passports (MRPs) would be realized much later than the date provided in the Standard. Standard 3.10.1 thus was adopted, *inter alia*, to establish a “sunset” date of 24 November 2015 for the phase-out of non-machine readable passports.

Taking into consideration the objective of Standard 3.10.1, I urge your Government to invite citizens currently holding non-machine readable passports that are scheduled to expire after 24 November 2015 to apply for MRPs. Additionally, ICAO is gathering information on the worldwide application of Standard 3.10.1 in order to determine what further action, if any, may be taken to promote implementation. Therefore, I would be grateful if you would complete and return the attached questionnaire by **31 March 2013**.

Please accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Raymond Benjamin
Secretary General

Enclosure:
Questionnaire

ATTACHMENT to State letter EC6/3-12/70

QUESTIONNAIRE

NAME OF STATE: _____

Please circle the appropriate response.

1. All *non-machine readable passports* have expired, or are due to expire, before 24 November 2015 **Yes/No**

If the answer is “**Yes**”, please skip to Question 3.

2. If the answer to Question 1 is “**No**”, please respond to the following questions:

2.1 The number of non-machine readable passports in circulation beyond 24 November 2015 will be approximately

2.2 All non-machine readable passports are due to expire by (date)

3. Details and signature of the person completing this form:

Name:

Official Title/Position:

Mailing address:

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Telephone number:

E-mail address:

Signature:

Please return completed form by 31 March 2013 to:

Fax: +1 514-954-6077 or E-mail: icaohq@icao.int