

Communications Strategy for the November 2015 Deadline (WP9)



Mike Ellis
ISO

**Implementation and Capacity Building Working Group
(ICBWG)**

TAG/MRTD 20

**20th Meeting of the Technical Advisory Group on
Machine Readable Travel Documents**

Issue

- Non machine readable passports in circulation after 24 Nov 2015 will no longer be compliant with Annex 9
- Anecdotal evidence suggests there may be a large number of Member States affected by this deadline
- Misconceptions about the requirement of Annex 9 in relation to ePassports – 24 Nov 2015 does not apply



Implications

- A large number of passports **may not be accepted as valid** if submitted when applying for visas, or when presented at borders
- States may unnecessarily accelerate their introduction of ePassports



Proposed Way Forward

- ICBWG will:
 - Identify affected States
 - Quantify the volume of travel documents impacted
 - Develop options for issuing and receiving States
 - Draft a high level communication (State Letter) for approval and dissemination by the Secretariat, which will include clarification in relation to ePassports



The TAG/MRTD is invited to:

1. note the content of the working paper
2. advise the Secretariat to include the 2015 deadline in its strategic communications plan; and
3. highlight the need for communications to states on this issue as soon as possible

