



**TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP ON MACHINE READABLE  
TRAVEL DOCUMENTS (TAG/MRTD)**

**TWENTY-FIRST MEETING**

**Montréal, 10 to 12 October 2012**

**Agenda Item 2: Activities of the NTWG**

**REPORT OF THE NEW TECHNOLOGIES WORKING GROUP (NTWG)**

(Presented by NTWG)

**1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 This paper is intended to summarize the ongoing work of the NTWG since TAG/MRTD/20 and the future activities of the NTWG.

**2. ONGOING WORK OF THE NTWG SINCE TAG/MRTD/20**

2.1 Since TAG/20 in September 2011, the NTWG has met on two occasions in Zandvoort, the Netherlands and Montreal, Canada. Participation continues to be strong with 40-50 individuals and 14-15 countries represented at each meeting. Members of NTWG have also participated in plenary meeting of ISO SC17/WG3 in Song do, South Korea, Milpitas, California, and New Orleans, Louisiana.

2.2 For this meeting of the TAG/MRTD, the NTWG will present five Working Papers (WPs) and submits two Information Papers (IPs) for consideration.

2.3 A major activity of the NTWG has been developing an evidence of identity framework. The growth of identity fraud affects many areas of society and raises serious concerns globally. Much work has been done in the area of travel documents to increase the security of passports and the associated systems for the personalization and issuance of these documents. The above concerns were highlighted during the TAG/MRTD 19 AND 20 meetings, and this group requested NTWG to develop a Technical Report (TR) that would be a vehicle to present best practices and other forms of guidance on identity management which would assist in combating the foundational document problem. The work to date is to be found in WP/4.

2.4 The NTWG continues to explore modifications to the Logical Data Structure (LDS). WP/6 outlines the work completed to date and the way forward.

2.5 The NTWG has also been developing standards and specifications around Emergency Travel Documents. WP/7 outlines the issues and the work completed to date.

2.6 The NTWG has undertaken to revise and update ICAO Doc 9303. At present, specifications and guidance are to be found in a number of separate documents: Doc 9303 itself, a number of Technical Reports and the Supplement, the latest edition of which (11<sup>th</sup> Edition) is available from the ICAO MRTD web site ([www.icao.int/mrtd](http://www.icao.int/mrtd)). The consolidation is underway and the current status is found in IP/1.

2.7 The NTWG has also compiled information on the issuance of ePassports and their use at borders. This information comes from public sources such as web sites and is updated every 6 months or so. Although only a snapshot in time, it does provide an overview of ePassport adoption globally. This information is found in IP/3.

2.8 ICAO has the Facilitation Panel and the Technical Advisory Group developing standards related to travel documents. These two groups and their related working groups, as well as, the ICAO/Public Key Directory (PKD) Board should work in closer collaboration on issues related to the security of travel documents and their use to facilitate immigration and border control formalities. Recognizing that many immigration, border control and travel documents experts currently participate in the New Technologies Working Group (NTWG), the Implementation and Capacity Building Working Group (ICBWG), and the PKD Board, these expert groups should be leveraged to assist with the work of the FAL Panel. WP/1 outlines the issues and provides a suggested way forward.

### **3. FUTURE ACTIVITIES OF THE NTWG**

3.1 The NTWG will meet in February 2013 in Singapore and again in August/September 2013 at a site to be determined. The NTWG will continue its reviews of technologies, their application and the role of MRTDs in facilitating international travel and security. Specifically, the NTWG intends to undertake the following:

3.2 Continue the ongoing work outlined in paragraph 2 above.

3.3 Continue the ongoing work of developing technical reports in all areas authorized by the TAG and subsequently developing these into specifications for eventual incorporation to Doc 9303.

3.4 Develop a comprehensive approach to the policy and process issues that arise from the use of advanced technologies in MRTDs and eMRTDs.

3.5 Develop specifications that enable states to leverage off the full functionality of eMRTD's.

3.6 Develop guidance material to promote the use of eMRTDs not only in border control but also in the wider community in activities that rely on identity verification.

3.7 Develop guidance material to promote the secure validation of travel document data, among states and authorities, in real-time.

3.8 Monitor and respond to the evolution of computing to ensure access control and PKI schemes continue to provide a secure infrastructure for eMRTDs and data validation.

3.9 Begin its work on a 2013/14 Request for Information to keep abreast of new and improving technologies that will provide future benefits to or application in the MRTD Programme.

4. **ACTION BY THE TAG/MRTD**

4.1 The TAG/MRTD is invited to:

- a) Note the work of the NTWG to date and the approach it has taken; and
- b) Endorse in principle the future direction and activities of the NTWG as outlined in paragraph 3, above.

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