

Facilitation developments during the COVID-19 pandemic

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Air transport Facilitation challenges

- Covid-19 has had wide ranging impact on air transport
- It has forced States to close borders for public health purposes
- It has led to heightened entry requirements and created a myriad of different requirements
- Created more work for immigration authorities and aircraft operators
- It has led to the development of numerous different health proof solutions



FAL-related CART Recommendations

Rec.6 – Member States that have not done so should immediately establish a National Air Transport Facilitation Committee (or equivalent) as required by Annex 9 to increase national level cross-sectoral coordination.

Rec.7 Member States should systematically use a Passenger Health Locator Form to ensure identification and traceability of passengers to help limit the spread of the disease and resurgence of the pandemic.

Rec.9 – States should take measures to ensure that personnel are provided training to identify and manage unruly passenger situations related to non-respect of essential aviation public health and safety measures.

Rec.17 – Testing, vaccination and recovery certificates: Member States should implement testing certificates based on the protocol and implementation approaches outlined in the Doc 10152 to facilitate air travel.



Outcomes of the HLCC FAL stream

FIVE AGENDA ITEMS

Facilitation operational measures - the pandemic and beyond



Enhancing national coordination and international cooperation



Enhancing digital data sharing for seamless/contactless processes



Recommendations

Future approaches – management of sustainable healthrelated FAL measures and implementation monitoring



Other Facilitation-related issues



ICAO'S HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON COVID-19

tics	Recs. FOR STATES	Recs. FOR ICAO
* Facilitation operational measures	17	5
Enhancing National Coordination & International Cooperation	16	6
Enhancing digital data sharing for seamless & contactless processes	13	
* Future approaches - health-related	8	4
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Facilitation operational measures – the pandemic & beyond

Comprehensive and frequent risk assessments critical with a view to easing measures

CART recommendations as an underpinning element

Harmonization where feasible, enhancing mutual recognition and trust

Usefulness of PHCs currently and in future



Enhancing National Coordination and International Cooperation

Multidisciplinary cooperation within unified frameworks - NATFP/NATFC, tactical task forces, CAPSCA,...

Continuous monitoring of compliance with Annex 9 provisions with clear assignment of responsibility

Use of passenger data for health purposes, sharing according to clear legal basis

On-going enhancement of international capacity building structures and capabilities



Enhancing digital data sharing



Digital health proofs -> issuance aligned with WHO recommendations, interoperable with ICAO VDS-NC

For seamless and contactless processes



Integration of health proof validation in border inspection systems



Possible use of platforms to enrol passenger health data in advance, use of iAPI



Following ICAO SARPs and guidance on digitalization to assure sustainability moving forward, including biometrics



Share experiences and knowledge to enhance global capabilities





Future approaches - management of sustainable healthrelated FAL measures

IMPORTANCE OF IMPLEMENTING RELEVANT ANNEX 9 SARPS



SUPPORT FOR THIS WORK THROUGH FUNDING AND ALLOCATION OF CORRESPONDING HUMAN RESOURCES INCREASED
IMPORTANCE FOR
ASSISTING TRANSPORT
OF PERSONS WITH
DISABILITIES
ESPECIALLY IN
ABNORMAL TIMES

Development of a strategic framework for implementation of mitigation measures to deal with public health emergencies at borders



Other Facilitation related issues

Need to establish legislation, regulations, policies and/or plans related to support of assistance to aircraft accident victims and their families

Reinforcement of efforts to deal with unruly and disruptive passengers

Encouragement of ratification of the Montréal Protocol 2014 and consideration of the ICAO Doc 10117

need to respect and maintain existing agreed bilateral & regional air transport agreements in future crises,



CART Phase III: Health proofs Recommendations

Recommendation 13 - Testing

States should apply the COVID-19 risk management strategy approach outlined in the ICAO Testing and Cross-Border Risk Management Measures Manual.



Recommendation 17 – Testing certificates

States are encouraged to request evidence of testing that is secure, trustworthy, verifiable, convenient to use, compliant with data protection legislation and internationally/globally interoperable.

This may be applicable to vaccination certificates.



Doc 10152

Recommendation 19 - Vaccination should not be a prerequisite for international travel.



Requirements for health proof certificates

Integrity

Authenticity

Trustworthy/Verifiable

Convenient to use

Data protection

Interoperability





Can issuance by a trusted authority be confirmed?



Are my systems capable of <u>verifying integrity and</u> authenticity?



Will the certificate be efficiently read within existing processes and infrastructure?



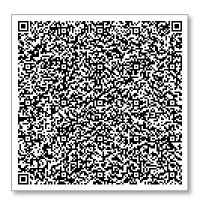
Compliant with legislation in State of use and State of nationality of the traveler



Will cross-border verification be possible?



ICAO Visible Digital Seal for Non-Constrained Environments (VDS-NC)



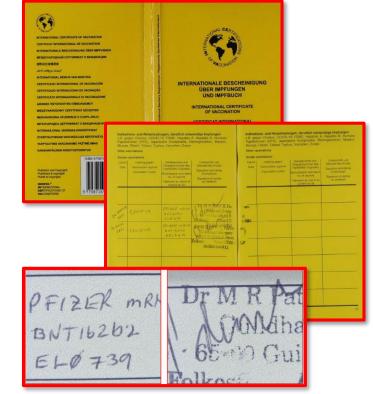
- Encodes minimum dataset for tests, vaccinations and recovery certificates
- Machine readable using standard barcode scanners (e.g. at check-in, bag drop, boarding gates)
- Digitally signed (optional for testing certificates), using the same infrastructure as used by more than 145 States issuing ePassports



VDS-NC Security of health related proofs

Health proofs as target of fraud

- The counterfeit of vaccination certificates and COVID-test reports have become a mass phenomenon. Blank "yellow books" with complete vaccination entries are sold on Telegram channels for 80 – 150 €.
- The vaccination certification was never intended to be a secure travel document and hence carries no security features.
- The VDS-NC is designed as an accompanying document carrying digitally signed health information – making fraud easily detectable.



Case example: Blank fraudulent yellow book sent from London to Frankfurt carrying vaccination entries, May 2021 (Source: BPOL FRA)



Importance of Digital signatures

Digital signature prevents tampering post-issuance





Only government-approved entities can digitally sign the VDS



Read using existing scanners in airports and at borders, without modification



Instantaneous data capture, criteria fulfilment check by machine



Data held by traveler, consent-based sharing, no central data storage



Leverages the existing capabilities used for ePassport verification globally



ICAO VDS-NC: Main Distinctions

What it is NOT:

1. The VDS-NC is **not the primary medical vaccination document**. This function stays
within the health-related environment:
vaccination certificates will be treated and
governed as health documents.

2. The VDS-NC is not intended to replace any national/ multilateral vaccination document.





VDS-NC Design Principles

- Uses a structure which makes it readable using any scanner
- Globally Interoperable
- "Human" Readable
 - → "Payload" is human readable
- Offline Verifiable
 - → Certificate and Signature contained in the barcode
- Able to leverage the eMRTD Trust Model
- Flexible









COVID-19 Proof of Vaccination / Preuve de vaccination contre la COVID-19

The Health Credential Situation









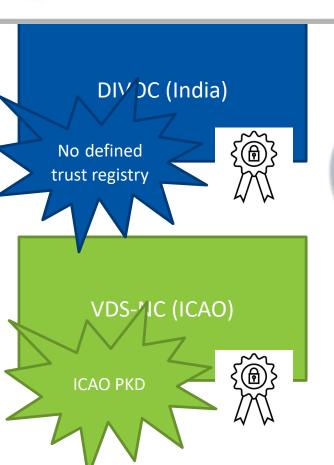
The Health Credential Situation

Numerous formats - > Work towards **Mutual Recognition** (i.e. global verifiability)

Persistent use in international travel - > Consider the specificities of border management and international travel

Leverage <u>knowledge</u> and <u>capabilities</u> gained from <u>experience</u> to achieve these goals





Common Formats of Health Proofs used in Travel Smart Health Card (VCI) The CommonTrus t Network Digital COYID Certificate **EU Gateway**





Collect certificates needed for verification of health proofs

Share the public certificates in a trusted manner

Ensure wide capacities to utilize the certificates to verify international health proofs



The ICAO Health Master List

A Common International Trust Registry



- Open No certificate format requirements
- Accessible No dependency on PKD participation status
- Trustworthy Validation based on same requirements as for the ICAO PKD



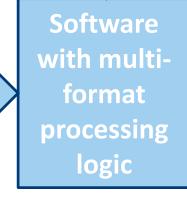
ICAO Health Master List provides trusted information necessary for verification

- Health Public Key Cert 1

- Health Public Key

Cert n..

Scan a health proof barcode, e.g. a VDS-NC barcode







Automatic indication of authenticity, integrity and compliance with rules



The ICAO Health Master List

- Available from the ICAO public webpage, first version 31.01.2022
- Certificate collection leveraging ICAO's unique network position, list digitally signed by ICAO for trust
- Published in known, trusted, established format, easing use (especially in restricted border environments)



Leverage knowledge and capabilities gained from experience to achieve these goals

For ICAO:

- Knowledge in PKI and certificate sharing underpinning global trust
- Capabilities in trustworthy certificate collection based on inhouse network
- Experience in delivering public key certificates trusted for international travel

For States:

- Knowledge in use of public key certificate-based verification
- Capabilities to use Master List data to verify digitally-signed credentials at borders
- Experience in incorporating digital credentials into processes to facilitate safe and seamless travel



States are encouraged to provide all public key certificates necessary to validate their digital health proofs to ICAO for inclusion in the ICAO Health Master List

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Thank you!

