

Transport Security

Commitment

“Accelerate development of international standards for the interoperability of government-issued smart chip passports and other government-issued identity documents. We will work for implementation by the 2005 Summit.”

G8 Secure and Facilitated International Travel Initiative

Background

SAFTI measures are part of an overall movement to ensure not just safer travel standards in light of terrorist attacks targeting civilian travel means like airline and train, but also more secure transfers of goods given present threats of ‘dirty bomb’ tactics terrorists may employ to cripple world economic activity. The measures are designed to identify and target potential and real threats to personal and national security and economic well being, preventing these threats from realizing through international data systems containing information pertinent to assessing individual threat levels.

The commitment calls for countries to make standards for the interoperability of e-passports and government documents, and for the member countries to implement them by July 2005. While all member countries have agreed to the set standards, only the US seems prepared for implementation by the agreed upon time, as American e-Passports are scheduled to come into service in March 2005. Thus, only the US receives a 1 for full implementation and all other member countries receive 0's, as works in progress.

Assessment

Score	Lack of Compliance -1	Work in Progress 0	Full Compliance +1
Canada		0	
France		0	
Germany		0	
Italy		0	
Japan		0	
Russia		0	
United Kingdom		0	
United States			1
European Union		0	
Overall			0.11

Individual Country Compliance Breakdown

1. Canada: 0

Canada has made minimal efforts in the implementation of biometric passports by 2005 in accordance with its Sea Island commitment. Since the G8 summit in June 2004, the Canadian

government has only taken two notable actions on the issue. It had publicly announced plans to include biometric features on the Canadian passport, and made an inclusion of biometrics to the *Canadian Passport Order*.

Canada planned to start the issuance of passports. In the first major initiative towards compliance, Dan Kingsbury of the Passport Office of Canada acknowledged publicly in July 2004 plans to use digitized photographs that “could allow some form of biometric identification — measuring facial features or an iris scan —” in electronic passports (e-Passports)⁵⁵². This announcement was released by briefing notes attained by The Canadian Press⁵⁵³. Other biometrics information that was also announced to be contained in the e-Passport includes holder’s name and birth date⁵⁵⁴. Kingsbury also reported that an initial trial period for this e-Passport would take place for Canadian diplomats in the first half of 2005⁵⁵⁵. Only when the trial period is successful will the government plan on introducing the e-Passport to the general public⁵⁵⁶. The briefing notes acknowledged a budget of \$10.3 million over three years allocated by the government for developing “‘internationally respected’ travel identification” — meaning the likelihood of Canada implementation by July 2005 as prescribed by the commitment is slim to none⁵⁵⁷.

The second step the Canadian government took towards compliance was the execution of an order to amend the *Canadian Passport Order* in September 2004⁵⁵⁸. Regarding biometrics, two subsections of section 8.1 of the Order were amended⁵⁵⁹. The first called for the right of the Passport Office to “convert any information submitted by an applicant into a digital biometric format” for the e-Passport, and the second amendment was for the right of the Passport Office to “convert an applicant’s photograph into a biometric template for the purpose of verifying the applicant’s identity, including nationality, and entitlement to obtain or remain in possession of a passport.”⁵⁶⁰ The two amendments constituted Order P.C. 2004-951⁵⁶¹.

Lastly, Canada, through APEC, has also committed to developing systems for sharing passport alerts to help combat terrorism and improve travel safety for business and other travelers in the region. This system, called the Regional Movement Alert List (RMAL), will “automatically share data on lost and stolen passports” between APEC countries.⁵⁶²

⁵⁵² “New passports could allow use of biometrics: report,” CBC News (Toronto) 19 July 2004. Date of Access: 7 January 2005 www.cbc.ca/ory/canada/national/2004/07/19/passport_digital040719.html

⁵⁵³ “Canada to begin issuing high-tech passports,” CTV News (Toronto) 18 July 2004. Date of Access: 6 January 2005 www.ctv.ca/servlet/ArticleNews/or/CTVNews/1090187452237_3?s_name=&no_ads=

⁵⁵⁴ Ibid.

⁵⁵⁵ Ibid.

⁵⁵⁶ Ibid.

⁵⁵⁷ Ibid.

⁵⁵⁸ “Order Amending the Canadian Passport Order,” Canada Gazette (Ottawa) 1 September 2004. Date of Access: 7 January 2005 canadagazette.gc.ca/partII/2004/20040922/html/si113-e.html

⁵⁵⁹ Ibid.

⁵⁶⁰ Ibid.

⁵⁶¹ Ibid.

⁵⁶² Joint statement by U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell, Chilean Minister of Interior Jose Miguel Insulza and Australian Foreign Minister Alexander Downer, “APEC Economies to Develop a Regional Movement Alert List System,” Office of the Spokesman, Department of State, Washington, DC, November 19, 2004. Date of Access: 2 January 2005 www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2004/38495.htm.

2. France: 0

France has demonstrated a great degree of compliance with its G8 commitment. Much of the state's compliance has been done through its membership in the European Union and its participation in the Schengen 'acquis'. More specifically, on December 13th 2004, the European Council voted in favour of regulations concerning the issuing of biometric passports in member states that are part of the Schengen Treaty.⁵⁶³ France was also a participant in the 6th International Porvoo Group Conference in Rome, held on November 9th and 10th, 2004. The conference was centered on the topic of "Interoperable European Electronic Identities."⁵⁶⁴ Resolutions 4 and 6 of the conference recognized "the important developments underway in the high interest topic area 'Biometrics in Passports and ID-cards'" and "support for interoperability standards."⁵⁶⁵ Resolution 3 of the Conference noted the progress of member state countries and noted "France will officially launch an eID cards tender by Mid December 2004."⁵⁶⁶ All of the conference's resolutions passed unanimously.⁵⁶⁷ There is no evidence of such a card being launched at the present time, however this statement of intentions is proof that France is intent on fulfilling its G8 commitment. Furthermore, France, more specifically its Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Industry, has shown support for smart card technology through its patronage of the Cartes & IT Security 2004 industrial fair that took place in Paris-Nord Villepintes, France on 2-4 November 2004.⁵⁶⁸

3. Germany: 0

Germany is taking steps towards implementing the SAFTI initiatives. Much of that progress though, is through multilateral channels such as the European Union (EU), the United Nations (UN), the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the Council of Europe as opposed to self-initiated national-level action.

According to a statement by the German Federal Ministry of the Interior, the Federal Government is "pushing for the use of biometric procedures in border controls at the EU level, [such as] inclusion of biometric features in visa and residence permits, as well as in passports for EU nationals."⁵⁶⁹ Furthermore, in the Keynote Speech by Federal Minister of the Interior Otto Schily for the 4th International Conference "The Global Impact of Terrorism" at the

⁵⁶³ Council of the European Union; Council Regulation on Standards for security features and biometrics in passports and travel documents issued by Member States; regier.consilium.eu.int/pdf/en/04/15/15152.en04.pdf; Brussels; 10 December 2004.

⁵⁶⁴ Poorvo 6 Invited Seminar on Electronic Identity Homepage; www.neor.uniroma2.it/poorvo6/.

⁵⁶⁵ Resolutions of the Porvoo 6eID Group Meeting; www.neor.uniroma2.it/poorvo6/doc/Resolutions-Porvoo-6-eID-Group-Meting-FINAL.PDF ; Rome; 9–10 November 2004; Page 2.

⁵⁶⁶ Ibid. Page 1.

⁵⁶⁷ Ibid. Page 1.

⁵⁶⁸ Cartes 2004 & IT Security 2004 Website; Institutional Partners; www.cartes.com/en/frameset_dyn.htm?URL=E_partenaires/E1_inititionnels.htm.

⁵⁶⁹ "Combating Terrorism," Statement on the Federal Ministry of the Interior Website. Date of Access: 3 January 2005

www.bmi.bund.de/cln_011/nn_148716/Internet/Content/Themen/Innere_Sicherheit_allgemein/DatenundFakten/Combating_terrorism_en.html.

Interdisciplinary Center (IDC) in Herzliya, Israel, on 11 September 2004, the German approach was re-iterated: “for a comprehensive approach to fighting terrorism, we must take coordinated action in a wide variety of areas: for example, in law concerning foreigners and private associations, in the area of border control and visa policy, in document security and biometrics, and, not least, in opposing money laundering and the financing of terrorism.”⁵⁷⁰ In the spirit of this commitment, “PG PMB” (Project Group on Identity Documents, Registration and Biometrics) was created within the Ministry of the Interior to, among other things, “implement the Federal Government’s overall strategy on the use of biometrics to increase security in Germany.”⁵⁷¹

Through EU cooperation, German participation in the Schengen ‘acquis’ has ensured coordinated efforts towards implementing SAFTI measures. More specifically, on December 13th 2004, the European Council voted in favour of regulations concerning the issuing of biometric passports in member states that are part of the Schengen Treaty.⁵⁷²

However on its own, Germany is still far from implementing Smart Chip Passports. American Secretary of State Colin Powell, testifying before U.S. Congress in spring 2004, announced that “none of the larger countries — for example, Japan, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy or Spain -- will begin issuing passports with standardized biometrics by [the October 26th 2004] deadline” imposed by Congress on foreign VWP visitor passports and “may not come on-line until well into 2006.”⁵⁷³ Subsequently Congress extended the deadline for foreign nationals to provide biometric passports for 1 year, until 2005.

4. Italy: 0

Italy has consistently maintained a strong role in the propagation of “smart” forms of identification, even before the Sea Island Summit it was the first European country to introduce smart chip equipped passports.⁵⁷⁴

As far as Italian commitments to assist with the development of interoperable smart chip passports and identity documents, the process is intrinsically linked with the European Union.

⁵⁷⁰ Keynote Speech by Federal Minister of the Interior Otto Schily for the 4th International Conference "The Global Impact of Terrorism" at the Interdisciplinary Center (IDC) in Herzliya, Israel, on 11 September 2004, Monday 13 September 2004. Date of Access: 3 January 2005

www.bmi.bund.de/cln_006/nn_148716/Internet/Content/Nachrichten/Reden/2004/09/4th_International_Conference_the_global_impact_of_terrorism.html.

⁵⁷¹ “Functions of the PG PMB,” Statement on the Federal Ministry of the Interior Website. Date of Access: 3 January 2005

www.bmi.bund.de/cln_011/nn_148716/Internet/Content/Minierium/Organigramm/Referate/PG_PMB_Aufgaben_engl.html.

⁵⁷² Council of the European Union; Council Regulation on Standards for security features and biometrics in passports and travel documents issued by Member States; regier.consilium.eu.int/pdf/en/04/15/15152.en04.pdf; Brussels; 10 December 2004.

⁵⁷³ Colin L. Powell, Secretary of State, “Passports and Visas with Embedded Biometrics and the October Deadline,” Prepared Testimony before the House Judiciary Committee, Washington, DC, April 21, 2004. Date of Access: 23 December 2004 www.state.gov/secretary/rm/31639.htm.

⁵⁷⁴ European Biometrics Forum, “Italy First Country To Launch Electronic Passport” [December 16, 2003] www.eubiometricforum.com/index.php?option=content&task=view&id=95&Itemid=1

This is consistent with the EU's approach to create technological standards that will then be adopted by individual member states.⁵⁷⁵ The EU itself has taken action recently to ensure some degree of standardization, on December 13, 2004 the General Affairs Council passed a regulation which outlined some technical specification and worked towards "harmonizing security standard features,"⁵⁷⁶ in the Schengen 'acquis'. Italy as a member state is naturally a part of this process.

There have also been national efforts to improve the interoperability of Italian biometric systems. In October 2004 the National Center for Information Technology In The Public Sector (CNIPA) published a set of biometric guidelines for the Italian government. Part of the aim was to ensure that further progress in the field would be in line with international standards.⁵⁷⁷ Both the report and the conference which followed were designed to provide some guidance as to how Italy could learn from other countries, especially EU members.⁵⁷⁸ Thus, Italy had retained a strong commitment to its SAFTI commitment earning it the mark of +1.

5. Japan: 0

Japan has made several notable efforts to meet the implementation of biometric passports by 2005. This has been achieved primarily through the involvement with the Asia IC Card Forum and through active state projects by several ministries of the government. With this consistent effort, Japan has showed a moderate level of compliance.

The Asia IC Card Forum (AICF) was founded in part by Japan and was officially inaugurated in June of 2004.⁵⁷⁹ At the AICF full session meeting on July 29, 2004 and July 30, 2004, the status of Japan's electronic passport (e-passport) was presented⁵⁸⁰, and a measure to follow a common pace for the standardization of "an Asian area" e-passport to meet the International Standardization Organization (ISO), and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), was also planned⁵⁸¹.

Japan showed a major step in compliance at the first Standards Committee Working Meeting of the AICF in Singapore on October 26-28, 2004, at which projects of biometric passports were

⁵⁷⁵ Mo, Maxine C., "Biometrics And Border Control: Beyond U.S.-VISIT", Digital ID World, September/October 2004, 20.

⁵⁷⁶ Interchange of Data Between Administrations (IDA), "Council Of EU Adopts Biometric Passports Regulation [December 17, 2004] europa.eu.int/ida/en/document/3669

⁵⁷⁷ Centro Nationale Per L'Informatica Nella Publica Adminirazione, "Linee Guida Per Le Tecnologie Biometriche www.cnipa.gov.it/site/_files/Linee%20guida-%20tecnologie%20biometriche.pdf , Pg 9.

⁵⁷⁸ Centro Nationale Per L'Informatica Nella Publica Adminirazione "2004 La Biometria Entra Nell' e- Government [November 23, 2004]www.cnipa.gov.it/Site/itIT/Eventi/i_convegni_-Cnipa/Convegno/Biometria.html

⁵⁷⁹ The Inaugural General Meeting, Asia IC Card Forum Official Website (Seoul) 11 June 2004. Date of Access: 7 January 2005 www.asiaiccardforum.org/~ENG/news/newsli.htm

⁵⁸⁰ About holding of the 1st steering committee, News on Asia IC Card Forum Official Website (Tokyo) 30 July 2004. Date of Access: 7 January 2005 www.asiaiccardforum.org/~ENG/news/news2004073001.htm

⁵⁸¹ About the Asia Integrated Circuit Card Forum Secretariat Establishment, News on Asia IC Card Forum Official Website (Tokyo) 30 July 2004. Date of Access: 7 January 2005 www.asiaiccardforum.org/~ENG/news/news2004073003.htm

discussed⁵⁸². Japan announced that e-passports would be introduced starting March of 2006⁵⁸³. Various ministries of the government of Japan are being involved in the Pilot Project Committee for e-passport, including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; the Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport; Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry; and the National Police Office⁵⁸⁴. At the conference, Japan presented plans for producing a prototype of the ICAO-PKD, and also announced a planned e-passport pilot test to take place at the Narita Airport, and an e-passports interoperability test session to be hosted by the Japanese government on March 8–10, 2005⁵⁸⁵. The interoperability test will be held under the auspices of the ICAO/NTWG, and will “test verifying compliance to the ICAO Specification and ISO/IEC 14443–1–4.”⁵⁸⁶ A demo e-passport is scheduled to be completed by the end of January 2005⁵⁸⁷.

In September of 2004, Japan received official approval from the United States’ Department of State for having satisfied the Border Security Act requirement, which asked for having in place a program to produce biometric passports⁵⁸⁸. In October of 2004, Japan submitted a report of reform recommendations to the United States, in which Japan had asked for an extension of the October 26, 2004 deadline for issuing biometric passports in order to participate in the United States visa waiver program⁵⁸⁹. In response, the United States Congress passed a bill to extend the deadline by one year to October 26, 2005⁵⁹⁰.

At the end of the year 2004, the Japanese government showed another significant step to compliance by announcing increased budget allocation for the e-passport project for fiscal year

⁵⁸² AICF Inaugural Standards Working Meeting & Conference, Infocomm Development Authority (IDA) of Singapore Official Website (Singapore) 1 November 2004. Date of Access: 7 January 2005
www.ida.gov.sg/idaweb/techdev/infopage.jsp?infopagecategory=&infopageid=I3084&versionid=5

⁵⁸³ Global Interoperability for e-passport, Infocomm Development Authority (IDA) of Singapore Official Website (Singapore) 1 November 2004. Date of Access: 7 January 2005
www.ida.gov.sg/idaweb/techdev/infopage.jsp?infopagecategory=articles:techdev&versionid=8&infopageid=I3070

⁵⁸⁴ Ibid.

⁵⁸⁵ Ibid.

⁵⁸⁶ Japan’s IC Card System, Infocomm Development Authority (IDA) of Singapore Official Website (Singapore) 1 November 2004. Date of Access: 7 January 2005
www.ida.gov.sg/idaweb/techdev/infopage.jsp?infopagecategory=articles:techdev&versionid=4&infopageid=I3094

⁵⁸⁷ Progress of e-passport live test project, Asia IC Card Forum Standard Committee (Japan) 3 December 2004. Date of Access: 7 January 2005
www.asiaiccardforum.org/~KOR/news/jeju_pict/download/10_PKD%20Live%20Te%20for%20AICF.pdf

⁵⁸⁸ Recommendations by the Government of Japan to the Government of the United States regarding Regulatory Reform and Competition Policy, Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs Official Website (Japan) 14 October 2004. Date of Access: 7 January 2005 www.mofa.go.jp/region/n-america/us/report0410-1.pdf

⁵⁸⁹ Summary of Recommendations, Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs Official Website (Japan) 15 October 2004. Date of Access: 7 January 2005 www.mofa.go.jp/region/n-america/us/report0410-3.pdf

⁵⁹⁰ Recommendations by the Government of Japan to the Government of the United States regarding Regulatory Reform and Competition Policy, Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs Official Website (Japan) 14 October 2004. Date of Access: 7 January 2005 www.mofa.go.jp/region/n-america/us/report0410-1.pdf

2005⁵⁹¹. The final budget that was set aside is 2.51 billion yen; it will go towards implementing passports with biometric features by April 1, 2005⁵⁹².

Additionally, in partnership with the APEC countries, Japan has committed to developing systems for sharing passport alerts to help combat terrorism and improve travel safety for business and other travelers in the region. This system, called the Regional Movement Alert List (RMAL), will “automatically share data on lost and stolen passports” between APEC countries.⁵⁹³

6. Russia: 0

Russia is actively complying with its commitment to develop international standards for interoperable government-issued smart-chip passports and identification documents. Primarily, this is demonstrated in the Russian Federation’s creation of a special interdepartmental working group with the mandate to establish the domestic regulatory and legal framework for the implementation of a biometric data passport (BDP) no later than 1 January 2006.⁵⁹⁴ Working group chair Viktor Ivanov expressed support for international efforts to implement BDPs at a recent meeting of the Council of the International Organization for Migration, stating, “Russia supports the measures undertaken by the leading countries to draw up and introduce passport and visa documents of a new generation that include biometric information. It is clear that while implementing this work, a close inter-governmental cooperation is required to develop coordinated approaches and common approaches.”⁵⁹⁵

Established by Prime Minister Vladimir Putin in the wake of a series of terrorists attacks in Russia in September 2004, the special interdepartmental working group chaired by presidential aide Viktor Ivanov with deputy chairs Rashid Nurgaliyev (Interior Minister) and Leonid Reiman (Minister of Information Technology and Communication) is also mandated with the creation of “financial-economic terms for the development and introduction of technologies that would meet world standards” and “is entrusted with the development of external political measures, including in the format of meetings of G8 interior and justice ministers, as well as the framework of regional cooperation to ensure the unification and mutual recognition of the passport-and-visa control technologies.”⁵⁹⁶ At the 25 December 2004 meeting of the CIS Interior Minister Council,

⁵⁹¹ “Budget set aside for new anticounterfeit passports in FY 2005,” Kyodo News (Kyodo) 22 December 2004.

Date of Access: 28 December 2004 asia.news.yahoo.com/041222/kyodo/d874lkj80.html

⁵⁹² “Safer passports, U.N. staff boost eyed in FY 2005 budget,” Kyodo News (Kyodo) 24 December 2004. Date of Access: 28 December 2004 asia.news.yahoo.com/041224/kyodo/d875n1u00.html

⁵⁹³ Joint Statement by U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell, Chilean Minister of Interior Jose Miguel Insulza and Australian Foreign Minister Alexander Downer, “APEC Economies to Develop a Regional Movement Alert List System,” Office of the Spokesman, Department of State, Washington, DC, November 19, 2004. Date of Access: 2 January 2005 www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2004/38495.htm.

⁵⁹⁴ “Russia to issue biometric passports.” European Communities eGovernment News. 23 September 2004. Date of Access: 30 December 2004 europa.eu.int:80/ida/en/document/3300.

⁵⁹⁵ Statement by Mr. Viktor Ivanov, Assistant to the Prime Minister of the Russian Federation. Council for the International Organization for Migration, 88th Session High-Level Segment. 30 November 2004. Date of Access: 6 January 2005. www.iom.int//DOCUMENTS/GOVERNING/EN/ivanov_english.pdf

⁵⁹⁶ “Putin Orders Introduction of Biometric Data Passports in Russia” FindBiometrics.com/ITAR-TASS 20 September 2004. Date of Access: 30 December 2004. www.findbiometrics.com/Pages/feature%20articles/putin.html

Interior Minister Nurgaliyev proposed the introduction of a common biometric identification system “CIS-Visit” worked out in Kazakhstan, requiring the formation of a united database that would form the basis of a BDP system corresponding to international standards.⁵⁹⁷

Russia continues to negotiate the establishment of four Russia-EU ‘common spaces’⁵⁹⁸ with the stated aim of concluding an agreement by May 2005.⁵⁹⁹ Russian Federation spokesman Alexander Yakovenko stated in relation to the establishment of the second ‘common space’ for ‘freedom, security and justice’ that it, “is regarded by the sides as a major structure called upon to assist the ensuring of the security of people, including measures of a sectoral character, the fight against terrorism and cross-border crime, and the strengthening of personal rights and freedoms; on the whole to help create a single European space without dividing lines and visa barriers.”⁶⁰⁰ This sentiment was echoed on 30 November 2004 in working group chair Viktor Ivanov’s statement to the 88th Session, High-Level Segment, of the Council of the International Organization for Migration linking the advancement towards the Russian Federation’s securing no-visa status in Europe with the signing of an agreement on mutual facilitation of visual procedures with the EC and the coordinated development of a BDP system as a means to combat illegal migration “and related negative consequences.”⁶⁰¹

Finally, Russia in partnership with the APEC countries, committed to developing systems for sharing passport alerts to help combat terrorism and improve travel safety for business and other travelers in the region. This system, called the Regional Movement Alert List (RMAL), will “automatically share data on lost and stolen passports” between APEC countries.⁶⁰²

⁵⁹⁷ “CIS interior ministers sign anti-terrorism measures plan” ITAR-TASS. 25 December 2004. Date of Access: 30 December 2004. www.tass.ru/eng/prnt.html?NewsID=1598377.

⁵⁹⁸ The four Russia-EU ‘common spaces’ under negotiation are: the Common Economic Space; the Common Space for Freedom, Security and Justice; Common External Security; and the Space for Research, Education and Culture. Alexander Yakovenko, the Spokesman of Russia’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs Answers Russian Media Questions on the Russia-European Union Relationship. Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation Information and Press Department. 25 November 2004. Date of Access: 28 November 2004.

www.ln.mid.ru/brp_4.nsf/e78a48070f128a7b43256999005bcbb3/bb11a3781bc5f22fc3256f58002fc1f0?OpenDocument

⁵⁹⁹ Russian President Vladimir Putin’ Opening Remarks and Replies to Questions at Joint Press Conference Following Russia-EU Summit, The Hague, November 25, 2004. Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation Information and Press Department. 26 November 2004. Date of Access: 28 November 2004. www.ln.mid.ru/brp_4.nsf/e78a48070f128a7b43256999005bcbb3/e4523bf3a38f6633c3256f58005756d6?OpenDocument

⁶⁰⁰ Alexander Yakovenko, the Spokesman of Russia’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs Answers Russian Media Questions on the Russia-European Union Relationship. Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation Information and Press Department. 25 November 2004. Date of Access: 28 November 2004.

www.ln.mid.ru/brp_4.nsf/e78a48070f128a7b43256999005bcbb3/bb11a3781bc5f22fc3256f58002fc1f0?OpenDocument

⁶⁰¹ Statement by Mr. Viktor Ivanov, Assistant to the Prime Minister of the Russian Federation. Council for the International Organization for Migration, 88th Session High-Level Segment. 30 November 2004. Date of Access: 6 January 2005. www.iom.int//DOCUMENTS/GOVERNING/EN/ivanov_english.pdf

⁶⁰² Joint Statement by U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell, Chilean Minister of Interior Jose Miguel Insulza and Australian Foreign Minister Alexander Downer, “APEC Economies to Develop a Regional Movement Alert List System,” Office of the Spokesman, Department of State, Washington, DC, November 19, 2004. Date of Access: 2 January 2005 www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2004/38495.htm.

7. United Kingdom: 0

The United Kingdom has made significant progress in complying with its commitment to develop international standards for the interoperability of government-issued smart chip passports and other government-issued identity documents, primarily through its introduction of the Identity Card Bill in the UK Parliament and its participation in the development of the European Council's regulations on standards for security features and biometrics in passports and travel documents issued by Member States.

Announced in the 23 November 2004 Queen's Speech to Parliament⁶⁰³ and introduced to Parliament on 29 November 2004, the government's Identity Card Bill (if passed) will allow for the creation of a national identity register. The national identity register will combine traditional identification information (name, address, date of birth, nationality and immigration status) with biometric identifiers (face recognition, digital fingerprinting and iris patterns) to be included in smart chip passports and national identity cards.⁶⁰⁴ Then-Home Secretary David Blunkett stated that the first national identity cards would be issued in 2008, when biometric passports would become compulsory, but suggested that Parliament could decide whether to make owning but not carrying national identity cards compulsory "in 2011 or 2012."⁶⁰⁵ The Bill has raised some domestic concerns over privacy issues and the cost-effectiveness of the program, estimated to be 415 million pounds per year for the biometric passport component and 85 million pounds per year for the national identity cards component,⁶⁰⁶ but there is no indication in the wake of Secretary Blunkett's resignation the British government has any plans to delay passage of the Identity Cards Bill. Home Secretary Charles Clarke stated recently, "I certainly shall not pause — I will go ahead with the legislation."⁶⁰⁷ Members of the House of Commons voted 385 to 93 on December 2004 to give the Identity Card Bill a second reading and defeated an opposition motion to reject the bill 306 to 93 in a separate vote.⁶⁰⁸

The United Kingdom has also actively participated in the development of the Council of the European Union's biometric passport regulations. At an 18 October 2004 Florence meeting of "G5" interior ministers the United Kingdom entered into a broad agreement to promote both face recognition and digital fingerprinting as biometrics in all EU passports, moving one step further than the EU's proposed regulations and standards for security features and biometrics in EU

⁶⁰³ "Full text of the 2004 Queen's Speech" BBC News. 23 November 2004. Date of Access: 7 January 2004. news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/2/hi/uk_news/politics/4034947.m

⁶⁰⁴ Identity Cards Bill, as introduced in the House of Commons on 29 November 2004 [Bill 8]. The United Kingdom Parliament. 29 November 2004. Date of Access: 28 December 2004.

www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200405/cmbills/008/2005008.pdf. Identity Cards Bill Explanatory Notes [Bill 8-EN]. The United Kingdom Parliament. 29 November 2004. Date of Access: 28 December 2004.

www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200405/cmbills/008/en/05008x--.htm

⁶⁰⁵ "Blair denies terror hype claims." BBC News. 23 November 2004. Date of Access: 29 November 2004. news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/1/hi/uk_politics/4036843.m

⁶⁰⁶ "Revolt looms in ID cards debate." BBC News. 20 December 2004. Date of Access: 20 December 2004. news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/1/hi/uk_politics/4109681.m

⁶⁰⁷ Ibid.

⁶⁰⁸ "ID cards plans pass fir hurdle." BBC News. 21 December 2004. Date of Access: 7 January 2005. news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/2/hi/uk_news/politics/4109681.m

citizens' passports of 18 February 2004 which called only for face recognition biometrics.⁶⁰⁹ At the 2613rd Council of the European Union Council Meeting on Justice and Home Affairs on 25-26 October 2004 in Luxembourg, the United Kingdom participated in the agreement to include digital fingerprints as a second mandatory biometric identifier in future Member States' passports. The meeting also agreed that a facial image of the holder will have to be included in all EU passports issued 18 months after the date of adoption of technical specifications to implement the Council Regulations on "standards for security features and biometrics in passports and travel documents issued by Member States," with digital fingerprints mandatory after 36 months.⁶¹⁰ On 9 December 2004 the United Kingdom issued a 'unilateral statement' in conjunction with the Council of the European Union's decision of mandatory inclusion of facial recognition and digital fingerprint biometrics in future passports and travel documents issued by Member States stating, "The United Kingdom recalls that, under the Protocols on the position of the United Kingdom and Ireland and on integrating the Schengen *aquis* into the framework of the European Union, it has the right to take part in the adoption of this measure. It regrets that it has been denied that right. The adoption of this measure is without prejudice to the United Kingdom's legal position, and its right to take such legal steps in accordance with that position as it considers necessary."⁶¹¹

The United Kingdom also signed a US\$244 million contract with Northrop Grumman Information Technology of Herndon to provide advanced biometric identification technology to law enforcement agencies. The IDENT1 contract will replace the National Automated Fingerprint Identification System with a system combining traditional law enforcement data (e.g. vehicle information, phone numbers, property information) with biometric information and allow for biometric information to be searched and fused. The new program will expand information exchange with cross-border systems, and will later include mobile fingerprint checking, facial imaging and video identification. Under the IDENT1 program, other biometric identifier capabilities such as iris scans may be added in the future.⁶¹²

8. United States: +1

The United States is actively complying with SAFTI, though the implementation process is a slow one. The main executive departments responsible for this implementation are the United States Department of State and the Department of Homeland Security, while several other departments play lesser, issue-specific roles.

⁶⁰⁹ "G5 countries agree to include fingerprint scans in passports." eGovernment News. 19 October 2004. Date of Access: 8 January 2005. europa.eu.int/ida/en/document/3403/355 Proposal for a Council Regulation on Standards for security features and biometrics in EU citizens' passports. Commission of the European Communities. 18 February 2004. Date of Access: 30 December 2004. europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/com/pdf/2004/com2004_0116en01.pdf

⁶¹⁰ "Future EU passports to include fingerprint scans." eGovernment News. 27 October 2004. Date of Access: 30 December 2004. europa.eu.int/ida/en/document/3421/330. Press Release, 2613rd Council Meeting, Juice and Home Affairs. Council of the European Union. 26 October 2004. Date of Access: 30 December 2004.

ue.eu.int/ueDocs/cms_Data/docs/pressData/en/jha/82414.pdf

⁶¹¹ Addendum to the "A" item note. Council of the European Union. 9 December 2004. Date of Access: 30 December 2004. www.atewatch.org/news/2004/dec/bio-passports-reg-uk.pdf

⁶¹² "Northrop Grumman Wins U.K. Fingerprinting Job" The Washington Post. 20 December 2004. p.E04

In an effort to enhance document interoperability through international standards in accordance with the SAFTI Action Plan, America is implementing a national smart chip passport. The biometric data, namely a digital image of the bearer's face and a variety of other biographic information, will be stored on the electronic chip embedded in the cover of the passport. This information will be universally readable in compliance with the guidelines set out by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) in order to verify the bearer's identity to foster enhanced security.⁶¹³

In an appearance before the Senate Judiciary Committee on June 15th, 2004, Assistant Secretary of State for Consular Affairs Maura Harty testified that the United States is currently "embedding biometrics into U.S. passports" in compliance with "the ICAO biometric standard" as part of continued efforts "to strengthening border security."⁶¹⁴ Three days earlier, on June 12th, 2004, the United States Government Printing Office (GPO) issued "the final Request for Proposal (RFP) to procure the technological components needed to produce the first U.S. biometric passport," one of the final steps before the actual production of the new contactless chip passports.⁶¹⁵ In addition, the "FY 2004 Performance and Accountability Report" released in December 2004 states "the [State] Department expects to begin issuing new passports to the public by March 2005" which is "on target" with internal State Department forecasts.⁶¹⁶ Notwithstanding unforeseen delays, a multi-nation interoperability test of the new passport system is scheduled for February 2005, with New Zealand and Australia being two of the partner-states expected to participate in the test.⁶¹⁷

In addition to updating passport technologies, the United States has begun improving its adjudication and scrutinization processes to enhance security. The United States began information-sharing with INTERPOL in May 2004, helping to set the standard for the international information exchange component of SAFTI by "transferring information on more than 300,000 lost or stolen passports" from American databases to the international organization.⁶¹⁸ The American Consular Lost and Stolen Passports (CLASP) database, created in

⁶¹³ Colin L. Powell, Secretary of State, "Passports and Visas with Embedded Biometrics and the October Deadline," Prepared Testimony before the House Judiciary Committee, Washington, DC, April 21, 2004. Date of Access: 23 December 2004 www.state.gov/secretary/rm/31639.htm.

⁶¹⁴ Maura Harty, Assistant Secretary of State for Consular Affairs, "Remarks before the Senate Judiciary Committee," Washington, DC, June 15, 2004. Date of Access: 23 December 2004 www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/othertmy/37011.htm.

⁶¹⁵ Media Release, Office of the Spokesman, "Biometric Passport Procurement Moves Forward," Office of the Spokesman, United States Department of State, Washington, DC, July 15, 2004. Date of Access: 18 December 2004 www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2004/34423.htm.

⁶¹⁶ Strategic Goal 6: American Citizens — Performance Results for Performance Goal 2: Effective And Timely Passport Issuance, With Document Integrity Assured," FY 2004 Performance and Accountability Report, Released by the Bureau of Resource Management, United States Department of State, November 2004. Date of Access: 26 December 2004 www.state.gov/m/rm/rls/perfrpt/2004/html/39027.htm.

⁶¹⁷ Maura Harty, Assistant Secretary of State for Consular Affairs, "Remarks before the Senate Judiciary Committee," Washington, DC, June 15, 2004. Date of Access: 23 December 2004 www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/othertmy/37011.htm.

⁶¹⁸ Maura Harty, Assistant Secretary for Consular Affairs, "Testimony on 9/11 Commission Report Recommendations", Statement Before the House International Relations Committee, Washington, DC, Augu 19, 2004. Date of Access: 12 December 2004 www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/othertmy/35592.htm.

2002 and shared internationally in 2004, “provides lost and stolen U.S. passport data to all Ports of Entry (POE) within seconds of receiving the information.”⁶¹⁹

Furthermore, the United States, in partnership with the APEC countries, committed to developing systems for sharing passport alerts to help combat terrorism and improve travel safety for business and other travelers in the region. This system, called the Regional Movement Alert List (RMAL), will “automatically share data on lost and stolen passports” between APEC countries.⁶²⁰

9. European Union: 0

The European Union has shown marked compliance with its G8 commitment concerning smart-chip documentation. At the General Affairs Council meeting in Brussels on December 13th, 2004 the Council adopted a regulation mandating the inclusion of biometric information in future passports and travel documents issued by EU Member States.⁶²¹ The regulation states, “Passports and travel documents shall include a storage medium which shall contain a facial image. Member States shall also include fingerprints in interoperable formats”⁶²². National identity cards, temporary passports and travel documents issued by member states are not bound by these regulations.⁶²³ The regulation will enter into force twenty days after its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union.⁶²⁴ From that date onwards, Member states will be obliged apply these regulations in a time frame of 18 months for facial images and 36 months for fingerprints.⁶²⁵ The regulation is an extension of the Schengen ‘acquis’, therefore the United Kingdom, Ireland and Denmark are not bound by it.⁶²⁶ These member states have a six-month delay to decided whether or not implement the regulation.⁶²⁷ The European Parliament had on December 2nd, 2004, prior to the Council’s decision, voted in favour of biometric passport regulations.⁶²⁸ However, it sustained that only facial images should be compulsive biometric identifiers.⁶²⁹

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⁶¹⁹ Ibid.

⁶²⁰ Joint Statement by U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell, Chilean Minister of Interior Jose Miguel Insulza and Australian Foreign Minister Alexander Downer, “APEC Economies to Develop a Regional Movement Alert List System,” Office of the Spokesman, Department of State, Washington, DC, November 19, 2004. Date of Access: 2 January 2005 www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2004/38495.htm.

⁶²¹ “Council of the EU adopts biometric passports regulation”; eGovernment News; europa.eu.int/ida/en/document/3669/194; 17 December 2004.

⁶²² Council of the European Union; Council Regulation on standards for security features and biometrics in passports and travel documents issued by Member States; regier.consilium.eu.int/pdf/en/04/15/15152.en04.pdf; Brussels; 10 December 2004; Page 6.

⁶²³ Ibid. Page 6.

⁶²⁴ Ibid. Page 9.

⁶²⁵ Ibid. Page 9.

⁶²⁶ “Council of the EU adopts biometric passports regulation”; eGovernment News; europa.eu.int/ida/en/document/3669/194; 17 December 2004.

⁶²⁷ Ibid.

⁶²⁸ Ibid.