PASSPORT TO SECURITY

Improving the security of travel documents

States across the OSCE area face a worrying and growing threat from the movement of foreign terrorist fighters, traffickers and criminals who are using fraudulent passports to travel undetected.

“For terrorists, travel documents are as important as weapons”

The 9/11 Commission Report*

* You can access the report here: https://www.9-11commission.gov/report/911Report.pdf

More and more countries globally are adopting fraud-resistant e-passports with sophisticated security features as a tool to prevent the movement of terrorists and criminals across borders. But this is not enough.

Other countries must be able to read the e-passport to confirm its authenticity. Countries can do this in a fast and cost-effective way by using the International Civil Aviation Organization Public Key Directory (ICAO PKD).

SOLUTION

Once the ICAO PKD is established by OSCE experts, countries can join through the following:

- Creating regional road maps to outline steps for countries that want to join the ICAO PKD
- Country visits by OSCE experts to meet the key decision-makers and implementers
- Hiring technical experts out of OSCE participating States that are ICAO PKD members
- Issuance of e-passports by OSCE participating States that are not members of ICAO PKD

HOW THE OSCE CAN HELP

The Border Security and Management Unit of the OSCE Transnational Threats Department provides technical support to OSCE participating States wishing to join the ICAO PKD through:

- Creating regional road maps
to outline steps for countries that want to join the ICAO PKD
- Country visits by OSCE experts
to meet the key decision-makers and implementers
- Hiring technical experts out of OSCE participating States that are ICAO PKD members
- Issuance of e-passports by OSCE participating States that are not members of ICAO PKD

TIMELINE

- 2009: Capacity-building training in Moldova
- 2010: Moldova joins the ICAO PKD
- 2011: Two capacity-building workshops in Turkmenistan
- 2012: Turkmenistan joins the ICAO PKD
- 2015-2017: OSCE's support to participating States in joining the ICAO PKD

OSCE's support to participating States in joining the ICAO PKD

- 30 out of 57 OSCE participating States are ICAO PKD members
- 25 out of 57 OSCE participating States issue e-passports but are not members of ICAO PKD

OSCE's support to participating States in joining the ICAO PKD

- Ministerial Council Decision calls on all participating States issuing or planning to issue e-passports or intended to issue e-passports in border controls to join the ICAO PKD
- Council Decision on e-passports at border controls
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