Improving APEC Travel Card implementation process to further facilitate the movement of business people.



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## Background

- APEC's main objective is to promote free trade and investment in the region
  - one key action area is the enhancement of business mobility.
- Ideally business wants streamlined travel between APEC economies
  - The APEC Business Travel Card (ABTC) was APEC's response.

Card is a regional initiative, negotiated among a number of APEC economies.

 A trial was announced by leaders of Australia, Korea and Philippines in November 1996.

ABTC commenced mid-May 1997 and was successful in demonstrating the feasibility of the scheme.

IT APEC economies now participate in the ABTC scheme:

Australia Brunei Darussalam Chile China Hong Kong (China) Indonesia Japan Republic of Korea Malaysia New Zealand Papua New Guinea Peru The Philippines Singapore Chinese Taipei Thailand Vietnam

**Business wants:** 

ability to travel at short notice

fast and easy processing on entry and departure

multiple entry facility over a long period

Government wants:

to maintain border security

to facilitate mobility of business people

to manage movements across borders

to control decisions on entry

# **Operating Framework**

- Economies have agreed on an Operating Framework;
- Participating economies agree to adhere to the operating principles and procedures;

# **Concept and Principles**

- The scheme in no way affects the rights of each economy;
- The operation of the scheme is in accordance with the laws, regulations and security arrangements of each economy;
- The passport remains the primary travel document;
- A holder of an ABTC will not be required to make separate formal application for travel to a participating economy;

# ...Concept and Principles

- Economy's may decline pre-clearance for any application;
- Economies have agreed to minimum processing times;
- Economies have agreed to share information to enable other economies to undertake 'pre-clearance' assessment.

# ...Concept and Principles

- Economies have agreed to core eligibility criteria;
- The card is valid for 3 years and allows multiple entry for stays of either 2 or 3 months;
- Streamlined entry and exit at major airports.

# Improving The Scheme

# Improving the Scheme

- The scheme is a work in progress;
- Suggestions for improvements to the scheme come from:
  - Economies;
  - Business representatives, notably ABAC.
- ABAC represent the APEC business community;
- The introduction of the ABTC was a significant step towards responding to calls by ABAC in its 1996 and 1997 reports to APEC leaders

## **ABAC Recommendations**

- Publicise the ABTC scheme;
- Increase the number of active cards;
- Reduce pre-clearance processing times;
- Prominent and easily visible APEC lanes;
- Application forms provided online;
- Reasons for rejection of pre-clearance to clients;
- Extending the validity of ABTC cards from 3 years to 5 years

# Smart Cards

Smart Card Technology:

- Introduction of SmartCard technology was discussed at SOMI in 2005;
- Australia presented a discussion paper at SOMIII in 2005;
- Any economy may choose to adopt smartcard technology for use by passport holders of their economy.

# Web Site

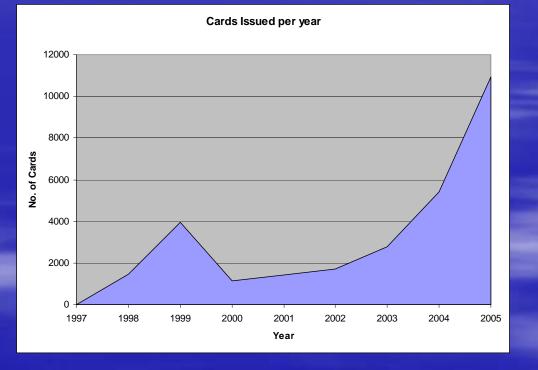
 Improvement to Business Mobility Website:
 The BMG is actively exploring options to improve its public information including its website.

## New Application Processing System

- In 1997 Australia developed an Application Processing System that is still in use and is now outdated;
- A new system will be released in late 2006;
  Features of the new system include:
  - Accessibility;
  - Enhanced reliability;
  - Scalability;
  - Security.

# **Good for Business**

- Facilitates Secure Movement
- Popular
- Continuously Improving





Australian Government

Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs

# Applications of biometrics to achieve immigration & border security outcomes

Andrew Bleeze Principal Migration Officer Hanoi

# Why is Identity Important?

New York





Jakarta

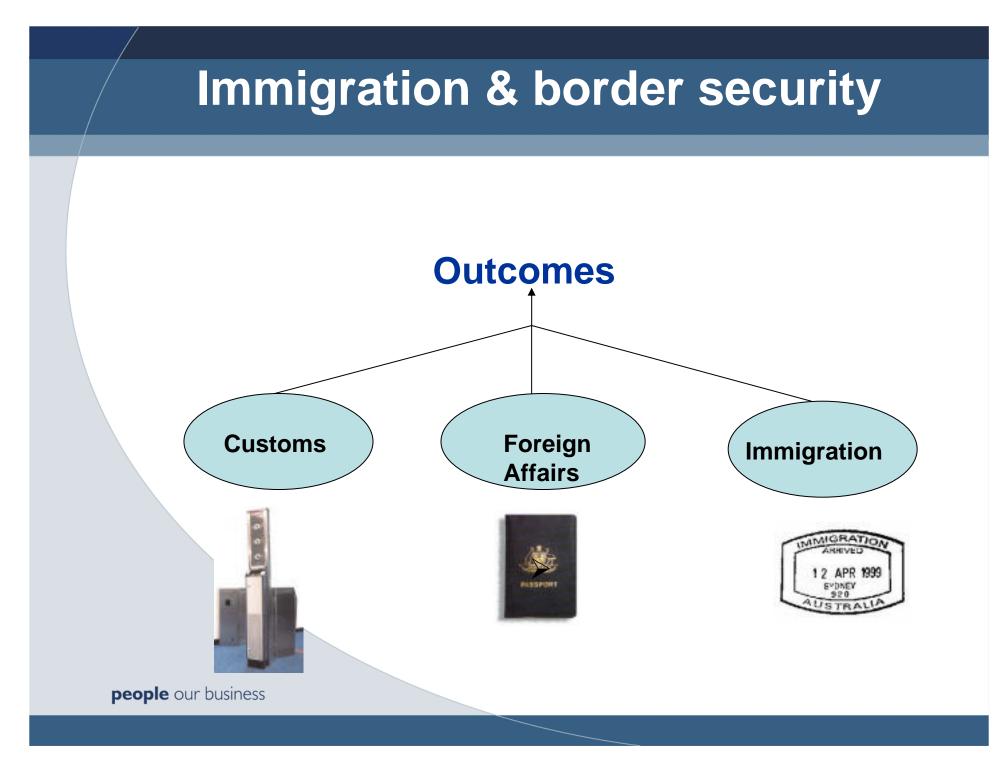




# **The Changing Environment**

- Internationally
- Within Australia
- Within Immigration





#### Australia's biometrics at the border strategy

Establish a coherent, whole-of-government strategy to explore and implement biometric technologies into Australian border management operations that is:

integrated & interoperable

• flexible & adaptable



## Foreign Affairs: E-passport

- The new Australian e-passport introduced in October 2005, utilises facial biometrics
- Live e-passport and reader trials between Australia, New Zealand and USA (2005) and Australia, New Zealand, USA and Singapore (2006)



## **Customs: SmartGate system**

 Automated border processing system using facial recognition technology





## **Immigration: biometric program**

- Deploy biometric systems at various locations
- Enhanced ID management processes
- Match biometric images collected against national security alerts
- Identity Services Repository

### **Biometrics at border: key outcomes**

- Enhance national security by detection and referral of "persons of concern"
- Facilitate border movement
- Identify visa breaches
- Protection from personal identity theft
- Protection from identity fraud
- Provide technology leadership

## **APEC & biometrics**

APEC is key regional player:

- STAR Program
- Business Mobility group

Australia- APEC: biometric initiatives



# Enhancement of Immigration Liaison Officer (ILO)

## Prepared by Immigration Bureau, KOREA

#### Contents

- Concept of Border Control
- Introduction to ILO
- ILO in Bangkok
- ILO in Korea
- Enhancement of ILO capacity
- Conclusion



1. Concept of Border Control
Measures of inside of territory

Measures at the Airports/Seaports

#### Measures in Abroad



#### **Measures of Border Control**

Measures Inside of Territory — Measures at Port of Entry	<ul> <li>Immigration</li> <li>Enforcement</li> <li>Illegal Employment</li> <li>People Smuggling Rings</li> <li>Terrorist Groups, etc</li> </ul>
Measures in Abroad	Risk Clearance
- Prior visa process - Visa Issuance	<ul> <li>Entry Inspection</li> <li>Border Surveillance</li> <li>Alert Lists</li> </ul>
- Exchange of Information - Communication Channel - ILO, etc	-Working with airlines <b>Risk Analysis</b>
Risk Prevention	

#### Implementation

Business Mobility, Transportation, Communication, Mass Movement, → Globalization

Security, Facilitation, Counter-Terror, Free Trade Agreement, etc.  $\rightarrow$  Contradiction of Values

MRTD, Automated Inspection, Biometric Passport, API, APP, etc.  $\rightarrow$  Standardization

Individual Action

Change of Border Control Function

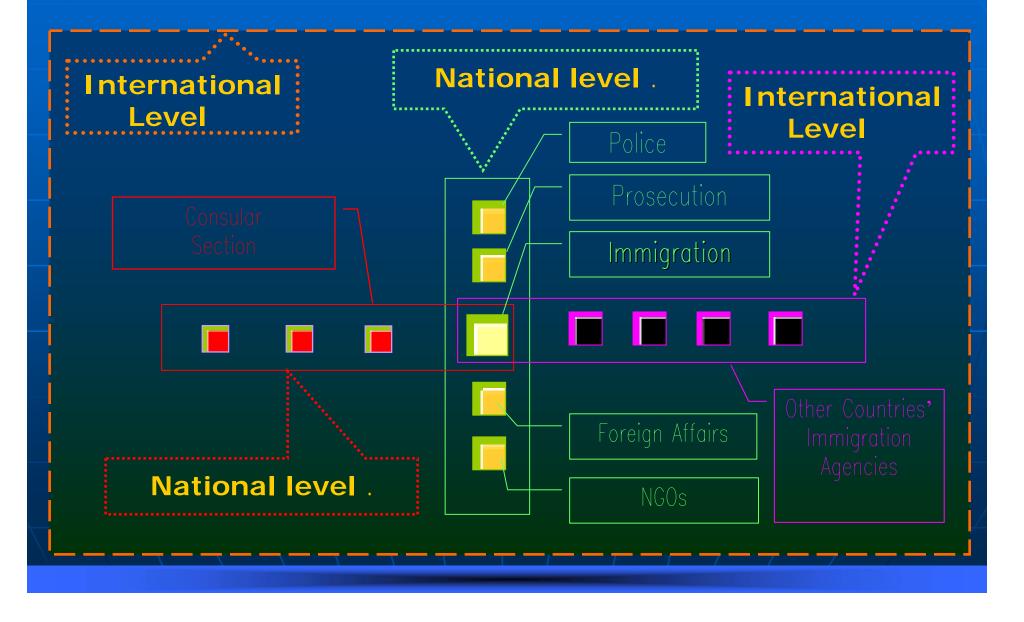
Re-establishment of Balance

Application of Advance Technology

Collective Action

 $\square$ 

#### **Cooperation of Immigration Control**



#### **Prevention in advance**

Screen out at the departing country's airline checking counter

- advising airline staff
- examining travel documents
- questioning the purpose of journey
- providing information to local

immigration authority

Helping bona fide passengers

#### 2. Introduction to ILO

#### **Immigration Liaison Officer**

- a representative of being posted abroad
- prevention and combating of fraud documents and illegal entry in advance
- information sharing
- cooperation with local authorities and airline companies

#### A Code of Conduct

- A Code of Conduct for Immigration Liaison Officers
- Endorsed by IATA/CAWG (International Air Transport Association Control Authorities Working Group)
- In October 2002
- No legal binding

## in the ICAO Annex 9

" Each contracting state shall ensure that the public authorities seize fraudulent, falsified or counterfeit travel document and the document of a person impersonating the rightful holder "

# Legal Status

## Legal Status

- Weak legal background
- carrying the job with a position of diplomat or immigration attache depending on MOU

#### Bilateral Basis

MOU between hosting and sending countries

## Role -1

No legal powers in a foreign jurisdiction

- advise airline staff
- assist examining travel documents
- provide the information about improperly documented passengers to local authorities

## Role -2

Information sharing

- information exchange within ILOs

- with local authorities

Report the information about fraud documents and fraudulent passport network to one's home country

## Main Tasks -1

- Establishing and maintaining a good working relationship with:
  - airlines, local authorities, other ILOs
- Ensure regular ILO's meeting
   to share information
- Training airline staffs/employees concerned

## Main Tasks -2

Assisting airline staff whether passengers have the right travel documents and visas

 Assisting in establishing the bona fides of individual passengers

## Main Tasks -3

- Advising whether travel documents are genuine, forged.
- Offering assistance to airline on passengers
- Assisting local immigration and police

 Gathering and sharing information relating to the movement of improperly documented passengers

# 3. ILO in Bangkok -1

- ICE (Immigration Compliance and Enforcement) team
- consist of ILOs from 15 countries (by the end of 2005)
  - starting 1992 with Australia, Canada, New Zealand, British, USA.

expecting HK will join in 2006

# ILO in Bangkok -2

## Official positions

- first/second secretary : Canada, British, German
- experts of document examination:
- Japan, Austria, Australia, New Zealand
- most of them are doing ILO's job performing main duties at their embassies
- Main activities
  - the same activities as mentioned before

# ILO in Bangkok -3

Outcome of ILO's activities

 in 2004, detected 1,550 cases of
 counterfeit passports, fraud visas, swapping boarding pass etc.
 (monthly average : 130 cases)

- in 2005, detected 1,189 cases

# 4. ILO in KOREA

#### Current members

 7 ILOs from 5 countries (USA(2), Canada(2), Australia, New Zealand, France)

#### Main duties

 assisting airline staff and providing information about their countries' passport and visas

## **KILO**

### KILO stands for Korea's ILO

 a quarterly held regular meeting with authorities concerned including airline staffs and immigration at Incheon International Airport

Outcome of ILO activities

# Starting stage

- Sending Temporary ILO's to Bangkok
  - 4 officers 2month terms (2005)
  - planning 4 officers 2month terms (2006)
- preparing to send long term basis' ILO
  - coordinating internal process with MOF
  - securing budget
  - training experts of document examination

# 5. Enhancement -1

 Efforts for enhancing ILO's capacity by Korean Immigration Bureau
 Hosted two workshops of ILO capacity

- first ILO workshop : Feb 2005 in Incheon

# 1<sup>st</sup> ILO Cooperation Workshop



## Enhancement -2

- second ILO workshop Sep.2005 in Seoul
- It is recommended that
  - accept the IATA/CAWG code of conduct as the general principle for ILO operations within the APEC region
  - agree to support ILO operations in accordance with 'General Guidelines for ILO' proposed by Korea
  - Undertake further development of ILO operations and cooperation in APEC region

# 2<sup>nd</sup> ILO Cooperation Workshop



# General Guidelines proposed

- by Korea to the workshops
  - introduction
  - commitment of hosting economy
  - commitment of sending economy
  - ILO cooperation among participant economies
  - continuity of quality of ILO operation

## Factors needed enhancing ILO capacity

- Training experts of Document examination
- Good Command of Languages
- Cooperation between hosting and sending economies
- Raising awareness of the importance of ILO

# 6. Conclusion

ILO is ;

 constructing ILO networks at main hub airports

supporting ILO duty by the individual economies