

**ASSOCIATION OF ASIA PACIFIC AIRLINES
RESOLUTION NO. 5
Series of 2008**

A RESOLUTION FOCUSING ON IMPROVING PASSENGER FACILITATION

The AAPA ASSEMBLY OF PRESIDENTS, in its 52nd meeting duly assembled,

RECOGNISING THAT:

- I. The global airline industry transports 2.2 billion passengers every year;
- II. Governments have the sovereign right to secure their borders;
- III. Government agencies, including immigration, customs and health departments play a key role in all countries in facilitating the smooth flow of passengers and cargo transported by air;
- IV. The International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) has established global standards for biometric-enhanced Machine Readable Travel Documents (MRTD);
- V. Joint efforts are being made by the aviation industry and other stakeholders to use new technologies, including the use of biometrics for the verification of identities, to streamline a passenger's journey;

NOTING THAT:

- VI. Governments worldwide are imposing increasingly onerous requirements on the airline industry for the mandatory provision of detailed information about passengers in the form of Advance Passenger Information (API) and, in some cases, additional information drawn from the Passenger Name Records (PNR);
- VII. Several governments now require multiple submissions of API and PNR information to different agencies;
- VIII. Furthermore, several governments have introduced more onerous visa requirements for inbound passengers and even those simply in transit, including new requirements to obtain pre-authorisation before travel;

- IX. The US Government has announced plans to require airlines to collect biometric data of departing foreign passengers, apparently seeking to relieve itself of its responsibility to carry out the exit immigration function;
- X. In spite of the increased use of ICAO standardised MRTD and new technologies, this has not necessarily led to speedier passage of travellers through airport controls;
- XI. Enhanced border control measures adopted by many governments have led to a deterioration in the overall travel experience of air travellers;

BELIEVING THAT:

- XII. Greater consideration should be given to the overall benefits of international standardisation and harmonisation in the use of new technologies to both enhance border security and at the same time streamline a passenger's journey;
- XIII. Any government mandated regulations or measures related to passenger processing should be practical, cost-effective, and not be a derogation of clear state responsibilities;

RESOLVES :

- XIV. TO CALL on governments to recognise that border control is fundamentally a government function that cannot be delegated to private industry;
- XV. TO CALL on governments to positively consider the benefits of international standardisation as well as mutual recognition of biometric standards, to streamline the processing of air passengers at border control points; and
- XVI. TO CALL on governments to cooperate across borders, and promptly establish and implement common international standards for biometric identification to speed up passenger processing whilst minimising inconvenience for travellers and the burden on industry.

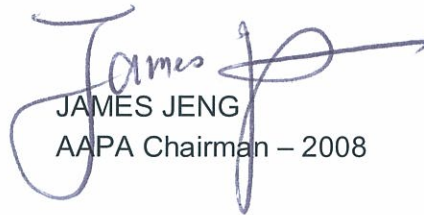
APPROVED this 14th day of November 2008.

Certified correct:



ANDREW HERDMAN
Director General

Attested by:



JAMES JENG
AAPA Chairman – 2008