

ASSOCIATION OF ASIA PACIFIC AIRLINES RESOLUTION NO. 8 Series of 2013

A RESOLUTION ON PASSENGER FACILITATION

The AAPA ASSEMBLY OF PRESIDENTS, in its 57th meeting duly assembled,

RECOGNISING THAT:

- The global airline industry carries three billion passengers annually;
- II. 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;
- III. The implementation of the ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices in Annex 9 is essential to facilitate the clearance of aircraft, passengers and their baggage, cargo and mail and manage challenges in border controls and airport processes so as to maintain the efficiency of air transport operations;
- IV. The development of common standards for machine readable travel documents by ICAO has proved effective in the development of systems that expedite the movement of international passengers and crew members through clearance controls at airports while enhancing immigration compliance programmes;

NOTING THAT:

- V. The mandatory provision of detailed information about passengers in the form of Advance Passenger Information (API) requirements and, in some cases, additional information drawn from the Passenger Name Record (PNR) is now a common requirement of governments around the world;
- VI. Several governments have introduced more onerous visa and quasi-visa requirements for inbound passengers, including new requirements to obtain preauthorisation before travel even for passengers with visa-free travel status, as well as the imposition of additional fees or taxes on inbound passengers;

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- VII. Cooperative efforts are being made by the aviation industry and other stakeholders to use new technologies, including biometrics and other machine readable data, to enhance the travel experience and streamline passenger processing;
- VIII. Notwithstanding the large volumes of personal information of both crew and passengers transmitted to governments well ahead of travel, airline crews and air travellers too often continue to be faced with lengthy border processing times on arrival in airports;

BELIEVING THAT:

- IX. There is a need for continuing action by governments to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of clearance control formalities;
- X. Any government-mandated regulations or measures related to passenger processing must be designed from the outset to be practical, cost effective, efficient and sustainable;

RESOLVES:

- XI. TO CALL on government agencies to consult widely with the aviation industry in order to strike a better balance between national border control objectives and the need for efficient passenger facilitation; recognising the corresponding impact on the travel and tourism industry and wider economy;
- XII. TO CALL on governments to participate to the widest extent possible in electronic data interchange systems utilising common standards in order to achieve maximum efficiency levels in the processing of crew, passenger and cargo traffic at international airports;
- XIII. TO CALL on governments to make better use of existing and new technologies to improve crew and passenger facilitation, taking into account the growth in passenger numbers over time;
- XIV. TO CALL on governments to continue to work with other aviation stakeholders, including the airline industry, in order to improve passenger facilitation, thereby enhancing the overall travel experience.

And



APPROVED this 15th day of November 2013.

Certified correct:

ANDREW HEBDMAN Director General

Attested by:

JOHN SLOSAR

AAPA Chairman - 2013