

**ASSOCIATION OF ASIA PACIFIC AIRLINES
RESOLUTION NO. 9
Series of 2015**

A RESOLUTION ON PASSENGER FACILITATION

The AAPA ASSEMBLY OF PRESIDENTS, in its 59th meeting duly assembled,

RECOGNISING THAT:

- I. The global airline industry carries over three billion passengers annually;
- II. Government agencies, including immigration and customs departments play a key role in all countries in facilitating the smooth flow of both passengers and cargo transported by air;
- III. The ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices in Annex 9 provide the framework to facilitate the clearance of aircraft, passengers and their baggage, cargo and mail, and to 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 border security including immigration compliance programmes;

NOTING THAT:

- V. The mandatory provision of detailed information about passengers in the form of Advance Passenger Information (API) requirements, is now a common requirement of governments around the world;
- VI. Advanced identity document technologies, including biometrics and other machine readable data, are now widely used by governments for identification purposes to help streamline passenger processing and enhance border security;

- VII. Internet and mobile technologies now provide air travellers with more convenience and greater control over their travel itineraries, including the enabling of online visa applications and electronic travel authorisations;
- 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 still continue to be faced with lengthy border processing times at airports;
- IX. Several governments continue to enforce onerous visa application requirements, or introduce additional fees or taxes on international passengers;

BELIEVING THAT:

- X. Existing visa requirements in some countries continue to hinder, rather than facilitate air travel, and fail to harness the full social and economic benefits of travel and tourism;
- XI. There is a need for continuing action by governments to facilitate travel across borders in the most cost-effective, efficient and practical manner;

RESOLVES:

- XII. TO CALL on governments to continue to promote and expand preferred visa-waiver arrangements, thereby boosting the important contribution of travel and tourism to the wider economy;
- XIII. TO CALL on governments to promote the use of technologies to streamline passenger facilitation and enhance the overall travel experience;
- XIV. TO CALL on governments to refrain from introducing costly visa-related fees, or other regulatory hurdles, that negatively impact the travel and tourism industry and do damage to the wider economy.

APPROVED this 13th day of November 2015.

Certified correct:



ANDREW HERDMAN
Director General

Attested by:



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01 DEC 2015

M. ARIF WIBOWO
AAPA Chairman – 2015