

BORDER SECURITY REPORT

VOLUME 7
JULY/AUGUST 2017

FOR THE WORLD'S BORDER PROTECTION, MANAGEMENT AND SECURITY INDUSTRY
POLICY-MAKERS AND PRACTITIONERS

COVER STORY

DIGITAL IDENTITY OR GOVERNMENT PROFILE



SPECIAL REPORT



Border Security In Ghana:
its impact on world migration
issues p.17

AGENCY NEWS



A global review of the
latest news and challenges
from border agencies and
agencies at the border. p.24

SHORT REPORT



ICAO and the IOM:
Enhancing effective border
control and migration
management in Africa p.22

INDUSTRY NEWS



Latest news, views and
innovations from the
industry. p.29

Refugees Crisis: Has Italy run out of patience?

At the beginning of July the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi said *"What is happening in front of our eyes in Italy is an unfolding tragedy. In the course of last weekend, 12,600 migrants and refugees arrived on its shores, and an estimated 2,030 have lost their lives in the Mediterranean since the beginning of the year."*

Since the beginning of the year alone, 83,650 people have reached Italy by sea. This is an increase of almost 20 per cent compared to the same period last year.

There are a total of 200,000 accommodation places available for refugees and migrants across Italy, but they are nearly all full.

Italy and Greece have performed wonders in managing the migration crisis but have justifiably felt let down by the rest of Europe, which is strong on declarations of support but short on practical help, most notably by taking only their designated quota of refugees.

It doesn't help that migrants trying to enter other EU countries, for example, France, if stopped are returned to Italy.

At the end of July, the EU Trust Fund for Africa adopted a €46 million programme to support integrated migration and border management in Libya. This is part of a much larger fund being spent across the region.

The new measures proposed under the EU Trust Fund, plan to address the migratory flows along the Central Mediterranean Route. The programme aims at stepping up activities in support of the Libyan Border and Coast Guards, to enhance their capacity to effectively manage the country's borders.

However, these measures might be too little too late as it seems that the Italian government may have finally lost patience. According to media reports a deal has been negotiated with the UN backed Libyan government for Italian naval forces to enter Libyan waters and assist the Libyan coastguard in intercepting and returning refugees to the Libyan coast.

There is some confusion as to whether the plan was agreed by all parties or indeed whether it will go ahead at all, but there is an undeniable logic to the plan.

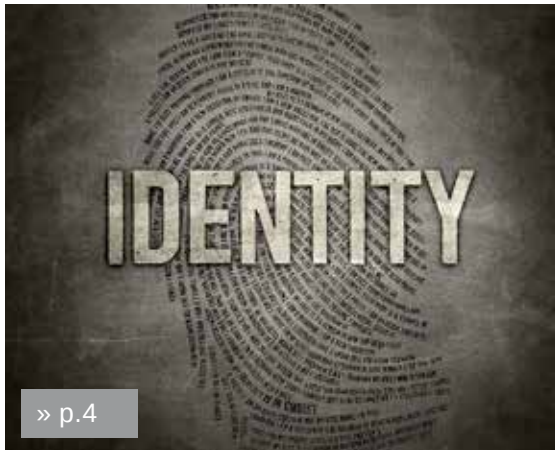
Currently, being rescued by the Italian Navy or Coastguard, Frontex, an NGO or charity is the name of the game for the traffickers and the migrants alike.

If when picked up, migrants are returned to where they came from, the whole cycle is broken, which will end the misery in the Med.

Or so the logic goes!

Tony Kingham
Editor

CONTENTS



» p.4

4 DIGITAL IDENTITY OR GOVERNMENT PROFILE

Hans De Moel, Policy Officer at the Royal Netherlands Marechaussee, looks into the identity triangle and how it can help governments better manage who we are.

11 FREE MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE IN AFRICA AND MITIGATING SECURITY IMPEDIMENTS

The Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU) has been updated by the Commission on Free Movement of People in Africa.

12 AGENCY REPORTS

Latest news and reports from key agencies INTERPOL, OSCE, EUROPOL and the IOM.

17 BORDER SECURITY IN GHANA

Chief Superintendent Justice Amevor, Sector Commander, Ghana Immigration Service looks at its impact on world migration issues.

22 ICAO AND THE IOM: ENHANCING EFFECTIVE BORDER CONTROL AND MIGRATION MANAGEMENT IN AFRICA

Brexit is a multifaceted issue which will continue to dominate the news headlines for years to come.

24 AGENCY NEWS

A global review of the latest news, views, stories, challenges and issues from border agencies and agencies at the border.

28 WORLD BORDER SECURITY CONGRESS

Details of the next gathering of the international border security community in Madrid, Spain on 20th-22nd March 2018.

29 INDUSTRY NEWS

Latest news, views and innovations from the industry.



» p.22



» p.11



» p.17

DIGITAL IDENTITY OR GOVERNMENT PROFILE



Hans De Moel, Policy Officer at the Royal Netherlands Marechaussee, looks into the identity triangle and how it can help governments better manage who we are.

With identity fraud on the increase, and hacking of personal data for fraud also on the rise, do we need to go back to basics to verify and authenticate who we are for controlling the movement of people?

All over the world verification of one's identity is becoming more challenging, not just at the borders, but also in daily life and especially online. The

conventional way at the border to check a person's identity is by verifying the person against an identity document and then checking the authenticity of that document. The same process applies for instance with car rental or (secure) access control. These everyday actions form the basis of the concept for the Identity Triangle. With the introduction of biometrics in documents the process has changed a little already, but with the introduction of the internet and digital ID's, things will change significantly. The concept of a new Digital Identity or Government profile will explain how the world has to prepare for this shift in processes on establishing one's identity.

The basics of Identity

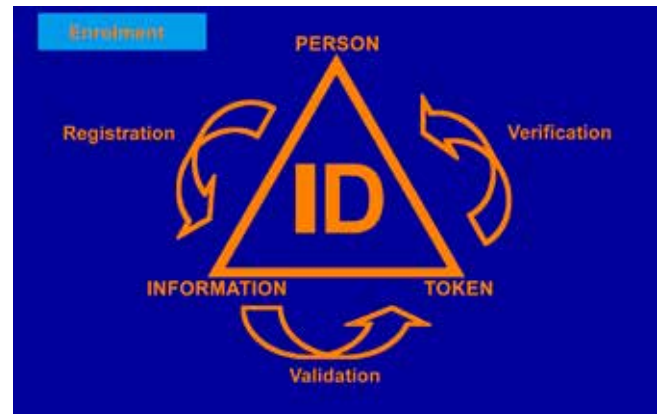
When a person is asked about his/her identity the response can greatly differ per culture. Where some may tell you their life story starting with their parents and their birth, others may describe their physical appearance or their social status and yet again others may simply present an identity document officially issued by their government. So what actually is an identity? In a world where identity fraud is a growing menace, how can one prove one's identity claim? What constitutes an identity? Is it the physical person or just the label (a name, a number, a template) or is it all kinds of data stored in (official) records? Should we distinguish on the basis of the physical properties of a person (face, finger, iris, DNA, etc.) or should we just use labels like a name, date of birth, place of birth or residence, a social security number, etc. ? What do we need to make a person unique in a system?

Is there a difference between the real physical world and the digital world of the internet? Of course there is. In the real world millions of births each year are not entered properly in a population database, leaving children without any civil rights. On the other hand on the internet numerous registrations at several websites occur under false data, so the same person can enter multiple times or a person can be 'more or less anonymous' or even completely fictitious.

Many current identification systems are based upon just biographical data, many access systems nowadays only require a token (key, card, chip, etc.) and some systems just need particular information (a password or passphrase, a PIN or TAN code, etc.). On the other hand highly secured facilities often use the combination of these biographical data with biometric data to ensure that only the rightly authorised person is admitted. In the concept of the Identity Triangle these three cornerstones make up the triangle: Person, Information and Token (often this is some kind of a Document). For Information both biographical data and biometrical data play a crucial role. Of course, it

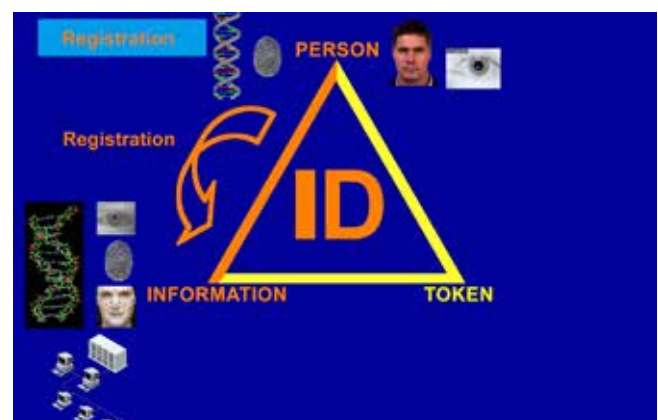
all depends upon the level of required reliability what kind of data is needed and and upon the level of privacy what data is gathered.

The basics of the Identity Triangle



In classical identity management the three elements often appear separately in different steps of the process: the real-life actual person, (official) information about this person and a token in the form of an identity document or device. These three elements lay down the foundation (the corner points) of the Identity Triangle. In the concept of the Identity Triangle there are two main procedures. The first procedure is enrolment, how does a person get a listing, an identity or identity document or a valid registration, in an identity management system? In the enrolment cycle the main processes are defined as Registration, Validation and Verification. An arrow on the side of the Triangle represents each process.

The basics of enrolment

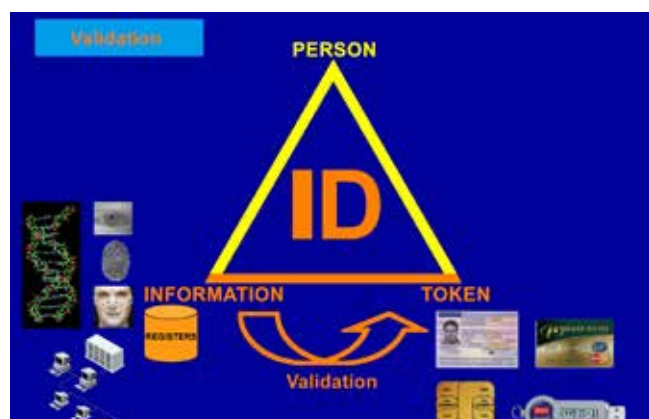


Whether it be a birth of a new citizen, a new place of employment, opening a bank account, passing a driving license test or a person applying for asylum, at some

point one has to enroll into a (governmental) system to be recognised within that system.

The enrolment processes normally involved for recognising a person's identity within a system consist of three steps going from one element to another. Going from the person to information (about that person) is a process called **Registration**. The information collected can consist of many biographical data like a name, an address, a personal (registration) number, but also biometrical data like face, finger print, iris, DNA, signature, etc. In the Netherlands when registering a birth only biographical data (name, date, place of birth, parents, etc.) are listed in the population register.

Assigning an identity



Building an identity database or filling a population register requires official collecting data from an individual and validating and verifying this data with the individual involved. In general, the validating step is combining data to issue the right token to that particular person. For the production of the token the correct attributes or details have to be assigned to that token. For instance for a driving license it will depend upon the successful passing of the

driving test whether a person will get a driving license for a motorbike, a car, a lorry, a bus or all of them. In case of an access card it can be full access or limited access.

In the Netherlands during the application of an identity document, this is the process where the biographical data (recorded at birth or previous enrolment) and biometrical data (recorded on the spot) are combined, connecting all information about the person to the token (identity document) to be issued.

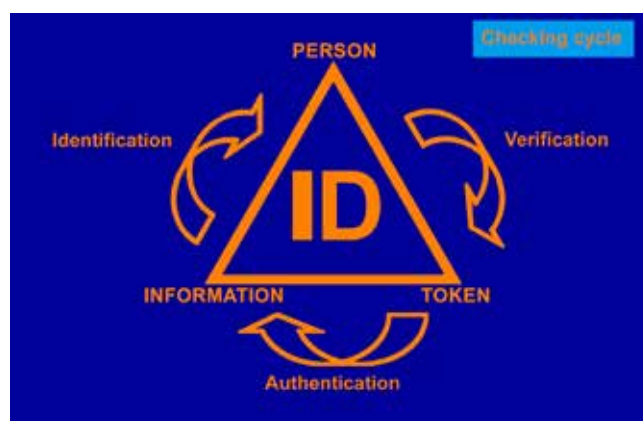
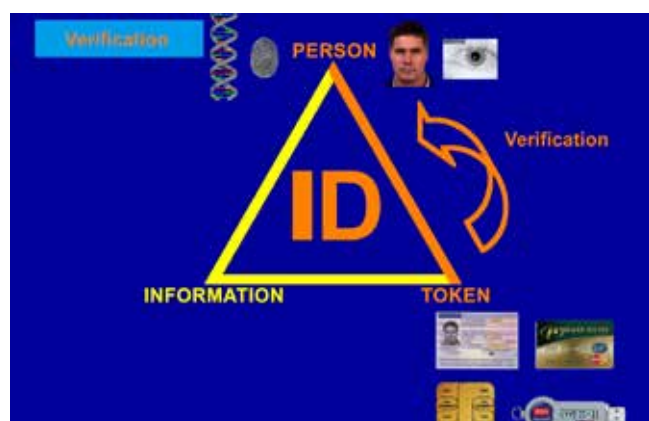
After the production of the token with the information of the holder that token should not be given to another individual. Verification that the token is given to the rightful owner is the final step in the enrolment process. Thus the enrolment process is completed from person via information and token to the person again, thus going full circle.

Identity check

The second cycle is the checking process, how does one check whether the person really belongs to a claimed identity? In the checking cycle the main processes are defined as Verification, Authentication and Identification.

Traditionally every country in the world had its own set of local rules for admittance of foreigners. In a standard border passage the following processes need to be checked:

- Verification: the person must be verified against the travel document.
- Authentication: the travel document must be checked for authenticity (no alterations and/or forgeries).
- Identification: the person and document must be checked against (inter)national databases.

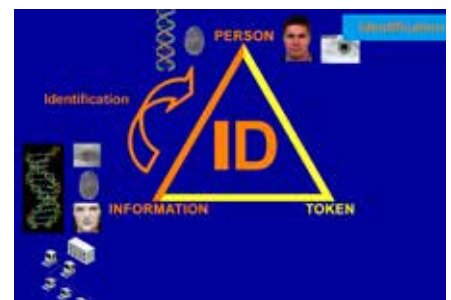
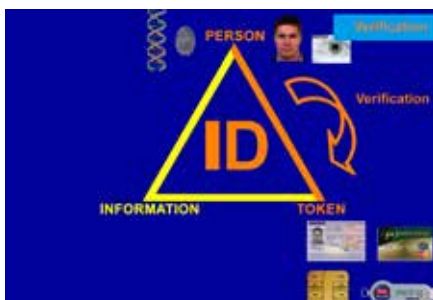


The processes above are not always performed in the same order. In the Netherlands traditionally the first step will be Verification, the comparison of the person to the document by the border guard. In Australia the first step is normally Identification with a split between known persons (Australians, New Zealanders and all other travelers in the Visa register) and unknowns (undocumented or incorrectly documented). In most ABC systems the first step is Authentication where the validity of the document is checked. It doesn't matter in which order checks are performed as long as the whole checking cycle is executed, going full circle for every person.

is not the token but the information like the PIN number or TAN code that will give authorisation. In these systems the token often only serves as an identifier, but not as the authorisation part. For security access it is also not the token (card) but the person itself with biometrics like face, finger, iris, etc. that will give the authorisation. The most secure systems will require all three pillars: token, information and the person.

Travel documents

Travelers must carry an identity document in order to be



After these checks and the rules of admittance the border guard will grant permission to enter the country. The final process is called authorisation.

- Authorisation: the border passage must be compliant with the rules of admittance on purpose of stay, means of support and duration of stay.

Depending upon the purpose of an identity check there can be different levels of authorisation.



For many simple access control systems the token will give authorisation, often being a chip, a key or a card. No matter who uses the token anybody can gain access using that token. For a fair number of financial systems it

allowed to cross a border or travel by plane. It enables the authorities to identify the traveler and assess the risk of admittance on a flight or to a country. The identity document required in air travel is normally a passport, a secure document protected by several security features. The nature and number of these features vary per country and per document model. The security features are subject to a continuous development process, making manual inspection of the travel document more complex for the border guard. While some 25 years ago a (hand written) passport contained on average about 5 to 10 security features that had to be checked to establish the authenticity of the document, most passports nowadays have at least 15 and some even up to 30 security features. According to ICAO regulations and standards all newly issued passports have to be machine readable since April 2010. After November 24th 2015 non-machine readable passports are no longer valid for air travel. In addition European Union legislation states a minimum set of security features in e-passports of the Member States of the European Union. In contrast to the regulations on issuing identity documents there are no regulations or standards, not even uniform methods or techniques on how to check a document. As a result, each individual country and even each individual border guard uses his own interpretation of how to check which and what amount of security features in each travel document. Consequently, border guards have to know a rich variety of security features by heart in order to check travel documents from every country correctly.

Change in fraud

The improved security of the physical document leads to a shift in fraud operations. An increasing number of people no longer use altered or forged documents to travel, but use authentic travel documents that do not belong to them. This is referred to as look-alike or impostor fraud. As such, verifying a person against the document takes more time than it used to. Especially because the printed image on the holder page often lacks the quality of the old-fashioned passport photograph. The digital image in the RFID chip is therefore more often needed. This means that next to the physical security features in the passport the electronic security features of the RFID chip in the passport also have to be checked.

Due to the lack of uniformity and standardisation going from the manual physical check at the border to an electronic check or digital check with biometrics will take more time. A fully digital check of a claimed identity online in the digital world is not simple, but can be realized if all required information would be available online. This would mean that all population databases of every country in the world would have to be accessible online like a cloud solution. With the introduction of such an online accessible digital identity simple direct verification of an identity claim might be possible in theory. For the moment however this seems an unrealistic scenario as not every country has a central database and if they do, often those databases are not kept up-to-date in real-time. As governments and other organisations normally do not want to share their population registers or identity databases, another approach is required. A few countries however, with Estonia leading the way, do offer such a central and online available service, but this is not yet common ground to the rest of the world.

Government Profile or Digital Identity

Therefore let's see what already is available and can be implemented shortly. Over a hundred countries already issue a passport with an RFID chip. In one of the electronic security features lies the way forward, not just for countering fraud with impostors, but also for checking an identity claim online. Let's call it a 'online government profile' like a FaceBook profile. This can act as a 'digital identity'. The government profile is officially issued (like in Estonia) and derived from the data in your passport. So all countries issuing e-passports can apply this proposed scheme. On the RFID chip in the passport, there is a unique file for every passport called EF.SOD: the Document Security Object. This file might be the key to a new way of verifying one's identity. The Document Security Object contains the digital signature of the issuing organisation. The authenticity of EF.SOD is easily checked with the certificates from the original issuer. So the only thing EF.SOD initially reveals, is that this identity does officially exist and is confirmed by the government of country X.

EF.SOD is also containing the hash value of the hash values of all the data on the chip. As this is a hash and therefore already asymmetrically encrypted, there is no need for further encryption to ensure privacy. So a central online database in each country already issuing electronic passports with just EF.SOD of every issued passport is all it takes for a digital identity. Now EF.SOD can act as the token for all subsequent processes: Verification, Authentication, Identification and Authorisation. This requires a little more from the government side. As not just EF.SOD has to be available, but also all the other data on the person. This however does not have to be the same database. As stated before EF.SOD can act as the token between these databases, just being the anonymous, authentic and unique identifier. So only the



Depending upon what information is required for which purpose the person or the government can disclose more details, varying from just that the identity exists revealing nothing else via attributes or user discretion to full details for official use.

Another part of EF.SOD contains the hash values of every data group on the chip, so the personal biographical data (DG1) and biometrical data (DG2 with an image of the face) and optionally filled datagroups like DG3 with fingerprints or DG7 with the holder's signature can be verified. If supported by the government a citizen might even upload other biometric data to his own profile for commercial purposes like iris, handprint, voice or even DNA.

Or the citizen might add details like address of bank account for online transactions. This way online shopping becomes less susceptible to fraud, as the shop at least



knows that the identity is officially verified and therefore a person can be held accountable in case of irregularities.

Automated Border Control Gates for Europe



Explaining a technological project may sometimes prove challenging. If the project includes also actions of authorities that all travelers are subjected to, it might be even more challenging to describe the project understandably. Instead of trying to explain, we decided to show what we in ABC4EU are actually doing. We made videos about our first pilot phase and some of the videos are now live on Facebook and Twitter.

The ABC4EU-project had the proof of concept pilots in Madrid-Barajas and Lisbon airports as well as at Algeciras seaport border crossing points between October 2016 and February 2017. Conducting the pilot in Madrid and Lisbon in an airport terminal environment and in Algeciras in the seaport provided

an excellent opportunity to study how the current Automated Border Control solution works in different border control points. The information gained from different pilot environments is essential for achieving the core object of the ABC4EU project: to make border control more flexible and easier for travelers and border authorities by harmonizing the functionalities of e-gates.

The results of the pilot are beneficial for various ABC4EU partners. To mention a few useful results, the technology providers received operational feedback about a real-life situation, and the border guards gained firsthand experience on the technology used in border control.

The pilot results can now convince more stakeholders of the easiness of using mobile technology in border control.

The videos picture different scenarios for different traveller groups at the border crossing point. The videos describe the functionalities of border control system for different traveler groups. With the videos ABC4EU wants to show the travelers and other stakeholders how the project could facilitate travelling to and within Europe.

Free Movement of People in Africa and Mitigating Security Impediments



The Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU), at its 704th meeting has been updated by the Commission on Free Movement of People in Africa and Mitigating Security Impediments.

Council took note of the briefings provided by the Department of Political Affairs of the AU Commission and Rwanda, in its capacity as Chair of the Committee of Intelligence and Security Services of Africa (CISSA) on Free Movement of People in Africa and Mitigating Security Impediments. Council also took note of the statement made by the representative of the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

Council recalled decision Assembly/AU/Dec.607 (XXVII) on the Free Movement of Persons and the African Passport adopted by the AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government at its 27th ordinary session held in Kigali, Rwanda, in July 2016, in which the Assembly urged all Member States to adopt the African Passport and work closely with the AU Commission to facilitate the processes towards its issuance at the national level based on international, continental and national policy provisions

and continental design and specifications. Council further recalled communiqué PSC/PR/COMM.1 (DCLXI) of its 661st meeting, held on 23 February 2017.

Council acknowledged that free movement of persons is one of the crucial parts in efforts aimed at deepening continental integration and unity, in the spirit of Pan-Africanism, African Renaissance, as outlined in Agenda 2063.

Council commended the Regional Economic Communities and Regional Mechanisms (RECs/RMs) and Member States that signed and ratified all relevant AU instruments on free movement of people, and have already adopted mechanisms to facilitate free movement of people in their respective regions and countries, and encouraged others to emulate the example. In this respect, Council urged Member States to address all institutional and regulatory capacity gaps, in order to have a common policy on free movement of people in Africa.

Council underscored the importance of enhanced collaboration between and among Member States, particularly their immigration, defence, security and intelligence services, to mitigate security impediments to free movement in Africa. Council also stressed the need to work closely with the relevant African and international institutions, in order to ensure timely sharing of intelligence and build mutual confidence and trust, with a view to address security concerns pertaining to the free movement of people in Africa.

African Union Border Programme (AUBP) concludes Confidence Building Workshop

In its efforts to assisting all Member States in the delimitation and demarcation of their common borders, the African Union Border Programme (AUBP) held a Confidence Building Workshop at the African Union Headquarters in Addis Ababa, to facilitate the delimitation of the maritime boundary between the Union of the Comoros and the Republic of Madagascar. The three-day workshop was held following a joint request by the governments of both countries seeking the assistance of the AUBP in the delimitation of their common maritime boundary.

The workshop brought together delegates from the Union of the Comoros and the Republic of Madagascar, African

experts in the delimitation of international boundaries, the African Centre for the Constructive Resolutions of Disputes (ACCORD), and staff from the AUBP.

Participants reviewed the Report of the AU Technical Assessment Team (AUBPTAT) that undertook training and capacity building needs of both countries and exchanged views on best practices in maritime boundary delimitation processes. Participants further adopted the necessary structures and guidelines required to start the delimitation process of the common maritime boundary between the two Member States. A consolidated Report on progress made will be presented to the Commission of the African Union (AU) at a later date.

ASEAN National Central Bureaus gather to promote regional security



The inaugural meeting of Heads of INTERPOL National Central Bureaus (NCBs) from the 10 ASEAN countries saw senior police leaders from across the region gather to address key transnational crime threats.

Held at the INTERPOL Global Complex for Innovation (IGCI) in Singapore, the conference provided a forum for

exchanging information and best practices; developing strong professional relationships; and developing strategies to tackle the most pressing crimes affecting the region.

With regional cooperation and information sharing at the heart of the global security architecture, the 15 participants reaffirmed the vital role of strongly coordinated NCBs in promoting international cooperation and data exchange.

INTERPOL's Director of Capacity Building and Training, Harold O'Connell said: "The exchange of knowledge and best practices is of mutual benefit to each ASEAN country, as well as to INTERPOL, as it allows us to identify where our support will be the most effective in day-to-day policing operations to best ensure that our global network makes a difference to officers on the frontlines."

Heads of INTERPOL and Italian police discuss global security

INTERPOL Secretary General Jürgen Stock met with Franco Gabrielli, Chief of the Italian Police and Director General of Public Security to discuss global security issues including organized crime and terrorism.

Border security was a key issue on the agenda, particularly in relation to migrant smuggling and security

threats to the Southern Mediterranean area.

Italy's provision of access to INTERPOL's global databases to frontline officers has seen a significant growth in the number of checks made on a daily basis, making Italy amongst the highest performers globally.

How to identify cash and asset smugglers focus of INTERPOL workshop

Strengthening the capabilities of police and customs services in the seizure of assets, especially cash being illicitly transported was the focus of an INTERPOL training course.

The three-day Expert Workshop on Cash and Asset Seizures provided both theoretical and practical training to 20 police and customs officials from 10 countries across Latin America, the Caribbean and West Africa.

Participants were able to see first-hand the methods used

at Frankfurt international airport to detect smuggled cash and assets, in addition to being trained on using INTERPOL's policing capabilities and the World Customs Organization's communication platform for information exchange.

The need for inter-agency and cross border cooperation to identify potential links with organized crime networks involved in drug trafficking for successful prosecutions was also a key area during the course.

Hazardous materials seized in largest global operation against illegal waste

More than 1.5 million tonnes of illegal waste were discovered worldwide during a global operation coordinated by INTERPOL targeting the illegal shipment and disposal of waste.

The month-long '30 days of action' was the largest global

enforcement action against waste crime and trafficking, with police, customs, border and environmental agencies from 43 countries participating. While previous actions have focused on electronic waste, this operation widened its scope to include all types of illegal waste, such as industrial, construction, household and medical waste.

Afghan Border Police Officers complete OSCE-supported patrol leadership course



Seventeen Afghan border service officers completed a four-week OSCE patrolling and leadership training course at the Gissar Training Centre, Tajikistan.

The participants improved their knowledge of map reading, pathfinding and provision of first aid in the field. The focus of the course was analysis and observation using topographic maps, satellite imagery and other tools. Field exercises were conducted in alpine skills, topography, land navigation and tactical movement by GPS and azimuth. Each participant was issued a uniform and the required tactical patrolling equipment.

The course was delivered by a national expert in border management, with the sessions on gender mainstreaming, human rights and demining awareness delivered by members of the OSCE Programme Office.

“The improvement of the capacity of Afghan Border Police Officers contributes significantly to strengthening security at the border between Afghanistan and Tajikistan and through this project, the OSCE is continuing its support of such efforts,” said Ambassador Tuula Yrjölä, Head of the OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe.

The importance of Tajik and Afghan co-operation in the field of Border Management was also emphasized by Japanese Ambassador Hajime Kitaoka. “Only joint endeavours and mutual co-operation will build regional confidence and increase detection and seizures of illegal commodities and activities in border areas. Tactical training courses provided by the OSCE for Tajik and Afghan border officers are of great relevance,” he said.

OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe and Tajikistan outline priorities for co-operation in 2018



The OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe and its main counterparts from the Government of Tajikistan held the 11th Task Force Meeting to agree on priorities of co-operation for 2018.

Under the new mandate, which came into force on 1 July 2017, the co-operation between the Office and the Government of Tajikistan will continue on a broad range of issues. These will include areas such as border management, police reform, environmental education, good governance, rule of law and gender.

The meeting explored opportunities for the OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe to assist Tajikistan in its efforts to ensure security and stability. This will be done in accordance with the OSCE’s concept of comprehensive security and in line with the Government’s development priorities, as stated in the National Development Strategy and other sectoral strategy documents. The participants particularly focused on how the Office can increase its interaction with counterparts in all phases of project implementation.



Police Dismantle Crime Group Trading Horsemeat Unfit For Human Consumption



The Spanish Guardia Civil, in coordination with Europol, has dismantled an organised crime group that was trading horsemeat in Europe that was unfit for human consumption. The operation was carried out in coordination with Belgium, France, Italy, Portugal, Romania, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. In Spain, 65 people were arrested and charged with crimes such as animal abuse, document forgery, perverting the course of justice, crimes against public health, money laundering and being part of a criminal organisation.

In the summer of 2016, Guardia Civil's Environmental Protection Service initiated Operation Gazel after unusual

behaviour was detected in horsemeat markets. They detected a scam whereby horses in bad shape, too old or simply labelled as "not suitable for consumption" were being slaughtered in two different slaughterhouses. The animals came from Portugal and several places in northern Spain, their meat was processed in a specific facility and from there sent to Belgium, which is one of the biggest horsemeat exporters in the European Union. The criminal organisation forged the animals' identification by modifying their microchips and documentation.

During the investigation, Guardia Civil was able to locate the Dutch businessman related to the Irish case of the beefburgers containing horse meat, in Calpe, Alicante. From there he led the activities of the organisation, putting his most trusted men in charge in every country affected by the scam.

In total 66 individuals were arrested or investigated. Three officers from Europol supported the Spanish actions in Alicante and León. As a result of all of these actions, several bank accounts and properties were blocked or seized, and five luxury cars seized.

107 Suspects Detained and Over 900 Victims Identified In Pan-European Hit Against Sexual Exploitation

Europol supported a Europe-wide action week carried out by law enforcement agencies from a total of 22 Member States and Third Parties aimed at organised crime groups (OCG) trafficking vulnerable individuals for the purpose of sexual exploitation. Between 26 June and 2 July, two crime areas - trafficking in human beings (THB) and facilitated illegal immigration (FII) - were targeted with actions undertaken to safeguard victims and identify those responsible for their trafficking and sexual exploitation.

Throughout the operation, coordinated by Europol and under the lead of Austria, more than 126 927 individuals were checked, alongside 6 363 vehicles and 4 245 locations - known to facilitate the exploitation (red-light district areas, brothels, private flats, massage parlours, airports but also land and sea border crossing points, etc.). Special attention was given to the online

environment, used as a means to advertise victims of sexual exploitation, the activities undertaken lead to the identification and safeguarding of potential victims of trafficking.

As a result of these wide-ranging actions, 107 suspects were detained or arrested for offences including trafficking in human beings and illegal immigration. 910 potential victims of trafficking were identified.

Information collected during the operation has led to the launch of 25 new inquiries and to intelligence developments of others, in order to identify additional suspects and victims connected to human trafficking cases across the EU.



Over 38,000 Migrants Assisted with Voluntary Return by UN Migration Agency in First Half of 2017

Some 19,088 migrants have returned home voluntarily with assistance from IOM, the UN Migration Agency, from 1 April to 30 June 2017, according to the IOM AVRR quarterly bulletin published today (18/08). These migrants have returned from 81 host and transit countries to 136 countries and territories of origin.

This brings the number of migrants assisted to return home voluntarily to 38,019* since the beginning of 2017. The bulletin produced by IOM's Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) Unit shows an overall decrease of assisted voluntary returns in the first semester of 2017,

as compared to the same period in 2016.

This reflects fewer beneficiaries returning from the European Economic Area (EEA) and Switzerland. Such a decrease can be explained by a combination of factors including lower influx of migrant arrivals and lower numbers of asylum applications. Other influential factors include changes in national migration and asylum policies, such as restrictions on eligibility criteria for assisted voluntary return. The bulletin also highlights that one third of migrants assisted by IOM during the last quarter were female and nearly one quarter were children.

Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals Reach 119,069 in 2017; 2,410 Deaths



The IOM reports that 119,069 migrants and refugees entered Europe by sea in 2017 through 16 August, with almost 83 per cent arriving in Italy and the remainder divided between Greece, Cyprus and Spain. This compares with 266,423 arrivals across the region through 16 August 2016.

IOM Spain reports this week total migrant and refugee sea arrivals had reached 8,385 by 9 August, not counting the 600 or more migrants rescued at sea earlier this week. The official number – 8,385 – is greater than all sea arrivals recorded during 2016, when the full year count totalled 8,162.

Estimated sea arrivals to Spain since 1 June 2017 are approaching 6,000, with over half of those (3,181) just in the month of June. Last year's busiest month for sea arrivals off Spain was November when 1,855 arrivals were recorded.

IOM Libya's Christine Petré reported that on 16 August, 107 migrants (including six women) were rescued off Al Khums by the Libyan Coast Guard. So far in 2017, 12,945 migrants have been rescued in Libyan waters.

IOM Rome reported that according to official figures of the Italian Ministry of Interior, 97,458 migrants have arrived by sea to Italy this year, which is a 4.03 per cent drop from the same period in 2016.

IOM Athens report for the year so far, a total of 12,725 migrants and refugees have landed in Greece, compared with 162,015 for the same period last year.

The latest count for Mediterranean Sea fatalities is 2,410. That figure lags by almost 800 behind the number of deaths (3,208) recorded at this time last year. Nonetheless, 2017 marks the fourth consecutive year migrant deaths in the Mediterranean Sea have exceeded 2,400.

Worldwide, the IOM Missing Migrants Project (MMP) reports that there have been 3,493 fatalities in 2017 through 16 August. The Mediterranean region continues to account for well over half of all fatalities worldwide.



International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Organisation internationale pour les migrations (OIM)
Organización Internacional para las Migraciones (OIM)

Successful 8TH ASEANAPOL Contact Persons Meeting (ACPM)



The 8TH ACPM was recently held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. This annual meeting which gathers all designated contact persons from Member Countries, Dialogue Partners and Observers, discussed issues based on the outstanding and ongoing ASEANAPOL issues, further to be reported at the 37th ASEANAPOL Conference.

The meeting brought four speakers from Gujarat Forensic Science University (GFSU), the first and only University dedicated for Forensic and Applied Science, in which they presented the advanced and specialized course they offer for their post-graduate studies.

The meeting also listened to presentations made by ASEANAPOL Dialogue Partners and Observers,

amongst others from Australian Federal Police, Ministry of Public Security of China, National Police Agency Republic of Korea, Ministry of Internal Affairs of The Russian Federation, Turkish National Police, ICPO-INTERPOL, Fiji Police Force, National Police of Timor Leste and EUROPOL, with regards to current and future collaborations with ASEANAPOL.



Counter-Transnational Organized Crime (C-TOC) Course Africa-Asia



ASP Johnathan Putra Laum, the ASP for Plans and Programmes of the ASEANAPOL Secretariat attended the Counter-Transnational Organized Crime (C-TOC) Course for Africa-Asia in Lusaka, Zambia. The course, supported by the Freeland Foundation and USAID Wildlife Asia, were participated by wildlife officers, police, customs and prosecutors from Zambia, Kenya, Malawi, Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam who involved in trans-national and trans-continental wildlife investigations.

The C-TOC Course consists of eight (8) days of

instruction, interactive hands-on application and training-the-trainer modules. C-TOC provides a modularised, hands-on training package which draws from real cases to build capacity and robust networks to stop organised crime in its tracks. Collating, providing and sharing updated information with law enforcement officers, investigators and prosecutors from selected countries in Africa and Asia, the course had effectively empower participated officers in intelligence-led (pro-active) targeting of the illegal trade and trafficking of wildlife and wildlife products. The objectives are to enable increased seizures with follow-on actions including controlled deliveries, investigations, arrests and prosecutions ultimately to dismantle the criminal networks.



BORDER SECURITY IN GHANA: ITS IMPACT ON WORLD MIGRATION ISSUES

by Chief Superintendent Justice Amevor, Sector Commander, Ghana Immigration Service, Aflao Border Post, Ghana

The threats that confront border security have existed since the creation of borders by the colonial imperial powers.

Unlike the developing world, the institutions in the developed world mandated to monitor their borders and are at times able to confront these threats. In most of the developing world, including Ghana, adequate institutional capacity to enforce the

rule at the borders is one of the main challenges that face border security. This concept paper has therefore examined the dynamics pertaining to Ghana and has identified, among others, the institutional challenges that center around the lack of modern border infrastructure and facilities, and the capacity of the agents directly involved in border security and those that lend support, to apprehend and deal with suspects. Lack of public



knowledge on border issues also compounds the problem.

Regarding the drawbacks, the paper has suggested that the States commitment to ensuring effective border security must go beyond legislation and be exhibited in the provision of border infrastructure. Other actors involved in the security issues at the borders are also to contribute their quota to enhance the state of security at the borders.

Background to Border Security

In an era when countries and their populations are increasingly exposed to the opportunities and risks associated with the ever-expanding global movement of people, policymakers are rethinking approaches to border controls and border management. These policies and programs run the gamut from facilitating the legitimate movement of people and trade to thwarting the unauthorized movement of humans and contraband, and as the public have become ever less accepting of irregular immigration.

Border enforcement should therefore represent a more holistic function, integrating resources and information at, and between all ports of entry, whether air, land, or sea with external collaboration from other international partners abroad, to fight the emerging migration issues from Africa. Irregular migration from Africa and Ghana, is a phenomenon confronted by many major immigrant-receiving countries, one that vexes policymakers and the public, alike.

All countries have the same basic goals regarding national borders: to ensure that the beneficial movement of legal goods, tourists, students, business people, and some migrants is allowed, while keeping unwanted goods and people out of the country. All countries also face a similar set of border enforcement goals and challenges. They must prevent cross-border terrorism, illegal migration, human smuggling and trafficking, and drug smuggling. In adopting policies and practices to combat these activities, countries also face a common and basic dilemma: policies in any one area have perverse, regrettable, and often unintended,

consequences and feedbacks.

As States implement extensive border controls and apply a wide variety of deterrence measures such as visas and carrier sanctions to prevent irregular migration, they indirectly push unauthorized migrants into the hands of smugglers and traffickers who promise to evade these controls.

Weak African States cannot have strong borders, and will not get border policy right unless they get their institutions, policies and logistics right. Accordingly, proper border management depends on effective policing and border control forces, and successful coordination both among responsible agencies (locally and internationally) like-minded on tackling international migration.

In Africa, borders serving as the line that links and at the same time separates one country from the other could be a source of benefit and of detriment to a State depending on the extent to which they are porous or secured. States therefore are trying to put the necessary measures in place to protect their borders on land, air and seaports. The initiation and perpetuation of cross border crimes are inextricably linked to the porous borders that needs to be properly protected to mitigate the movements of migrants to the developed world whilst at the same time ensuring world security in this era of terrorism and other trans-national crimes. In West Africa, smuggling is a universal phenomenon common in frontier communities where the youth take advantage of the porous international boundaries between them to make economic profit through migrant smuggling and human trafficking.

While smuggling became a problem, legislative and judicial provisions existed to regulate the movement

of goods and people across the borders. In the case of Africa, the borders separating people belonging to the same culture, coupled with the counter restrictions mounted along the borders of rival colonial governments resulted in an ultimate disregard to the regulatory provisions. The result therefore was an increase in smuggling and other border crimes which poses a challenge to a country's border and world security.

In recent times, constant cycles of conflict within states in Africa with its consequences felt beyond borders in the form of refugee influx, proliferation of arms, unemployment and the increase in violence and crime, have exacerbated the security challenges at the borders. Within the past two decades, Ghana has experienced some spillover effects of the political turmoil of its immediate neighbours notably Togo, Cote D'Ivoire and Liberia.

Currently, the issue of border security has evoked concerns and debates. In line with modern notions of security, advocates have argued that security is meaningless unless it is linked with development, where the focus of security extends beyond military and political capabilities to protect and include issues such as satisfaction of basic needs, sustainable environment and protection of cultural and religious identity and human rights, which gives the individual the confidence from fear of violence. All these are geared towards the improvement of life. In line with that, border security is entirely about border development, where there is improvement in the issues and activities that enhance security at the borders.

In Ghana, there are complex issues confronting border security. The rise, sophistication and perpetuation of border crimes could be attributed to

a host of factors which include lack of job opportunities and the desire to seek greener pastures in the developed world. In addition, the response mechanisms instituted to address the problems do not meet the modern required standards to ensure effective security and the borders of Ghana have become major transit points for human, firearm and drugs trafficking as identified in the categorization of cross border crimes in West Africa.

Stephen Krasner, an international relations professor at Stanford University and a former Director of Policy Planning at the United States Department of State, author of six books and over ninety articles, taught courses on international relations, international political economy, international relations theory, policy making, and state-building at Stanford University: argues that *"a state that cannot regulate what passes across its borders will not be able to control what happens within it."*

This line of argument underscores the need for Ghana to partner its development partners as well as the sub-regional bodies like ECOWAS to identify the migration and border management challenges: and tackle

them to ensure effective security at the land borders especially when issues that threaten border security such as money laundering, human, drug and weapon trafficking are on the increase with its consequential effects on the developed countries/ economies.

To gain an understanding of the challenges that confront border security, requires an all-inclusive approach by Ghana and its development partners to investigate the root causes to border problems, the training/equipping needs of the security personnel that enforce the rule at the borders and other factors that influence border management.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Borders are very critical to a state's security and development. The irony lies in the immense benefits it has for a state and at the same time an avenue for issues that weaken its security. Global market forces and increased human mobility have made it increasingly difficult for a state to assert effectively its traditional sovereign right to control its borders. In Africa as well as Ghana, the factors that threaten security at the borders have their root in the origin, nature





and the mode of administering the borders during the era of imperialism. In recent times, the old border threats have not disappeared but are rather joined by new and complicated ones and manifests in activities such as smuggling of goods, weapons, drugs, human beings and animals. These go together with the threat of terrorism and money laundering which are not readily visible.

The institutions charged with the responsibility to enforce security at the borders are woefully under resourced hence nullifying their efforts directed at improving security. Their constraints involved a lot of factors that are intertwined and include outmoded and dilapidated border facilities and equipment, and the deficiency in their capacity to act according to modern standards. The issues are exacerbated by the uncompromising attitude of the border residents who perpetuate smuggling at the borders.

Assessing Ghana in terms of the enormous task involved and the threading of the paths to an ideal secured border, Ghana is making all efforts to ensuring border security due to the alarming number of Ghanaian youth risking their lives in the Mediterranean Sea to reach

Europe in search of greener pastures. For instance, last year 2016 alone, the IOM recorded close to 6,000 young Ghanaians who arrived in Italy by boat. *"The context in Ghana is pretty difficult at the moment. We know that young Ghanaians are increasingly trying to use irregular means*

to go to Europe for greener pastures" – IOM/Ghana Chief of Mission.

The situation is worsened by the recent wave of young Ghanaian girls being trafficked to Arabian countries through Ghana's eastern land borders to North Africa under very dangerous conditions. So far over a hundred (100) of these girls have been intercepted within the month of June 2017 at the Aflao Land Border.

Ghana's eastern neighbour, Togo, has become a major transit point for Ghanaians and other West Africans especially young people from La Cote D'Ivoire who embark on such deadly adventures. Some Ivorian refugees said they are also trying to go North Africa to get to Europe and so are using Togo for their travels. Previously we thought Ghanaians were not using Togo for their irregular travels, but this is what is coming up. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Ghana on 10-07-2017 inaugurated two (2) new small border posts at Agortime-Afegame and Hodzokorfe all in the eastern borderline of the Volta Region to ensure the borderline is properly protected. The two facilities are as a result of the implementation of Ghana Integrated Migration Management Approach (GIMMA) funded by the

European Union as measures to equip Ghana's land borders to enable it to control the increasing trends of irregular migration. The two small facilities have offices, holding rooms for human trafficking victims, computer, vehicle, solar energy systems, standby generator, and other equipment including a Pick-up for patrol.

Furthermore, like many other countries, Ghana migration data is scattered among agencies and ministries, with no structured means to share data for policy development. There are data gaps within institutions as they are unable to fully capture their administrative data or in some instances perceive some of the data as irrelevant. This approach hinders the country's capacity to understand its migration dynamics and design appropriate migration and development policies.

Once again, through the Ghana Integrated Migration Management Approach (GIMMA) project intervention, the Ghana Immigration Service Management Information System (MIS) unit has completed the development of a Data Processing System (DPS) at its major entry point including Aflao at the eastern side of Ghana. This electronic system scans and extract the information provided on the migration cards. The extracted data is verified and authenticated before it is stored in a centralized database at its headquarters. The system is linked together for the verified and authenticated data to be transmitted to its headquarters via the Wide Area Network (WAN). GIS officers have been trained by the IOM and have commence the usage of the data processing system through the scanning and verification of migration cards.

At the Kotoka International Airport

(KIA) in Accra, the Ministry of Communications as part of the e-Ghana Strategy has implemented an integrated e-Immigration system (E-Gates) that will enable the regulation of entry into and exit from Ghana and also provide a case management system for permit processing as well as help improve security at Ghana's only international airport. The project called e-Immigration is aimed at ensuring security and efficiency at the country's major entry points at Aflao, Paga and Elubo borders including KIA. Ten (10) e-Gates have been installed at the airport to help beef up security and ease passenger transit. This has reduced congestion at the airport which saw 2.5 million passengers passing through in 2014 as opposed to 1.3 million in 2009.

In this regard, as Ghana is geared towards fighting global migration, it needs the support, collaboration and intervention of all international partners and development partners in respect of more modern ICT sustainable approach required to address the migration issues and challenges especially along Ghana's land borders which are very porous. It spans more than 80kms with several unapproved routes. It therefore makes nonsense the institutional efforts being put in place by Ghana at its main eastern border post at Aflao since most of the irregular migrant movements are conducted through these unapproved routes which are not well protected due to inadequate institutional capacity.

WAY FORWARD

The role of some key players, such as the government, the border agencies, international development partners, non-governmental agencies and civil society groups is critical to good border management in Ghana.

Though the institutions involved are already playing their role, the impact is still minimal. There is the need for them to beef up their efforts regarding the present state of our borders, which currently, leaves much to be desired.

The capacities of the institutions that gather, analyze and exchange intelligence information should be enhanced to complement judicial efforts. Competencies must be improved by the key actors in the business of ensuring security, through continuous training/equipping, to enable them to meet the modern requirements or the standards set by the global world. Some amount of intelligence training should be incorporated into their induction process.

Co-operating with neighboring states and other international migration experts/countries as well

as development partners is essential to good border management in Ghana. This is because aside the fact that organized crimes thrive where conditions prevailing within neighbouring countries are conducive, a country also bears the repercussions of the push factors for irregular migration such as natural disasters, war, poverty and unemployment. Thus, improving security at the borders will amount to nothing if it is not done in collaboration with other countries and donor partners.

Finally, as indicated already, it is the bedrock for an integrated approach to effective and efficient border management. This however can be achieved if border facilities are upgraded to the required standards that will ensure a fast and efficient means of sharing information.



ICAO and the IOM: Enhancing effective border control and migration management in Africa



The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) are working together to help States achieve sustainable improvements in the field of travel facilitation and security of travel documents, efforts that include related identity management challenges.

These priorities are highly relevant elements of an efficient and effective border control and migration management system. To support these goals a joint training session on travel document examination was conducted by ICAO and the IOM from 31 July to 4 August 2017, at the IOM African Capacity Building Centre (ACBC) located in Moshi, Tanzania.

The training, consisted of two parts: the ICAO Training Package entitled Control of the authenticity and validity of travel document at airport borders – Level 1, and the IOM modules pertaining to the Second Edition of the Passport Examination Procedure Manual (PEPM), published in 2017, and on biometrics.

Participation drew representatives from Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda, specifically from their respective ministries and agencies responsible for border control management, including airport authority, customs, immigration, police and transport. These officials were provided with the opportunity to enhance their skills to effectively perform travel document examination and traveller risk assessment in order to expedite the movements of legitimate travellers while intercepting high-risk individuals.

The joint ICAO-IOM Tanzania training mission was made possible through voluntary funding from the Government of Saudi Arabia, earmarked to support the ICAO Comprehensive Regional Implementation Plan for Aviation Security and Facilitation in Africa (AFI SECFAL PLAN).

Two further courses in Africa are now planned under this Saudi funding framework, you can visit the ICAO website for more information on the related ICAO Training Package.



More than 225 illegal foreign workers arrested in Australian Border Force blitz

More than 225 illegal foreign workers have been arrested, border force officials say, and hundreds more have been stopped from entering Australia, in a nationwide blitz.

Nearly 50 commercial and residential properties were raided as part of the operation targeting visa fraud, illegal work and exploitation of foreigners.

Workers swept up in the raids were employed in industries ranging from agriculture to retail and hospitality.

They came from countries including Malaysia, Indonesia, China, Vietnam, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Tunisia. Almost half were arrested in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory.

AMERIPOL Participate in Airport Security Course



The Airport Security Course was held at the Superior Academy of the Federal Police of Mexico, which involved 15 police officers from AMERIPOL, IBERPOL and RINEP from the countries of Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Spain, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, Peru and

Dominican Republic, as well as Holders of the Federal Police of the different Airports of Mexico, with a total of 40 students.

The objective of the course: to equip participants with basic knowledge on safety, prevention and combat of drug trafficking in airports, as well as new techniques for the detection of illegal narcotics.

The students received a lecture on Security AVSEC FAL; Analysis ICAO Conventions; Measures and perspectives to be based on international criteria for the future; Methods of concealment and methods of detection of narcotics, paper money, weapons and explosives in Airports; Public Security analysis; Causes of attacks against International Civil Aviation; among others.

AMERIPOL, EUROPOL and INTERPOL Carry Out Joint Action Day

Various regional security blocs were activated to combat the fraudulent payment of airline tickets around the world; This operative led by EUROPOL, counted mainly with the co-responsibility of 3 Coordination Centers strategically located in Asia, led by INTERPOL, likewise; In Latin America, AMERIPOL and CLACIP participated, thus activating 9 countries in the continent and more than 30 international airports in the region.

This type of operational activities propose a renewed strategy to combat the modalities of cybercrime and conform to the tendencies of a criminal form that should exhort to the authorities in the articulation and to propose differential courses in front of this type of threats.

AMERIPOL and CLACIP included airports from Mexico, Brazil, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Peru, Chile, Panama, Bolivia and Colombia.

The deployment of judicial police officers at international airports allowed the generation of 54 alerts that linked 76 people and of which 39 were involved. The countries affected by the origin of the flights were Colombia, Mexico, Brazil, Peru and Dominican Republic and the main international destinations were France, Canada, Colombia, the United States, the Netherlands, Cuba, Mexico and Spain.

The economic impact in the day due to the fraud in aerial tickets oscillate the 17800 Euros. The annual worldwide loss generated by the fraudulent purchase of tickets is around 1 billion Euros.

It is shown, that the articulation between regional security organizations, are becoming stronger and seek to decrease organizational organized crime.

AGENCY NEWS AND UPDATES

Immigration Service intensifies fight against cross border crimes



The Ghana Immigration Service (GIS) has indicated its preparedness to tackle cross border crimes including human trafficking and other irregular migration activities at Ghana's borders.

This is being actualised through the provision of logistics and equipment, training and congenial working environment, amongst others under one of the deliverables of the Ghana Integrated Migration Management Approach (GIMMA) projects, sponsored and implemented by the European Union (EU) and International Organization for Migration (IOM).

The Western Regional Commander, Deputy Commissioner of Immigration (DCI) Dr. Prosper P.D. Asima, said this in a speech delivered on behalf of the

Comptroller-General of Immigration (CGI) when he inaugurated a new border post at Antokrom near Dadieso in the Suaman District of the Western Region of Ghana.

Turkey tightens border security ahead of possible new wave of Syrian refugees



Amid speculation about a fresh wave of refugees into Turkey through its 150 km border with Syria's northwestern province of Idlib, Ankara is making its national stance clear: The maintenance of national security is a key priority.

Turkish Prime Minister Binali Yildirim said that Turkey is taking necessary measures on this specific part of the border, across which lies an area of

Syria where radicals connected to a former Al-Qaeda offshoot have gained control. Turkey also recently restricted the passage of non-humanitarian goods at the Bab Al-Hawa border crossing into Idlib.

Turkey currently holds some 3 million Syrian refugees, making Ankara the world's largest host of refugees. The refugee camps are also providing aid along the border. The Turkish Red Crescent has already helped the refugees by distributing clothing and toiletries in Idlib, and in June began a housing project there that is expected to cover about 1,000 properties.

Turkey earlier this year completed the construction of a 700 km wall along the Syria border, controlled by a sensor system, cameras and drones.

Two men arrested after Australian Border Force officers discover 5.28kg of MDMA in postal package

A HUGE bag of MDMA — also known as ecstasy — worth more than \$2 million was discovered by Australia Border Force officers in a package

sent through the post in August.

The 5.28kg package of methelenedioxymethylamphetamine, which is often referred to as MDMA or ecstasy, was seized at the Australian border.

The drugs were already linked to a SA police investigation, which continued after the parcel was intercepted.

Serious and Organised Crime Investigation Branch officers arrested a 31-year-old man from Beverley and a 22-year-old man from Saint Clair.

Both were charged with trafficking a large commercial quantity of a controlled drug.

Texas police find 16 immigrants locked inside rig at truck stop near border



Those found locked in the tractor-trailer included eight people from El Salvador, six from Mexico and two from Romania. Police said they had been locked in the trailer for at least eight hours.

Police in Texas acting on a tip found 16 immigrants locked inside a tractor-trailer parked at a gas station about 20 miles from the border with Mexico, less than a month after the deaths of 10 people who were packed in a hot truck in San Antonio.

Edinburg Assistant Police Chief Oscar Trevino says the immigrants may have been locked inside the 18-wheeler in Edinburg for at least eight hours before being freed by officers late Sunday morning. He had earlier said there were 17 immigrants locked in the tractor-trailer before correcting the number to 16.

Nearly 50,000 Syrian refugees trapped at Jordan border



Around 50,000 - mostly women and children - refugees are stranded on Syria's southern border with Jordan, the United Nations said, an area which is increasingly unsafe due to airstrikes.

UN deputy spokesman Farhan Haq told reporters that "some people are reportedly attempting to leave the area, risking further danger and deprivation in an inhospitable desert location".

Food and healthcare in the area known as the berm is scarce, Haq said, with around 4,000 people in one section surviving on just flour and water.

Tehran looks to accord with Turkey for border security

Iran is working on an agreement to ensure security on its shared border with Turkey and strengthen the

fight against terrorism, according to General Ramezan Sharif, head of public relations for the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), also known as the Pasdaran.

"In recent years terrorist groups have created instability along the borders between Iran and Turkey, above all in the western and northwestern areas," Sharif said.

"Iranian armed forces and the IRGC are already ensuring security on the borders, but there is still always concern for terrorist actions," he said.

Vessel with migrants in Romanian Black Sea waters increases likelihood of border police improvements in Romania, Bulgaria



Romanian coastguards intercepted a motorised yacht carrying 69 migrants from Iraq in the Romanian territorial waters of the Black Sea.

The vessel was sailing under a Turkish flag and was intercepted 10 miles from the Mangalia port in Southeast Romania, near the Bulgarian border. According to a preliminary investigation, the boat was driven by a Bulgarian and a Cypriot national. In the first half, 2,500 foreign citizens attempted to cross the Romanian border illegally, a five-fold increase compared with the equivalent

period of 2016 (507). Around 1,400 migrants were caught at entry and approximately 1,000 were detained while attempting to leave Romania, mainly into Hungary.

Austria deploys soldiers to border with Italy

Austria is sending 70 soldiers to the border with Italy to help border police stop the entry of illegal migrants.

Police official Helmut Tomac and Herbert Bauer of the Austrian army say the move is in response to increased instances of migrants trying to hitch rides over the border under the carriages of freight wagons, Tanjug reported.

Austrian officials said earlier they were ready to deploy armored vehicles along the border to prevent migrants reaching Austria - "but Tomac said today no such moves are being planned," the agency reported.

Bangladesh is ramping up its border patrols to stop the influx of Rohingya Muslims from Myanmar



Bangladesh has stepped up patrols on its border with Myanmar, following reports that about 1,000 Rohingya Muslims crossed into the country in the past two weeks, amid fresh tension in its neighbor's northwestern

Rakhine state.

Security forces in Buddhist-majority Myanmar launched a massive crackdown in the state after Rohingya insurgents killed nine police in October, but the flow of refugees into Bangladesh had slowed until hundreds more soldiers were deployed recently.

Bulgaria to deploy 600 troops to Turkish-Bulgarian border against illegal migration



Bulgaria has decided to increase its border security measures in order to prevent illegal migration from Turkey, Bulgarian Defense Minister Krasimir Karakachanov said in an interview.

Karakachanov said that more soldiers will be deployed to the Turkish-Bulgarian border in order to provide security and the Turkish border will also be divided into five parts in order to monitor the area more conveniently.

Saying that each part on the Turkish border will have its own armored troop of soldiers, Karakachanov indicated that there will be 600 soldiers in total along the border, some of whom will be specially trained. The minister further expressed that according to their previous experiences, the soldiers are more effective in border security than the police forces. Besides, he added, illegal migration movements will be

monitored through security cameras and drones all along the border.

Border Security Force seizes 24 kg cannabis in Berhampore

The Border Security Force (BSF) jawans have seized 24 kg of cannabis from Berhampore in Murshidabad district recently. Official sources said that a tip-off was received about smuggling of ganja near Border Out Post (BOP) Meghna of BSF's 43 Battalion under Hugalberia police station in Berhampore.

Following this, a special search operation was carried out by jawans of BOP Meghna and 24 kg cannabis were seized.

"The cannabis were wrapped in six plastic packets inside a bag. The seized ganja has been handed over to Customs officials of Jalangi," said an official.

So far this year, the BSF South Bengal Frontier has seized over 489 kg of cannabis and have apprehended five people, including two Bangladeshi nationals.

3,000 asylum seekers crossed Canadian border in July. Even more have crossed in August

The flood of asylum seekers crossing the Canadian border shows no sign of slowing down.

Immigration officials said that in July, 2,996 people were intercepted as they walked across the border with the United States. That's four times

the number of people who arrived in June: 781.

However in the first two weeks of August alone, more than 3,800 people crossed the border, mostly at Roxham Rd. in Hemmingford.

The influx of thousands of migrants has created massive backlogs as Canada Border Services Agency conducts background checks on each person, then hands them over to the Immigration and Refugee Board to accept or reject their claims.

Saudi Arabia to open border with Qatar to let pilgrims attend hajj



Saudi Arabia's King Salman has ordered the reopening of the land border with Qatar to facilitate the annual hajj pilgrimage, according to state media, in one of the first signs of a thaw in the region's worst diplomatic crisis in years.

The Salwa border crossing had been shut after Saudi Arabia, along with Egypt, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates, severed diplomatic and trade ties with Qatar on 5 June, accusing the emirate of supporting Islamist extremist groups.

The announcement to reopen the border for Qatari pilgrims came after the Saudi crown prince, Mohammed bin Salman, received an envoy from Doha, according to the Saudi Press

Agency, in the first high-level public encounter between the nations since the crisis erupted.

The king has permitted "the entry of Qatari pilgrims to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia through Salwa border crossing to perform hajj, and to allow all Qatari nationals who wish to enter for hajj without electronic permits", a statement said.

Peru minister warns of new drug hotspot at border with Brazil, Colombia

AA new cocaine-producing hotspot is taking root in Peru near its border with Colombia and Brazil, and local authorities worry that dissident FARC guerrillas may join forces with drug traffickers there, Peru's defense minister said Thursday.

Coca growing and cocaine production is expanding in the triple border region mainly because Peru stepped up efforts to crack down on drug-traffickers in the Vraem, a bundle of jungle valleys where more than half of Peruvian cocaine is now made, said Defense Minister Jorge Nieto.

"If we're successful in one place, they go elsewhere," Nieto told a news conference with foreign media, lamenting what he called the "cockroach effect."

Bavaria refuses to bow down to EU rules as German state demands border checks remain

The border controls on the German state's border with Austria were introduced in September 2015 at the



height of the refugee crisis.

And the Bavarian government claims the reintroduction has been highly successful in stopping criminals and illegal immigration.

But the European Commission claims there is no longer a threat to the state, and is pushing Bavaria to cease controls from November.

Interior Minister Joachim Herrmann of the CSU, Bavaria's conservative sister party of Angela Merkel's Christian-Democratic Union (CDU), said that the reintroduction of border checks has proven its worth.

Army Chief General Bipin Rawat to Visit Ladakh on Sunday, Review Border Security

Army Chief General Bipin Rawat will pay a three-day visit to Ladakh during which he will take stock of the security preparedness along the border with China besides discussing key operational matters with top commanders, official sources said.

The Army Chief's visit to Ladakh comes days after Indian border guards foiled an attempt by Chinese soldiers to enter Indian territory along the banks of Pangong lake in Ladakh.

THE WORLD'S MOST ENGAGING BORDER SECURITY EVENT



As we see the continued escalation of the global migration crisis, with mass movements of people fleeing the war zones of the Middle East as well as illegal economic immigration from Africa and elsewhere, international terrorism shows every sign of increasing, posing real threats to the free movement of people.

The world is seeing a continuation of unprecedented migration challenges for the border management and security community, as little sign of peace and security in the Middle East is apparent and porous borders in Africa continue to provide challenges.

International organised criminal gangs and human and drug trafficking groups exploit opportunities and increasingly use the internet and technology to enhance their activities.

Controlling and managing international borders in the 21st Century continues to challenge the border control and immigration agencies around the world. It is generally agreed that in a globalised world borders should be as open as possible, but threats continue to remain in ever evolving circumstances and situations.

The World Border Security Congress is a high level 3 day event that will discuss and debate current and future policies, implementation issues and challenges as well as new and developing technologies that contribute towards safe and secure border and migration management.

Further details can be found at www.world-border-congress.com.

Securiport Unveils eGates, A Big Data Analytics Solution That Helps Airports Securely Vet Passengers Faster for Better Traveller Experience, and Shorter Lines at Senegal's International Airport

Securiport has announced it successfully launched eGates, its smart immigration processing gate that securely expedites passenger lines through automated intelligent vetting using big data analytics.



The launch was deployed at the Léopold Sédar Senghor International Airport in Dakar, Senegal, where an inaugural ceremony was recently held presided over by Senegal's Director of the National Police, Mr. Oumar Maal; the General Director of the Senegal Airports Agency (ADS), Mr. Pape Maël Diop; and Securiport's General Manager, Mr. Franck Dour. Securiport's eGates provide governments with the ability to save resources and expedite the excruciatingly slow immigration processing of travellers. These

automated immigration gates speed up the vetting process (a 15-second average processing time) and provide a better airport experience without compromising security.

International Security experts noted that, at a time when global airports are challenged by increased threat assessments and slower passenger lines, Securiport's eGates intelligent solution could help international airports and Government Aviation Authorities improve operational security and deliver a better traveler experience overall. Securiport's eGates offer a better way to effectively cope with the congestion at terminals during simultaneous arrival of multiple flights. For example, every year, 2

million people travel through this international airport in Dakar. Leveraging Securiport's eGates, the Senegalese airport can process up to nearly 6,000 passengers per day, per gate. The automated immigration

gates read and analyze travellers' passports, scan their fingerprints, snap their photos and perform detailed identity database background checks in a matter of seconds versus minutes to hours

Elbit Systems of America's Border Security System Accepted by U.S. Customs and Border Protection

An Elbit Systems Integrated Fixed Tower (IFT) border security system passed U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) systems acceptance testing.



This IFT system, located in the Douglas, Arizona, Area of Responsibility (AOR), marks the company's second successful deployment of the system, with the first occurring in the Nogales, Arizona, AOR. "We achieved this important milestone by working closely with CBP and understanding their agents' needs,"

said Raanan Horowitz, CEO and president, Elbit Systems of America. "Border Patrol agents rely on our homeland security solutions to provide situational awareness and enhanced safety." As the system integrator, Elbit Systems of America furnishes the sensor towers with radar, day/night cameras, and command & control software, which correlates sensor information to provide a single operating picture. Information from all the towers is networked into Border Patrol Station command and control centers, which increases situational awareness for Border Patrol Agents. The IFT's high reliability and proven contractor

logistics support provides CBP with 24/7 surveillance coverage. The system also provides CBP with a platform to integrate existing and future sensors to improve border protection and agent safety.

The IFT program continues to deliver to customer performance and schedule requirements, as well

as meet cost goals. On the path to system acceptance, significant milestones must occur. Several months of construction, integration, test activity, and system verification ensures each IFT meets performance requirements. Each system must detect, track, identify, and classify border activity.

developed based on systems used in hold baggage screening (HBS) so there are economies to be gained for airports who use it in both HBS and passenger checkpoints. Although there are already combined HBS and checkpoint systems delivering management and performance data, more complex data exchange between the two screening areas could well improve security even further and also generate additional operational benefits.

"Achieving STAC approval is just one example of how this innovative

platform is paving the way for checkpoint management software in Europe and around the world," commented Tony Tielen, VP EMEA of Smiths Detection. "It has the potential to deliver the highest possible levels of security combined with significant operational advances – including networking groups of national or international airports."

Checkpoint.Evo^{plus} is 2D and 3D ready and also designed to be vendor independent in order to support third-party devices, technology and lanes with open interfaces.

Smiths Detection gains STAC certification for Checkpoint.Evo^{plus}

Checkpoint.Evo^{plus} from Smiths Detection has been successfully assessed and certified by STAC, the French civil aviation authority technical centre.



Designed to increase passenger throughput, optimise resources, reduce operational costs and raise security levels, it is the first solution for multiplexed image analysis to receive this official approval for use at French airports.

An advanced screening and management platform, Checkpoint.Evo^{plus} allows a collection

of individual components and sensors to be transformed into a single, integrated and intelligent solution. Producing valuable operational data and supporting new functions such as centralised screening and directed search, it streamlines the overall screening process.

Checkpoint.Evo^{plus} was

Cobalt's Resolve new handheld system that identifies hazardous materials

Cobalt's Resolve new handheld system that identifies hazardous materials through sealed opaque containers, including explosives and CWAs, will be demonstrated at DSEI, London.

This will be Cobalt's first time at both these major international defence and security events, and there will be hands-on Resolve demonstrations.

At DSEI, Dr Robert Stokes of Cobalt is also presenting in the prestigious seminar programme;

"Handheld Raman

for Through-Barrier Explosives, Narcotics and Hazardous Chemical Identification".

Resolve was launched in 2016 for applications in hazmat incident management, military search and EOD, first response, law enforcement, and screening at ports &



borders. The system uses Cobalt's proprietary spatially offset Raman spectroscopy (SORS) technology to detect and identify chemicals through opaque barriers such as thick coloured plastics, dark glass, paper, card, sacks and fabric. Measured spectra are accurately matched to comprehensive on-board spectral libraries and the

system identifies materials including; explosives and precursors, hazardous and toxic materials, CWAs, narcotics and new psychoactive substances, plus thousands of benign chemicals.

Resolve is already deployed worldwide in military applications as well as in hazmat response, policing and customs screening.

CONTACTS

Editorial:

Tony Kingham

E: tony.kingham@knmmedia.com

Contributing Editorial:

Neil Walker

E: neilw@torchmarketing.co.uk

Design, Marketing & Production:

Neil Walker

E: neilw@torchmarketing.co.uk

Subscriptions:

Tony Kingham

E: tony.kingham@knmmedia.com

Border Security Report is a bi-monthly electronic magazine and is the border management industry magazine delivering agency and industry news and developments, as well as more in-depth features and analysis to over 16,000 border agencies, agencies at the borders and industry professionals, policymakers and practitioners, worldwide.



Copyright of KNM Media and Torch Marketing.

ADVERTISING SALES

Paul Gloc

(UK and Rest of World)

E: paulg@torchmarketing.co.uk

T: +44 (0) 7786 270 820

Jerome Merite

(France)

E: j.callumerite@gmail.com

T: +33 (0) 6 11 27 10 53

Paul McPherson

(Americas)

E: paulm@torchmarketing.co.uk

T: +1-240-463-1700

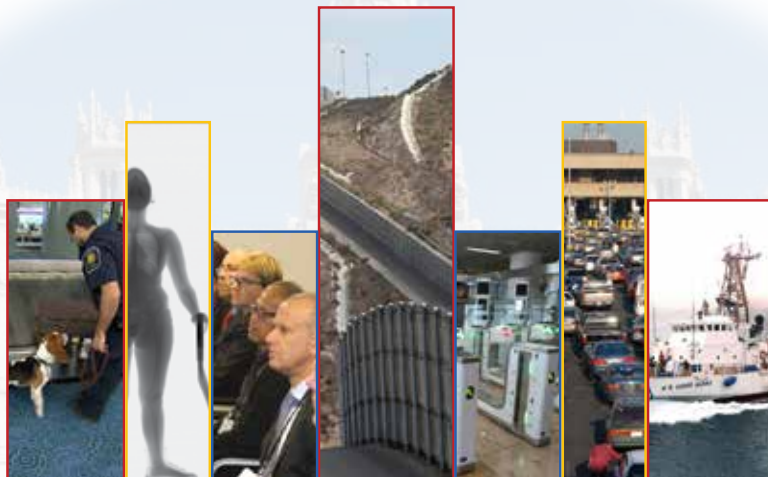


World Border Security Congress

20th-22nd March 2018

Madrid, Spain

www.world-border-congress.com



The World's most engaging event and discussion...

Collaboration and Interaction for Action

Converging and Enhancing Border Security Through Constructive Dialogue

The world is experiencing the largest migration movement in history, with challenges for the border management and security community, as little sign of peace and security in the Middle East is apparent and porous borders in Africa and Asia continue to provide challenges.

International organised criminal gangs and human and drug trafficking groups exploit opportunities and increasingly use the internet and technology to enhance their activities.

Controlling and managing international borders in the 21st Century continues to challenge the border control and immigration agencies around the world. It is generally agreed that in a globalised world borders should be as open as possible, but threats continue to remain in ever evolving circumstances and situations.

Advancements in technology are assisting in the battle to maintain safe and secure international travel. The border security professional still remains the front line against these threats.

The World Border Security Congress is a high level 3 day event that will discuss and debate current and future policies, implementation issues and challenges as well as new and developing technologies that contribute towards safe and secure border and migration management.

ONLINE REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

For further details and to register online www.world-border-congress.com/registration

We look forward to welcoming you to Madrid, Spain on 20th-22nd March 2018 for the next gathering of border and migration management professionals.

www.world-border-congress.com

...for the international border management and security industry



Supported by:



European Association
of Airport and Seaport Police



ISIO - International Security
Industry Organization



International Association of
CIP Professionals



BORDER SECURITY
REPORT

Media Partners:

