

## DOCUMENT EXAMINATION SUPPORT CENTER (DESC) PHASE III

Established in 2012, DESC is managed by IOM's Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok, with the financial support of the Government of Canada & in close coordination with document examination experts of immigration authorities of countries in Asia and the Pacific.

*VISION - "Assist requesting Governments in curbing transnational organized crime and preventing irregular migration through capacity building to support law enforcement agencies in travel document examination and verification"*

- **Range of DESC's capacity support -**
  - Passport Examination Procedures: Tailored basic, advanced and specialised training & On-the-job mentoring
  - Travel Document (TD) verification: Advice in cases of questioned TD, based on reliable information sources - document examination equipment, specimens of genuine documents and reference sources.
  - Secondary level document verification: Enhanced verification using an in house developed automated system.
  - Identification of trends in document forgeries and frauds: Analysis of information provided by document examination experts of immigration authorities.
  - Networking of document of examination experts of immigration authorities: Facilitates information exchange and sharing of best practices at regional and international levels.
- **DESC activities –**
  - Provision of technical advice on questioned passports from immigration authorities
  - ToT on Advanced passport examination procedures for immigration authorities based on IOM's Passport Examination Procedure Manual (PEPM)
  - Training on secondary level passport verification
  - ToT on Migration and Border Management
  - Support to the Asian Network for Document Examination (ANDEX)
- **Asian Network for Document Examination (ANDEX)**
  - Objectives:
    - Supports Member States in formulating a transnational response to the transnational challenge of travel document fraud and forgery
    - Facilitates information exchange and sharing of best practices among document examination experts of immigration authorities

- Supports the establishment of trends at national, regional and international levels
  - Collaboratively addresses capacity building needs to achieve effective border control in support of an efficient migration management in a globalized world
  - Comprises 14 member states i.e. Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Viet Nam.
  - Observer States: Expected in 2018 – China
  - ANDEX Fraudulent Documents Reporting System (AFDRS)
    - Web-based information-sharing platform, which enables the ANDEX members to record and share information about the use of fraudulent travel documents at their national border crossing points.
    - Internet connection is required.
    - Designed to collect non-personal and non-sensitive information.
    - Information collected can be used for analysis, support intelligence, identify new trends, and serve as a basis for contextualized capacity building initiatives.
    - The 2018 Meeting is a critical one, hence the role of the Chair is essential in view of expansion, especially with the added technical expertise of Republic of Korea
- **Verifier TD&B**
- *Introduction to Verifier TD&B*
    - Stand-alone system.
    - User friendly.
    - Requires no internet connection.
    - Used at secondary inspection.
    - A 1:1 biometric verification.
    - Helps to detect fraudulent documents and imposters
  - *Who uses Verifier TD&B?*
    - Verifier TD&B is used by secondary inspection