A3.2 Support to EU anti-document fraud working groups through facilitation of expert presentations, collection of cases and facilitation of dialogues with Chinese authorities

*Technical Meeting on latest trends in Anti Document & Identity Fraud and Training on Verifier TD&B*

**Beijing, 27 March, 2017**

**Summary Report**

On 27 March 2017, the *International Organization for Migration* (IOM) facilitated a “*Technical meeting on latest trends in anti-document and identity fraud and training on Verifier TD&B*” between European Union (EU) Member States Immigration Liaison Officers (ILOs) and Chinese officials from the Document Examination Centre of the Bureau of Exit and Entry Examination (BEEA), Ministry of Public Security (MPS). This training, held in Beijing, built on the rationale and proposed activities of the anti-fraud component within the Partnership Instrument (PI) funded project “*EU-China Dialogue on Migration and Mobility Support Project*”.
The Chinese delegation from the MPS BEEA was led by the Director of the Document Examination Centre, Mr. Wang, while the European side was represented by Mr. Marcin Grabiec and Mr. Juan José Almagro Herrador and immigration liaison officers from Germany, Spain and Finland (representing the Nordic Police Liaison Office). The meeting was facilitated by IOM’s Senior Regional Immigration and Border Management Specialist (based in IOM’s Asia-Pacific Regional Office), Mr. Donato Colucci. Mr. Colucci presented about the latest trends in document and identity fraud and introduced the Verifier TD&B an equipment IOM developed to assist in the detection of passport and identity fraud.

During the opening remarks, Director Wang, Mr. Marcin Grabiec and Mr. Liljert Pär recalled that combating irregular migration is of utmost importance for China as well as for EU countries and that this kind of technical workshop offers a good opportunity to enhance cooperation on this topic.

The first part of the meeting was devoted to the presentation of the new passports and other identity documents of Germany and Finland. German and Finnish Liaison Officers displayed the characteristics of their passport and gave particular attention to some security features and new technologies.

Afterwards, Mr Donato Colucci presented about the latest trends in passport fraud and document fraud. As fraudsters increase the quality of frauds and expand their range of action, designing passports with high fraud-resistance characteristics is particularly important for public authorities worldwide. Numerous technological developments have already emerged and passport security design is rapidly moving towards a standardized technology but there are still challenges remaining in this area (among them, including all the technological improvements into a single document). The capacities of the frontline border officers need to be continuously improved to help them to make a better use of the border technology.

One of the new technologies is the Fraudulent Document Reporting System (AFDRS) designed by IOM for the Asian Network for Document Examination (ANDEX). The AFDRS is a web-based information-sharing platform on the use of fraudulent travel documents designed to collect non-personal and non-sensitive data at the border control post. The information collected can be used for analysis, support intelligence, identify new trends, and serve as a basis for contextualized capacity building initiatives.

The use and functions of the Verifier TD&B were then introduced by Mr. Colucci and IOM colleague who designed the technology behind the Verifier TD&B, Mr. Palis Luckananurug. The Verifier TD&B is an equipment developed by the Immigration and Border
Management Unit in IOM’s Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific to be used by frontline and second-line border officers. It is an automated system, designed to read the machine readable zone (MRZ) and the contactless chips in the passports, and conduct a check on a number of digital security features. It compares the stored biometric identifiers against those of their users. It is an easy and user-friendly tool for document examination which performs a wide range of verifications and displays various useful results about the documents and bearers. The main goal of the system is to assist immigration and border management agencies to detect fraudulent travel documents and impostors.

Technical aspects of ePassports and biometrics helpful to use the Verifier were explained to participants as, for example, the Machine Readable Zone, the check digits, integrated circuit, chip content, digital security mechanisms, etc. The presenters explained how the Verifier TD&B works through many examples and participants had the opportunity to try it. If the machine gives a percentage of likelihood that the person holding the passport is the same than the one displayed in it, the decision to investigate further or to let the person cross the border remains in the hands of the officer.

The Verifier TD&B has been installed at Beijing General Station of Exit and Entry Frontier Inspection at Beijing Capital Airport to be used as a tool to deter irregular migration with forged ePassports of both Chinese ePassport holders and of other nationalities travelling from China. The installation of the Verifier TD&B has been supported by the EU-China Dialogue on Migration & Mobility Support Project.

Annexes:

Annex 1: Agenda
Annex 2: List of participants
Annex 3: Info Sheet on Verifier TD&B