



MALDIVES CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY
Republic of Maldives

AIR TRANSPORT CIRCULAR
AT 01/2016

**PROCEDURE FOR NON-MACHINE READABLE PASSPORTS,
INTRODUCTION OF NEW PASSPORTS FOR MALDIVIAN
NATIONALS AND USE OF E-GATES**

Issue 01, 26 January 2016

1.0 GENERAL

- 1.1 International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Annex 9 (Facilitation) to the Chicago Convention stipulates that all passports issued by Contracting States shall be machine readable and Contracting states shall ensure that the expiration date of all non-machine readable passports issued after 24th November 2005 falls before 24th November 2015.

The related ICAO Standards on Machine Readable Travel Passports are as follows;

Standard 3.10 of ICAO Annex 9: All passports issued by Contracting States shall be machine readable in accordance with the specifications of Doc 9303, Part I.

Standard 3.10.1 of ICAO Annex 9: For passports issued after 24 November 2005 and which are not machine readable, Contracting States shall ensure the expiration date falls before 24 November 2015.

- 1.2 Hence, it has been mandatory for all ICAO member States to issue machine readable passports to their nationals from 24th November 2005 that is compliant to the specifications of Doc 9303, Part I.
- 1.3 Maldives Immigration has complied with the requirements of ICAO and is working continuously to enhance the security of the travel documents and the facilitation of the travelling passengers by using appropriate technologies and controls.

2.0 PURPOSE

- 2.1 The purpose of this Circular is to inform airline operators about the measures implemented by Maldives Immigration for checking the validity and acceptability of travel documents and procedures adopted at border control to expedite the clearance of passengers.

3.0 REQUIREMENT/PROCEDURES

- 3.1 Passengers traveling on non-machine readable passports will not be accepted for entry into and transit through Maldives.



- 3.2 As part of the ongoing process to enhance the facilitation of passengers, Maldives Immigration has introduced a new passport for Maldivian Nationals and has started using E-gates at airports.

With the introduction of E-gates, Maldives Immigration has stopped stamping entry/exit stamps in the Passports of Maldivian Nationals entering into and departing from Maldives.

4.0 APPLICABILITY

- 4.1 The requirements in this Circular shall apply to foreign airlines operating international flights to/from Maldives.

5.0 EFFECTIVITY

- 5.1 This Circular will come into effect from 26th January 2016



Hussein Jaleel
CHIEF EXECUTIVE
MALDIVES CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY

