SECURING INTRA-REGIONAL TRAVEL

Michael Jones
Director
JRCC

Tonya Ayow
Deputy Director (Ag)
IMPACS
ENHANCING INTRA-REGIONAL TRAVEL

From Single Domestic Space to CARIPASS
SYSTEMS IMPLEMENTED DURING CWC2007

• Single Domestic Space

• Sunset Legislation

• APIS Legislation

• CARICOM Special Visa Agreement and Regulations

• MOU Among CARICOM Member States for Information and Intelligence Sharing
CARICOM SINGLE DOMESTIC SPACE (2007)

MEMBERS OF THE SDS

- Antigua
- Barbados
- Grenada
- Guyana
- Dominica
- Jamaica
- St Kitts and Nevis
- St Lucia
- St. Vincent
- Trinidad and Tobago

REQUIREMENTS FOR SINGLE DOMESTIC SPACE

- Common Visa Regime
- Advance Passenger Information System
- Harmonised border security procedures
- Increased and enhanced information and intelligence sharing
HOW COMMON VISA REGIME WORKED

• Suspension of existing National Visa Requirements

• Common Visa Regime with a common list

• Special CARICOM Visa from 15 Jan- 15 May 2007 @US$100

• Freedom of movement to all persons travelling within the Single Space. (All visitors, CARICOM Nationals and Residents of the Single Domestic Space)

• Designated Issuing Sites for the CARICOM Special Visa
WHY REGION REVERTED

- Sunset Legislation
- No harmonised immigration policy
- No harmonised visa regime
- No external drivers/ political will
How to Replicate Functional SDS?

- Harmonised Immigration policy
- Harmonised training of border security officials including airport security
- Harmonised visa regime (extensive negotiations required both internally and externally)
- Physical upgrades of port facilities (to include “domestic” facilities)
VISAS?
VISA REGIMES

• Security (First line of defence)

• Reciprocity

• Agreements with third states

• Income Generator
What is CARIPASS?

CARIPASS is the brand name for the soon to be introduced travel card, which will facilitate electronic self processing through immigration at designated airports in Participating CARICOM Member States.

The CARICOM Travel Card System will comprise of a number of interdependent systems, and will provide functionality for the capture, storage, use and protection of biometric and biographical data elements of the CARIPASS holder.

CARIPASS will be promoted as a highly secure and trusted alternative travel document to facilitate ‘hassle free’ travel within the Participating States of the Caribbean Community.
FROM REALITY TO INTENT

FROM ...

2007

TO ...

2012
**BENEFITS OF CARIPASS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A highly <strong>SECURED &amp; TRUSTED</strong> travel regime</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Faster electronic processing of low risk travelers at immigration points of entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redeployment of scarce immigration/law enforcement resources to concentrate on international and other high risk travelers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secure/Counterfeit-proof Travel Document which can be remotely revoked/cancelled/deactivated upon request</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member States can increase biometric verification needs dependent on national alert states</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biometric Data Capture with redundancy built in to technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failsafe of Passport MRZ on Travel Card (reverse side of the card) readable on passport readers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CARIPASS - WAY FORWARD

CARIPASS SITES

- Confirmation of site readiness for all Signatory States through the submission of completed site readiness checklists
- Completion of infrastructural and communications requirements
- Scheduling of VPN installation
- Confirmation of CARIPASS System installation dates

CRITICAL CHALLENGES

- Finalisation and testing of System interfaces (Border Management System (BMS));
- Confirmation of installation and training dates;
- Passage of relevant national CARIPASS legislation; and
- Accession of all CARICOM States to the CARIPASS Treaty
WORLD-WIDE TRAVEL CARDS

- CANPASS (Into Canada)
- NEXUS (USA-Canada)
- SENTRI (USA-Mexico)
- Global Entry (Into USA)
- Australia’s APEC
• The US, Canada, UK and most other EU countries have some APIS system in operation.

• Electronic System for Travel Authorisation (ESTA)

• Secure Flight Passenger Data (SFPD)
VISA WAIVER & SECURITY

- It is possible to implement without compromising security but…
  - Underlying security infrastructure required
  - Agreed minimum standards of security cooperation
  - Training of Border Security Officials
  - Enforcement of legislation
  - Potential loss of revenue

- Third-Country Visa Option
SECURING THE REGION WITHOUT HINDERING MOVEMENT
JRCC’s KEY FUNCTIONS

- Provides reliable and timely information on security breaches (HITS).
- Prepares analytical reports for selected departments within Member States.
- Ensures compliance of all Aviation and Maritime carriers.
- Prescreens travelers and cargo to and from any territory within the participating Member States.
### SUMMARY ACTIVITY TO DATE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PERIOD</th>
<th>Vessels Screened</th>
<th>Passengers Screened</th>
<th>HITS</th>
<th>Visa Clearances</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aviation</td>
<td>Maritime</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Aviation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007 (Mar-Dec)</td>
<td>120,734</td>
<td>2,854</td>
<td>123,588</td>
<td>6,935,859</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>178,083</td>
<td>4,702</td>
<td>182,785</td>
<td>10,193,302</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>180,570</td>
<td>11,229</td>
<td>191,799</td>
<td>10,263,859</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>203,296</td>
<td>19,552</td>
<td>222,848</td>
<td>10,818,257</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011 (Jan-Aug)</td>
<td>141,181</td>
<td>14,845</td>
<td>156,026</td>
<td>7,598,562</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INCREASED INSTANCES OF PEDOPHILES COMING TO REGION PARTICULARLY DURING SUMMER

APPLICANT FOR ECONOMIC CITIZENSHIP WITHIN THE REGION WHEN VETTED BY JRCC WAS FOUND TO HAVE HAD AN ACTIVE INTERPOL ARREST WARRANT

NINE OF THE 23 SWALLOWERS ARRESTED FOR THE RIHANNA CONCERT WAS AS A RESULT OF INTELLIGENCE PROVIDED BY THE JRCC

PARTICIPATION IN APIS HAS ASSISTED GREATLY IN SOME MEMBER STATES PASSING VISA REQUIREMENT ASSESSMENTS IN THIRD STATES
RECOMMENDATIONS

• Strongly encourage participation in APIS/CARIPASS
• Provision of training initiatives for border security personnel including airport security
• Strongly encourage Member States to comply with the APIS requirements to ensure the security of countries and by extension the sustainability of tourism

Long Term
• Re-commence national discussions on harmonised immigration policy and visa regime to feed into regional initiatives
• There is need for on-going interaction between ministers of tourism and national security & law enforcement
THANK YOU

Contact

Michael Jones  Tonya Ayow
Director JRCC  Dep. Director
246 826 2356  868 628 3311
m.jones@impacsjrcc.org  tayow@carimpacs.org