INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE



Governing Body

GB.292/16/2 292nd Session

Geneva, March 2005

SIXTEENTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Report of the Director-General

Second Supplementary Report: Follow-up to the Seafarers' Identity Documents Convention (Revised), 2003 (No. 185)

- 1. At its 289th (March 2004) Session, the Governing Body adopted the technical standard, ILO SID-0002 Finger Minutiae-Based Biometric Profile for the Seafarers' Identity Documents. This corresponds to the standard for the biometric template referred to under (k) of Annex I to the Convention. It contains the specifications that are designed to ensure global interoperability, enabling the template of two fingerprints embodied in the bar code on a new Seafarer's Identity Document issued in one country to be correctly read in all other countries in which the document may be verified.
- **2.** After the standard's adoption, the Office contacted potential suppliers of algorithms and sensors which might be interested in adapting their products to meet the requirements of the standard. Interest was expressed by about 20 enterprises coming from various countries and the Office issued an announcement inviting them to submit these products for testing and held a virtual bidders' conference.
- **3.** In a preliminary evaluation, seven of the products submitted were found to conform to the requirements of the standard and were tested on board a cruise ship in a realistic seafaring environment over a period of about six weeks. The tests evaluated not only the extent to which each product could correctly verify the Seafarers' fingerprint templates previously generated by itself, but also the extent to which each of the products could correctly verify the fingerprint templates generated by each of the other products.
- **4.** The results of the test were analysed to determine which products satisfied the requirements of Convention No. 185 and the ILO SID-0002 standard. This analysis concluded that only two of the products met the ILO's stated performance objectives of a 1 per cent False Rejection Rate (FRR) (or less) at a 1 per cent False Acceptance Rate (FAR). These two products were also found to be the best performing combination of two products, with a mean FRR of less than 1 per cent at 1 per cent FAR under ideal operating conditions. Several other two-product combinations exhibited acceptable performance in some operating conditions, however these products did not meet the ILO's performance objectives (1 per cent FRR at 1 per cent FAR) and did not perform as well as the combination of two mentioned above. The error rates for all combinations of three, four, five and six products did not meet the ILO's performance requirements.

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5. At present, only two products can therefore be identified as meeting the requirements of Convention No. 185 and the ILO SID-0002 standard. These are as follows:

Vendor	Biometric Service Provider (BSP) description	Biometric sensor type
Sagem	BioAPI v1.1 Sagem BSP	MSO 100
Hyundai	TRUEGATE-HIT-SHB BSP	Smiths Heimann ACCO 1394

- **6.** However, the Office's experts are looking into the possibility that, with minor adjustments, some of the other products might meet the necessary requirements and thus later be included in the ILO's list to be made available to Members of the Organization.
- 7. The Governing Body may wish to note the above information which has already been communicated to all member States.

Geneva, 10 February 2005.

Submitted for information.

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