

*New Zealand issues first e-Apostille*

On 13 May 2009, the Authentication Unit of the Department of Internal Affairs (*Te Tari Taiwhenua*) of New Zealand issued its first e-Apostille. This e-Apostille, issued in full conformity with the model suggested under the electronic Apostille Pilot Program (e-APP), is the first to be issued in the Asia-Pacific region. The Authentication Unit issued another e-Apostille on 14 May 2009. In both instances, the underlying public document came to the Authentication Unit electronically from a government website validation service. The Authentication Unit of the Department of Internal Affairs expects the e-Apostille service to be used frequently in the future. The Permanent Bureau congratulates the Department of Internal Affairs, in particular its Authentication Unit, on this successful implementation of the e-Apostille component of the e-APP.