

TAG 18, Montreal 5-8 May 2008

**Update and outlook on European initiatives  
related to documents and border control**

## **Document security**

### **Passports**

- Additional documents needed as requested in technical specifications:
  - Certificate Policy
  - Protection Profiles
  - Update of references
- Only supplementary documents which don't hinder implementation of fingerprints in passports from June 2009 at the latest

Commission decision in June 2008

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◀ ▶  
**Passports**

- Commission proposal amending Regulation (EC) No 2252/2004 introducing exceptions from the requirement of taking fingerprints for:
  - Children under the age of 6 years
  - Persons being physically unable to give fingerprints
- and introducing in a legally binding way the principle « one person-one passport »

Still under discussion in the European Parliament and in the Council.

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## Residence permits for third country nationals

- Introduction of biometric identifiers in analogy with passports
- Introduction of new security features
  - Common features (UV, microprinting)
  - National features
- Abolition of the sticker format until 2010
- NEW: permission to integrate national e-services

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## Uniform format for visa

Proposals made by the Commission on

- New numbering (amending Regulation 1683/95)
- New security features (amending technical specifications)

in view of the entry into force of the Visa Information System (VIS)

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## **Border Control**

3 Communications of the Commission (Border Package)  
presented on 13.02.2008:

- A first Communication examines the **creation of a European Border Surveillance System (EUROSUR)**,
- A second on the **evaluation and future development of the FRONTEX Agency**
- The third Communication **New tools for an integrated European Border Management Strategy**

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## **Creation of a European Border Surveillance System (EUROSUR),**

- **Reduce the number of illegal immigrants entering the EU undetected**
- **Reduce the death toll of illegal immigrants by rescuing more lives at sea**
- **Increase internal security of the EU as a whole by contributing to the prevention of cross-border crime**

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**EUROSUR** should provide the common technical framework for streamlining the daily cooperation and communication between Member States' authorities and facilitate the use of state-of-the-art technology for border surveillance purposes.

A key operational objective should be the sharing of information, excluding personal data, between existing national and European systems.

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## Evaluation and future development of the FRONTEX Agency

The Commissions' evaluation report of 13/2/2008 recommends:

- for the short term to:
  - fully exploit the technical equipment offered by MS
  - merge similar activities in problem areas
  - set up specialised branches of the Agency in risk areas
  - enhance joint risk analysis reports with relevant partners
  - use the common core curriculum for training
  - support actively return operations conducted by MS

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For the longer term to:

- give further consideration to the important role of the Agency regarding Integrated Border Management
- step up the cooperation with third countries
- adopt measures to enhance the horizontal integration of border control authorities with other competent authorities e.g. customs
- Examine the possibility for the Agency to acquire its own technical border control equipment
- return at a later stage to the setting up of an EU Border Guard Corps

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## **New tools for an integrated European Border Management Strategy**

- **The creation of a system to register the entry/exit of third country nationals**
- **Facilitating border crossings for *bona fide* travellers**
- **Examining the introduction of an Electronic System of Travel Authorisation (ESTA)**

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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