COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Brussels, 15 January 2004

15396/03

LIMITE

PV/CONS 71
JAI 349

DRAFT MINUTES¹

Subject 2548th meeting of the Council of the European Union (JUSTICE, HOME AFFAIRS AND CIVIL PROTECTION) held in Brussels on 27/28 November 2003

¹ Information relating to the final adoption of Council acts which may be released to the public is contained in Addendum 1 to these minutes.
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15. - Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 1683/95 laying down a uniform format for visas
   - Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 1030/2002 laying down a uniform format for residence permits for third-country nationals
   - Draft Council Conclusions

16. A.O.B.
   - European Arrest Warrant: state of implementation
   - Conference concerning the inter-faith dialogue

ANNEX

* *
* *
1. **Adoption of the agenda**  
   15116/03 OJ/CONS 70 JAI 343

   The Council adopted the above agenda, with the addition under A.O.B. of the following item:
   - Conference concerning the inter-faith dialogue.

2. **Approval of the list of "A" items**  
   15256/03 PTS A 63  
   + ADD 1

   The Council approved the "A" items as contained in document 14032/03 + ADD 1, with the exception of item 34.

   Addendum 1 to these minutes gives information on items 10 and 33 on that list. Moreover, the document references for items 6, 17 and 33 should read as follows:

   **Item 6:**  
   14730/03 CORDROGUE 94  
   10948/5/03 CORDROGUE 63 REV 5  
   + COR 1 (en)

   **Item 17:**  
   13977/03 JUSTCIV 210 ATO 188  
   14305/03 JUSTCIV 237 ATO 194  
   + COR 1 (en)  
   + COR 3 (es)

   **Item 33:**  
   14945/03 JUSTCIV 250  
   12513/1/03 REV 1 JUSTCIV 155  
   + COR 1 (en)  
   + COR 2 (de)  
   + COR 3  
   + COR 4 (nl)  
   + COR 5 (en)  
   + COR 6 (nl)  
   + COR 7 (en,fr,de,it,da,es,pt,fi)  
   + COR 8 (fi)  
   + COR 9 (it)  
   + COR 10 (it)  
   + ADD 1  
   + REV 2 (el)  
   + REV 2 COR 1 (el)  
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   + REV 3 (sv)  
   + REV 3 COR 1 (sv).
3. **Draft Framework Decision laying down minimum provisions on the constituent elements of minimal acts and penalties in the field of drug trafficking**

The Council reached a general approach on the above Framework Decision, as set out in the above document, subject to parliamentary scrutiny reservations from four delegations and reconsultation of the European Parliament.


The Council reached a general approach on the above draft decision authorising signature of the Agreement, subject to parliamentary scrutiny reservations from two delegations.

The text of the agreement and of the draft decision regarding the authorisation for signature will be forwarded for formal adoption at a forthcoming meeting, following finalisation by the Legal/Linguistic experts.

The Council took note that several Member States will make statements for insertion in the minutes in accordance with Article 24(5) TEU at the time of adoption of the above Decision.

5. **Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council creating a European enforcement order for uncontested claims**

The Council acknowledged that:

- while not yet agreeing politically, there was a general approach on the compromise solution proposed by the Presidency, as indicated in 15226/03 JUSTCIV 257 + ADD 1;

- in the following days, it would be required to finalise some details relating to the recitals and the annexes;
- the delegations of the Netherlands, United Kingdom and Sweden entered a parliamentary scrutiny reservation;
- the Council should be called upon to adopt its common position, within the meaning of Article 251, by the end of December 2003, if necessary by written procedure, with a view to forwarding it to the European Parliament during December.

6. **Preparation of the meeting with the Western Balkans, Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey**

   The Council prepared the meeting to be held with Justice and Home Affairs Ministers from the Western Balkans, Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey to be held in the margins of the Council on 28 November 2003.

7. **Amended proposal for a Council Directive on minimum standards on procedures in member States for granting and withdrawing refugee status**

   15153/1/03 ASILE 65 REV 1

   The Council took note of the state of play on the above proposal and instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue work on the Directive with a view to reaching an agreement during the Irish Presidency.

   The Council also took note of information from Commissioner Vitorino concerning the preparation of the list of safe countries of origin.

8. **Proposal for a Council Directive on minimum standards for the qualification and status of third-country nationals and stateless persons as refugees or as persons who otherwise need international protection**

   10576/03 ASILE 40

   The Council took note of the state of play concerning the above proposal and instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue examination of the Directive with a view to reaching agreement during the Irish Presidency.
9. **Outcome of the EU Italian Presidency Seminar "Towards more orderly and managed entry in the EU of persons in need of international protection" (Rome, 13-14 October 2003)**

14987/03 ASILE 63

The Council took note of the information provided by the Presidency concerning the outcome of this seminar.


The Council took note of the state of play regarding the above proposal.

11. **Outcome of the meeting of the European Police Chief’s Task Force (Rome, 6-7 October 2003)**

13395/03 CATS 59 ENFOPOL 90

The Council took note of the Presidency conclusions regarding the above meeting.

12. **Draft Council Conclusions on strengthening Community cooperation in the field of civil protection assistance**

15184/03 PROCIV 153 FORETS 53

+ COR 1 (en)

The Council adopted the above conclusions as they stand in 15473/03, the German Parliamentary scrutiny reservation having been lifted.

The Commission announced that it intends to submit, early 2004, in the light of the current proceedings of the Intergovernmental Conference, a communication on the development of civil protection capabilities within the EU.
15362/03 FRONT 171 COMIX 730

The Council adopted the above conclusions as set out in document 15446/03.

The Council took note of a declaration from the Spanish delegation as contained in the Annex to the present document.

14. **Programme of measures to combat illegal immigration across the maritime borders of the Member States of the European Union**  
15236/03 FRONT 170 COMIX 717

The Council adopted the above programme of measures as set out in document 15445/03.

15. - **Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 1683/95 laying down a uniform format for visas**  
- **Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 1030/2002 laying down a uniform format for residence permits for third-country nationals**  
  
14969/1/03 VISA 191 COMIX 701 REV 1
- **Draft Council Conclusions**  
  
14970/1/03 VISA 192 COMIX 702 REV 1

The Council reached a general approach on the above two draft proposals, pending the opinion of the European Parliament and lifting of parliamentary scrutiny reservations from two delegations, and adopted the conclusions as set out in document 14970/1/03 REV 1.

The Council took note of the Commission's intention to present a proposal for biometric identifiers in passports as soon as possible.

16. **A.O.B.**

- **European Arrest Warrant: state of implementation**

  The Council, in accordance with Article 34(2) of the Framework Decision establishing the European Arrest Warrant, took note of the state of implementation into national law in Member States and the acceding countries.
Conference concerning the inter-faith dialogue

The Ministers of Interior and/or Justice took note of the outcome of the Conference on Inter-faith Dialogue organised by the Presidency in Rome on 30-31 October 2003 and examined a draft statement on the inter-faith dialogue and social cohesion.

The Presidency noted a large consensus on the text of the statement, subject to scrutiny reservations by two delegations. It was agreed that this text, following the lifting of these reservations, would be forwarded to Heads of State or Government (see document 15938/03 JAI 373).

Statement by the Spanish delegation

"In putting into effect the JHA Council conclusions concerning the United Kingdom's involvement in the European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at External Borders, as there is an ongoing Anglo-Spanish dispute over delimitation and management of external borders with regard to Gibraltar, that territory will need to be excluded from the Agency's scope."

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