



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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"I/A" ITEM NOTE

from : General Secretariat
to : Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

Subject : **Draft Council Conclusions on development of the FADO system (false and Authentic Documents Online)**

1. At the meeting of the Working Party on Frontiers/Mixed Committee on 6 May 2008, the Presidency presented the draft Council Conclusions on development of the FADO system (False and Authentic Documents Online), set out in doc. 8603/08 FRONT 41 FAUXDOC 11 COMIX 325. At that meeting the Working Party reached agreement on the text.

2. At its meeting on 20-21 May 2008, the Strategic Committee on Immigration, Frontiers and Asylum (SCIFA) confirmed the agreement reached by the Working Party on Frontiers/Mixed Committee on the text as set out in the Annex.

3. The Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to confirm this agreement and to ask the Council to adopt the text as set out in the Annex.

Draft
Council Conclusions

on development of the FADO system (False and Authentic Documents Online)

THE COUNCIL:

- a) Welcoming that the FADO system, established pursuant to Council Joint Action 98/700/JHA, to enable the exchange of classified information on genuine and falsified travel and identity documents as well as the online exchange of false alerts between national document experts, entered into its final operational phase as an accredited classified system allowing the introduction also of false documents;
- b) Reaffirming that the FADO system can contribute to the development of an area of freedom, security and justice as it constitutes an important tool in the fight against illegal immigration and organized crime, including terrorism, smuggling of human beings and drugs trafficking;
- c) Recognising that the increasing proportions of identity fraud across the European Union requires to improve identity checks and to reinforce the fight against the use of false documents;
- d) reaffirming the need to continue to develop the **FADO** system in order to ensure that a high and uniform level of control and identity checks can be performed by the competent authorities of the Member States;

ADOPTS THE FOLLOWING CONCLUSIONS:

The Council:

- 1. Welcomes the continuing development of **FADO** (**F**alse and **A**uthentic **D**ocuments **O**nline), which enables the exchange of information between EU national document experts on genuine and falsified travel and identity documents.

2. Welcomes the fact that the **FADO** system has recently been developed with the inclusion of two multilingual systems containing unclassified subsets of information, which went live at the end of 2007 and are now fully operational: **iFADO** (Intranet **F**alse and **A**uthentic **D**ocuments **O**nline), for control authorities use only and **PRADO** (**P**ublic **R**egister of **A**uthentic **D**ocuments **O**nline), available to the general public via the Council homepage;
3. Welcomes the fact that Bulgaria and Romania are expected to be connected to FADO soon and encourages the completion of the technical and procedural arrangements for the participation of these Member States in the system;
4. Welcomes the fact that Luxembourg, Iceland and Norway are expected to be re-connected to the FADO system very soon and that preparations for the participation of Switzerland are ongoing;
5. Encourages Member States to continuously and effectively co-operate within the FADO system and with the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union for the further development of FADO. It in particular encourages Member States to make the best possible use of the system, in particular by entering into the FADO database and updating all relevant information at their disposal on genuine and falsified travel and identity documents, including information on security features of these documents and false alerts;
6. Invites Member States to take any steps which would be needed in order to create the appropriate infrastructure and any initiatives which would be necessary to allow an extensive use of the FADO system by the national authorities whose tasks involve travel and identity documents checks, especially by the border and police authorities.