



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 24 June 2009
(OR. fr,de)**

**11110/09
ADD 1**

**Interinstitutional File:
2006/0142 (COD)**

**CODEC 858
VISA 202
COMIX 509**

ADDENDUM TO “I/A” ITEM NOTE

from: General Secretariat of the Council

to: COREPER/Council

No. Cion prop. : 11752/1/06 VISA 190 CODEC 771 COMIX 662 REV 1

Subject : Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council
establishing a Community code on Visas [**first reading**]
– Adoption of the legislative act (**LA + S**)
Statement

**Statement for the minutes by the German delegation regarding
interviews for visa applicants at consulates**

The German delegation generally welcomes the agreement on a Visa Code. It has not endorsed the current version owing to the fact that its request that visa applicants be interviewed has not been accommodated. The German delegation would therefore reiterate its proposal that visa applicants submitting a first application should, in principle, be interviewed by a consular officer since such applicants are, in any case, required to appear at the visa office in person to be fingerprinted (exceptions: bona fide applicants and applications filed with external service providers or commercial intermediaries). Although Article 10(1) of the Code lays down that applicants shall appear in person when lodging an application and Article 21(8) stipulates that, during the examination of an application, consulates may in justified cases call the applicant for an

interview, these provisions fail to make our requirement sufficiently clear. The German delegation now expects its proposal to be included in the Handbook for the application of the Visa Code.