



**COUNCIL OF
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NOTE

from : Presidency
to : Working Party on Frontiers / Mixed Committee
(EU-Iceland/Liechtenstein/Norway/Switzerland)

Subject : **Data collection exercise on entries and exits at the external borders for a short period of time**

At the meeting of the Working Party on Frontiers/Mixed Committee on 22 April 2009, delegations were informed that the Presidency had examined with the Commission the possibility of a data collection exercise on entries and exits at the external borders for a short period of time.

The background for such an approach is that, based on the replies to the Presidency questionnaire on the possible creation of a system of electronic recording of entries and exits of third country nationals in the Schengen area (doc. 8552/09 FRONT 28 COMIX 294), it was concluded that some delegations at present are not able to provide certain entry and exit data that would be useful in preparatory work within the Commission with a view to submitting in the beginning of 2010 a legislative proposal on the creation of a system of electronic recording of entry and exit data.

The added value of the proposed exercise would be the gathering of comparable data on entries and exits of different categories of travelers at different types of external borders in the Member States. It is noted that the exercise is not aimed at establishing estimates on the total number of border crossings in Member States.

The data collection exercise may require considerable efforts by the Member States. However, considering the importance of making its results available for the purpose of preparing the future legislation, the Presidency invites the delegations to agree on the outline for the exercise, including its timeframe, as set in Annex I and II.

The Presidency intends to submit the outline for the exercise to SCIFA/Mixed Committee on 19-20 May 2009 for approval following the discussion at the meeting of the Working Party on Frontiers/Mixed Committee on 14 May 2009.

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