



Brussels, 26 November 2009
PRE 066 (Presse)

The 2979th session of the Council of the European Union - **JUSTICE and HOME AFFAIRS** - will take place on 30 November 2009 and 1 December 2009 (10.00) , in the Justus Lipsius building, Brussels, under the Presidency of **Mrs Beatrice ASK, Minister for Justice** and **Mr Tobias Billström, Minister for Migration and Asylum Policy** of Sweden.

The following points will be discussed at this session:

HOME AFFAIRS (Monday, 30 November)

- Council Decision authorizing the signature of an agreement between EU and Japan on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters
 - Adoption

- Council Decision authorising the signing of an Agreement between the European Union and the United States of America on the processing and transfer of Financial Messaging Data for purposes of the Terrorist Finance Tracking Programme
 - Adoption

- Common European Asylum System
 - = State of play
 - Public deliberation***

 - = Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on minimum standards on procedures in Member States for granting and withdrawing international protection (Recast)
 - Presentation by the Commission and first exchange of views
 - Public deliberation***

 - = Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on minimum standards for the qualification and status of third country nationals or stateless persons as beneficiaries of international protection and the content of the protection granted
 - Presentation by the Commission and first exchange of views
 - Public deliberation***

- Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 539/2001 listing the third countries whose nationals must be in possession of visas when crossing the external borders and whose nationals are exempt from that requirement
 - Adoption

- Multi-annual strategic work programme in the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice (The Stockholm Programme)
 - General debate

Public deliberation
- Counter-terrorism : 6-monthly report by the Counter-terrorism Coordinator
 - Presentation and debate on certain issues
- Proposal for an Information Management Strategy for EU internal security
 - Approval
- External relations:
 - a) Outcome and follow-up of the EU-US Ministerial Troika (28 October 2009)
 - b) Outcome and follow-up of the EU-Western Balkans Ministerial Forum on JHA (16 - 17 November 2009)
 - c) Preparation of the EU-Russia Ministerial PPC (Freedom, Security and Justice) (2 December 2009)
 - d) Follow up of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (4-5 November 2009)

JUSTICE (Tuesday, 1 December)¹

Non legislative activity

- Multi-annual strategic work programme in the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice (The Stockholm Programme)
 - General debate

Public debate

Legislative deliberations

- Combating sexual abuse, exploitation of children and child pornography.
 - State of play
- Transfer of proceedings in criminal matters
 - Orientation debate
- Trafficking in Human Beings
 - a) Instrument for a Council Framework Decision on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings, and protecting victims.
 - Orientation debate

¹ The Council meets in public when it deliberates and votes on a draft legislative act. To this end, agenda includes a part entitled “legislative deliberations”.
The Council also regularly holds public debates on important issues affecting the interests of the Union and its citizens, as well as policy debates on the Council’s programme.

Non legislative activities

- b) Action Oriented Paper on strengthening the EU external dimension regarding action against trafficking in human beings
 - Adoption
 - Public debate***

- e-Justice
 - State of play
 - Public debate***

In the margins of the Council:

Monday, 30 November 10.00

MIXED COMMITTEE

- Visa Information System
 - State of play
- SIS II
 - State of play
- Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing an Agency for the operational management of large-scale IT systems in the area of freedom, security and justice
 - Orientation debate
- Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 539/2001 listing the third countries whose nationals must be in possession of visas when crossing the external borders and whose nationals are exempt from that requirement

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*The presidency intends to organise a **press conference** at the end of the morning on the first day (+/- 12.30 h) and at the end of the afternoon sessions on both days (tbc).*

Public events that can be followed by video streaming:

<http://video.consilium.europa.eu>

Video coverage of the event will be available for preview and download in broadcast quality (MPEG4) on <http://tvnewsroom.consilium.europa.eu>
