



EUROPEAN UNION  
THE COUNCIL

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**SEMDOC**

Statewatch European Documentation &  
Monitoring Centre on justice and home  
affairs in the European Union

PO Box 1516, London N16 0EW, UK  
tel: 0181 802 1882 (00 44 181 802 1882)  
fax: 0181 880 1727 (00 44 181 880 1727)

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REV 1

LIMITE

CIREFI 25

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**NOTE**

from :	the General Secretariat of the Council
to :	CIREFI and Frontiers Working Party
Prev. docs:	6511/1/98 ASIM 67 ENFOPOL 57 REV 1, 11464/98 ASIM 201 MIGR 15 FRONTEXT 2
Subject :	<b>Implementation of the Joint Position on pre-frontier assistance and training assignments</b>

**I. Introduction**

This note is drawn up in the framework of the Council Secretariat's mandate as conferred by the Joint Position of 25 October 1996 on pre-frontier assistance and training assignments (OJ No L 281 of 31.10.1996, p. 1).

The note is addressed to CIREFI, which undertook the survey of the implementation of the joint position under the German Presidency. It is also transmitted to the Frontiers Working Party for information.

This revised report includes the responses received following the CIREFI meeting on 20 May 1999. As agreed at that meeting, CIREFI should finalise the report with a view to submission to the Strategic Committee on Immigration, Frontiers and Asylum at its meeting on 15 June 1999.

## **II. Activities carried out under the joint position**

Pursuant to Article 3(6) of the above-mentioned joint position, the General Secretariat of the Council shall draw up an annual report on the activities carried out under this joint position. This present note covers the period between 1 May 1998 and 30 April 1999.

In accordance with Articles 1(1) and 2(1) of this joint position, the joint organization of assistance assignments at third-country airports and of training assignments for airline staff shall be carried out within the Council. Although no such activity was carried out during the reference period, a project to that effect has been organised within the Council and its implementation is under way.

Following an initiative by the German Presidency concerning the establishment of advisors' offices at problem airports, CIREFI developed a pilot project, to be organised at Istanbul airport from June or July 1999 for a period of four months, within the framework of the joint position (see 5529/99 CIREFI 3, 6842/99 CIREFI 13 and 7041/99 CIREFI 14).

At its meeting on 30-31 March 1999, the K.4 Committee took note that the Netherlands and Germany would take part in such a pilot project, with other Member States possibly joining in. A report would then be drawn up on the experience gained from the pilot project and submitted to the appropriate Council body (see 7293/99 CK4 17).

## **III. Activities carried out outside the scope of the joint position**

The implementation of the joint position includes an exchange of information of any assistance or training measures which Member States undertake outside the framework of the joint position. By Telex No 1266 of 22 March 1999, delegations were requested to provide information on any such measures.

Nine Member States (Denmark, Germany, Spain, France, Greece, Austria, Portugal, Finland and Sweden) replied that they have carried out activities outside the scope of the joint position since the last report was produced, in a total of approximately 40 non-EU States.

#### **A. Joint assignments**

The Danish police carried out training missions in Thailand, Singapore and Pakistan with the Norwegian national police, and approximately 800 airline, embassy, police and other control authority staff received information in connection with these missions.

In 1998 Sweden cooperated with France and Italy in the training of border control officials and border police. The training, which focused on the detention of false documents, took place in Hungary and Poland with a total of 66 officials participating.<sup>1</sup>

Reference was made to cooperation undertaken in this area on the basis of the Schengen Executive Committee's Decision of 16 December 1998. In this framework, D, E, F, NL and P have jointly carried out pre-frontier measures in 1999. Following four fact-finding visits to a number of African countries, false document experts from these countries will go or have been (either together or at different times) to Senegal<sup>2</sup>, Côte d'Ivoire<sup>3</sup>, Nigeria<sup>4</sup> and Mali to train staff working at Schengen consulates and at airlines and to carry out pre-boarding checks on flights bound for the European Union. A future assignment to Equatorial Guinea is being considered.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Hungary from 30 March 1998 – 3 April 1998 with 29 officials participating; Poland from 21 September 1998 – 25 September 1998 with 20 officials participating, and from 12 October 1998 – 16 October 1998 with 17 officials participating.

<sup>2</sup> This assignment, undertaken by false document experts from France (DCPAF), took place in Dakar (Senegal) from 26 April to 7 May 1999 (E, F, NL, P partnership).

<sup>3</sup> The assignment in Abijan (Côte d'Ivoire) will be from 30 May to 11 June 1999 (E, NL, P partnership).

<sup>4</sup> The assignment in Lagos (Nigeria) will start on 21 June 1999 (D-F partnership).

<sup>5</sup> Information in this area was provided also orally at CIREFI meetings: on the Schengen cooperation, see 5873/99 CIREFI 5, page 4, 6823/99 CIREFI 12 + COR 1, page 6, 7756/99 CIREFI 19, page 3; on the above-mentioned assignments, see 6823/99 CIREFI 12 + COR 1, page 6; on further cooperation between D and NL see 5873/99 CIREFI 5, page 2, 6823/99 CIREFI 12 + COR 1, page 6.

## **B. Assignments by individual Member States**

In Germany a total of 67 pre-frontier assistance and training assignments were undertaken (listed in the Annex). Germany's activity in this area consisted chiefly in the provision of document specialists for airlines (airline liaison officers).

During the past year Germany had eight document specialists working as airline liaison officers and for the German diplomatic representations in Lagos, Nairobi, Tirana, Ankara, Bangkok, Karachi, Delhi and Istanbul on a fairly long term basis. In addition, there were numerous training and advisory activities of several days' duration.

The main duty of the airline liaison officer is, on the basis of a whole package of measures and in collaboration with the airlines, the Schengen representations, the local immigration and police authorities and other competent agencies, to reduce the number of passengers travelling by air to the territory of the Schengen States without the required documents. Their tasks include delivering training and further training in recognition of document forgeries, passenger profiling and provision of information on the entry and transit conditions of the Convention implementing the Schengen Agreement. They provide on-the-spot advice for airlines and the Schengen representations and also gather and disseminate intelligence on inadequately documented passengers and racketeering.

In 1998 France sent five experts to countries from which there is immigration to give advice to French consular staff on documentary fraud and the *modi operandi* used by persons attempting to enter Europe illegally. These assignments lasted six weeks on average and were conducted in the following countries: Romania, Mali, Cameroon, Morocco and Pakistan. During these assignments, the designated experts also gave advice to consular staff from other Schengen States and various third countries (the USA and Canada in particular), as well as to staff of the airlines operating in these locations (Sabena, Lufthansa, Gulf Air, Pakistan Air Lines, Suisse Air, Cameroon AirLines etc.).

Similar assignments have been planned at regional level for 1999, but for a shorter period (one week). Two such assignments have already been carried out from:

- 7 to 13 February 1999 in Moscow;
- 24 April to 2 May 1999 in Beijing.

The next assignments in 1999 will be carried out from:

- 6 to 12 September in Antananarivo (Madagascar);
- 18 to 24 October in New Delhi (India);
- 15 to 21 November in Casablanca (Morocco);
- 6 to 11 December in Libreville (Gabon) or Douala (Cameroon).

Greece has seconded general-duty liaison officers to Albania, Cyprus and Bulgaria under police co-operation agreements.

Austrian activities included pre-boarding checks on sensitive flights by Austrian carriers flying directly to Vienna. In 1998 these were carried out at Ankara, Amman, Istanbul, Cairo, Odessa, Tehrān and Tirana. Depending on the circumstances and/or the willingness of the local authorities to co-operate, checks were conducted either in the airport building or on board the aircraft itself (this currently applies in Tehrān and temporarily in Ankara and Istanbul<sup>1</sup>). Particularly effective were the checks in Tirana, which resulted in a marked reduction of attempted illegal immigration by Albanian nationals.

Portugal developed pre-boarding controls on stop-overs in Abidjan (carried out on all TAP - Air Portugal flights) in March and June 1998, and similar spot checks at Dakar. Furthermore, since August 1998 two Portuguese officials in Dakar have provided assistance and training for the local authorities, technical support for airlines flying to Portugal and have co-operated with the Portuguese diplomatic representation.

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<sup>1</sup> In the second quarter of 1999, Turkey temporarily banned Austrian officers from carrying out pre-boarding checks at the airport, so that they had to be carried out on the aircraft.

A Protocol has also been drafted, to be signed with TAP - Air Portugal, defining the forms of mutual collaboration designed to prevent at source the embarkation and transport of passengers with insufficient documentation.

Finland has organised many courses for the border control authorities of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia.

Further information on activities in this area was provided orally at CIREFI meetings. The United Kingdom delegation referred to its ten ALOs working at airports in various countries, and mentioned that more are to be posted soon (on the UK ALO network, see also 5873/99 CIREFI 5, page 3, 6823/99 CIREFI 12 + COR 1, page 7).

**PRE-FRONTIER ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING ASSIGNMENTS  
CARRIED OUT BY GERMANY**

	Number	Place	State	Participants/ contacts	Comments
1.	1	Abu Dhabi	United Arab Emirates	Gulf Air (GF)	Document advice and training
2.	1	Bahrain	Bahrain	Gulf Air (GF)	Document advice and training
3.	1	Accra	Ghana	Lufthansa Ghana Airways (GH) Swissair (SR) Egypt Air (MS)	Document advice and training
4.	1	Almaty	Kazakstan	German Embassy	Special inspection trip – Ministry for Foreign Affairs
5.	2 of which 1 x 4 months	Ankara	Turkey	Lufthansa Turkish Airlines (TK) German Embassy	Document advice and training
6.	1 x 4 months 1 x 1 month	Bangkok	Thailand	German diplomatic representation and airlines represented	Document advice and training
7.	1	Beirut	Lebanon	Lufthansa	Document advice and training
8.	1	Belgrade	Yugoslavia	Lufthansa	Document advice and training
9.	1	Bombay	India	Lufthansa	Document advice and training
10.	1	Amman	Jordan	Lufthansa	Document advice and training
11.	2 of which 1 x 4 months	Delhi	India	Lufthansa German Embassy	Document advice and training
12.	1	Damascus	Syria	Lufthansa	Document advice and training
13.	1	Gdańsk	Poland	Polish airlines (LO)	Document advice and training
14.	1	Doha	Qatar	Qatar Airways (QR) Lufthansa	Document advice and training
15.	2	Dubai	United Arab Emirates	Lufthansa, KLM, Emirates (EK) Handling Agent DNATA	Document advice and training

	Number	Place	State	Participants/ contacts	Comments
16.	1	Yerevan	Armenia	Armenia Airways (RS/RME)	Document advice and training
17.	1 x 4 months	Istanbul	Turkey	German Consulate General and all airlines represented at airport	Document advice and training
18.	1	Cairo	Egypt	Lufthansa Egypt Air (MS)	Document advice and training
19.	3 of which 2 x 4 months	Karachi	Pakistan	Lufthansa, German diplomatic representation and airlines represented	Document advice and training
20.	1	Kiev	Ukraine	Ukraine Int. Airlines (PS) Lufthansa	Document advice and training
21.	1	Kuala Lumpur	Malaysia	Lufthansa	Advice to airports on last-gate check
22.	1 x 3 months 1 x 1 month	Lagos	Nigeria	Lufthansa, Swissair (SR), German diplomatic representation and airlines represented	Document advice and training
23.	2 of which 1 x 17 days	Ljubljana	Slovenia	Adria Airways (JP)	Document advice and training
24.	1	London Heathrow	Great Britain	British Airways (ADI)	Document advice and training
25.	1	Manila	Philippines	Lufthansa, Philippine Airlines (PR), German Embassy	Document advice and training and last-gate checks in connection with Calamasi III
26.	1	Moscow	Russia	Lufthansa, Scandinavian Airlines (SK)	Document advice and training
27.	1 x 6 months 1 x 19 days 1 x 17 days	Nairobi	Kenya	Lufthansa, Gulf Air (GF) Emirates (EK) German diplomatic representation and airlines represented	Document advice and training
28.	1	Beijing	PR China	Air China (CA)	Document advice and training
29.	1	Shanghai	PR China	Air China (CA)	Document advice and training



	Number	Place	State	Participants/ contacts	Comments
30.	1	Riga	Latvia	Lufthansa, Air Baltic (BT) German Embassy	Document advice and training
31.	1	Sarajevo	Bosnia-Herzegovina	Air Bosna (JA), Condor (DE) Lufthansa German Embassy	Document advice and training
32.	1	Seoul	Korea, Rep.	Lufthansa, Asiana Airlines (OZ) Korean Airlines (KE)	Document advice and training
33.	24 of which 1 x 6 weeks 1 x 4 months	Tirana	Albania	Lufthansa Albanian Airlines (LV)	Advice to airports on last-gate check
34.	1	Tunis	Tunisia	Lufthansa Tunis Air (TU) German Embassy	Document advice and training and Advice to airports on last-gate check



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**CORRIGENDUM TO THE NOTE**

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Subject :	<b>Implementation of the Joint Position on pre-frontier assistance and training assignments</b>

Please read as follows :

On page 3, footnote 3 :

<sup>3</sup> The assignment in Abidjan (Côte d'Ivoire) will be from 30 May to 11 June 1999 (E, F, NL, P, partnership).

On page 5, last paragraph :

Portugal developed pre-boarding controls on stop-overs in Abidjan (carried out on all TAP – Air Portugal flights) **from** March **to** June 1998, ...