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COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION

Brussels, 14 December 1999

SEMDOC

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COMIX 512

OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

of: Strategic Committee on Immigration, Frontiers and Asylum (Mixed Committee)
dated: 26 July 1999

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Mixed Committee adopted the agenda set out in Telex No 3375 of 16 July 1999, with the addition of the items under 'Other business' below.

2. Decision of Luxembourg on the application of Article 2(2) of the Schengen Convention

The **Mixed Committee** took note of the fact that Luxembourg had, by letter dated 5 July 1999, notified that it was, as of 6 July 1999, putting an end to the border controls it had introduced at its land borders on 7 June 1999 in application of Article 2(2) of the Schengen Implementing Convention.

The **Luxembourg delegation** indicated that during the period during which border controls had been carried out 380 persons had been refused entry and 21 traffickers had been arrested and detained. It called upon the Mixed Committee to discuss ways and means of improving controls at the Union's external border.

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The **German delegation**, while understanding the action taken by the Luxembourg authorities, stated that it would have liked prior consultation to have taken place before the measures were imposed.

The **Presidency** concluded that the discussions on ways to improve controls at the Union's external border should be prepared in the Frontiers Working Party.

3. Decision of Finland on the introduction of temporary visa requirement for Slovakian citizens

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The **Presidency** informed the Mixed Committee that Finland had decided from 7 July 1999 to impose visa requirements for a period of four months for citizens of Slovakia. A Finnish parliamentary visit had taken place in Slovakia to ascertain the situation of the Roma population there. Contacts were being pursued with a view to the return of failed Slovak asylum seekers.

4. Other business

- a) The **Presidency** informed the Mixed Committee of the planned Schengen evaluation exercise in Greece, in particular of the controls carried out at the maritime and land borders, which would take place in October 1999 with the participation of Iceland and Norway. An ad hoc committee would meet in Brussels on 3 September 1999 with a view to defining the precise objectives and modalities of the evaluation.
- b) The **Norwegian delegation** recalled that Article 7 of the Agreement with Iceland and Norway provided for the adoption of rules parallel to those contained in the Dublin Convention and considered that negotiations of those rules should begin as soon as possible.

The **Commission representative** indicated that his Institution was working on a recommendation for a Council decision authorising the Commission to negotiate the said rules and hoped to be in a position to forward that recommendation to the Council before the end of September 1999.
