Information note from the Danish delegation concerning the discussions in the Nordic Passport Union

Introduction

Information note from the Danish delegation concerning the discussions in the Nordic Passport Union on ways in which Denmark can meet its obligations under the Community Member States' Convention on the Crossing of the external borders (SN 2245/91 WGI 798, 15 May 1991). Attempt to resolve the problem of open border with the EEC, implying stricter controls at external frontiers, with Denmark's obligation to retain open borders with the other Nordic states (not then members of the EEC).

Information note from the Danish delegation concerning the discussions in the Nordic Passport Union

Reference:

Ad Hoc Group Immigration
Brussels, 15 May 1991
SN 2245/91 WGI 798
CONFIDENTIAL

Information note from the Danish delegation concerning the discussions in the Nordic Passport Union on ways in which Denmark can meet its obligations under the Community Member States' Convention on the crossing of the external borders

It is agreed that a transitional solution is to be found which must no in the long term create obstacles to progress towards the achievement of the common objective of the Community Member States, namely to establish an area without internal frontiers in which the free movement of persons shall in particular be ensured in accordance with the provisions of Article 8a of the EEC Treaty.

The solution could be based on checks being made at Denmark's external Community frontiers during a transitional period as a combination partly of the effective checks that the other Nordic countries carry out at their external Nordic frontiers, and partly of the checks that in practice can now be carried out within the framework of the Nordic Passport Union at the internal Nordic frontiers between Denmark and the other Nordic countries. The nature of the latter checks must be determined with regard partly to the number of travellers, and partly to the fact that the said travellers have already undergone an effective check at the external frontiers of the other Nordic countries. The said checks would be carried out with regard to both the interests of the Nordic countries and to those if the Community Member States.

The Nordic countries guarantee that the checks will be carried out with the same efficiency as the checks that are otherwise established at the external frontiers of the Community Member States.

The Nordic countries that are not Community members are at the same

time prepared to discuss the question of entering into reciprocal re-admission agreements with the Community Member States.

Within the context of an overall solution, the Nordic countries are prepared to accept that Denmark, to the extent necessary in order for Denmark to meet its obligations under Article *a of the EEC Treaty, should not carry out checks on persons who enter Denmark from another Member State. This, however, presupposes that the checks that are carried out at the external frontiers of the Community countries are at least as effective as the frontier checks carried out by the Nordic countries at the external Nordic frontiers.

The Nordic countries at the same time see it as an element in a balanced solution that Nordic nationals should be permitted to enter the Community territory and to travel within the Community under easy conditions corresponding to those which within the Nordic territory will be applicable to Community nationals who enter and travel within the Nordic countries.