



Brussels, 16 April 2008
PRE 020 (Presse)

The 2863rd session of the Council of the European Union - **JUSTICE and HOME AFFAIRS** - will take place on 18 April 2008 (9.30), in the Conference Centre - FIL, 5, rue Carlo Hemmer, Luxembourg, under the Presidency of **Mr Dragutin Mate**, Minister of the Interior and **Dr. Lovro Šturm**, Minister of Justice of Slovenia.

The following points will be discussed at this session :

- Proposal for a Council directive amending Directive 2003/109/EC to extend its scope to beneficiaries of international protection
 - orientation debate

- Proposal for a directive on common standards and procedures in member states for returning illegally staying third-country nationals
 - state of play

Public deliberation

- Authorisation to the Commission to open negotiations for the conclusion of an agreement between the European Community and the United States of America regarding certain conditions for access to the United States' Visa Waiver Program

- The problem of illegal migration in Greece as EU's external border

- Proposal for a Council decision establishing the European Police Office (EUROPOL)
 - political agreement

- EU Action plan for enhancing the security of explosives
 - political agreement

- Framework Decision 2002/475/JHA on combating terrorism: amendments
 - general approach

- Council framework decision on the enforcement of decisions rendered *in absentia* - general approach
- Decision on the strengthening of Eurojust amending Council Decision 2002/187/JHA of 28 February 2002 setting up Eurojust with a view to reinforcing the fight against serious crime
 - certain issues
- Common Frame of Reference for European Contract Law
 - Draft Council position
- Information on the EU-US Ministerial Troika Meeting on Justice and Home Affairs, March 12-13, 2008, Brdo pri Kranju, Slovenia: info point

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In the margins of the Council:

9.30: *Meeting of the Mixed Committee at Ministerial level*

- SIS II :
 - state of play
 - report of FoSIS II
- Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on common standards and procedures in Member States for returning illegally staying third-country nationals
 - state of play

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Press conference at the end of the Council (+/- 15.30)

Public events that can be followed by video streaming:

<http://www.consilium.europa.eu/videostreaming>
