

# Towards and Area of Freedom, Security and Justice

Visa Information System (VIS)

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**Unit B.1 – Borders and visas**

## *Visa Information System – why?*

- common visa policy, but no common information
- visa shopping
- fraud
- limitations of checks at the border and within the Member States
- application of the Dublin Regulation (EC) No 343/2003
- problems in the identification and return of illegal immigrants
- internal security of the Member States

## *Council Decision 2004/512/EC*

Council Decision 2004/512/EC of 8 June 2004 establishing the VIS (OJ L 213, 15.6.2004, p. 23):

- first instrument for the legal framework of the VIS
- legal basis for the development of the VIS
- architecture of the VIS
- mandate for the Commission to develop the VIS

# *Establishment of the VIS*

A system for the exchange of visa data between Member States, hereinafter referred to as ‘the Visa Information System’ (VIS), is hereby established, which shall enable authorised national authorities to enter and update visa data and to consult these data electronically.

Article 1(1) of Decision 2004/512/EC

# *Architecture of the VIS*

The VIS shall be based on a centralised architecture.

The VIS shall consist of:

- the Central VIS
- a National Interface in each Member State
- the communication structure between the Central VIS and the National Interfaces.

Cf. Article 1(2) of Decision 2004/512/EC

# *Responsibility for the development*

The Central VIS, the National Interface in each Member State, and the communication infrastructure between the Central VIS and the National Interfaces shall be developed by the Commission.

The national infrastructures shall be adapted and/or developed by the Member States.

Article 2 of Decision 200/512/EC

# *Measures necessary for the development*

Measures necessary for the development of the Central VIS, the National Interfaces and the communication infrastructure between the Central VIS and the National Interfaces

To be adopted in the comitology procedure by the SIS II committee

cf. Articles 3-5 of Decision 2004/512/EC

## *Measures to be adopted in the regulatory procedure*

- the design of the physical architecture of the system including its communication network
- technical aspects which have a bearing on the protection of personal data
- technical aspects which have serious technical implications for the national systems of the Member States
- the development of security requirements, including biometric aspects



## *The Implementation of the VIS requires:*

- Adoption of the appropriate legal framework
- the technical development of the VIS
- complementary measures within the responsibility of the Member States.

# *Proposal for the VIS Regulation*

Proposal for a Regulation concerning the Visa Information System (VIS) and the exchange of data between Member States on short stay-visas

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