NOTE TO THE CHAIRMEN OF THE POLITICAL GROUPS

Re: EU-USA Agreement on the transfer of PNR data

Further to the meeting of the Conference of Presidents of 16 June 2004, I would like to inform the leaders of the political groups, that in the light of the recommendations adopted by the Committee on Legal Affairs and the Internal Market, and after careful examination of the opinion of the Legal Service, I have decided to bring an action for annulment of Council Decision of 17 May 2004 on the conclusion of an agreement between the European Community and the United States of America on the processing and transfer of PNR data by air carriers, as well as against Commission Decision of 14 May 2004 finding that the United States Bureau of Customs and Border Protection provides adequate protection of personal data.

This action seems to me to accord with the position repeatedly expressed by Parliament, on this matter.

Pat COX