

Brussels, 12 June 2007

Data protection – Proposal for a Framework Decision on the protection of personal data processed in the framework of police and judicial cooperation in criminal matters

Vice-president Franco Frattini, responsible for Justice, Freedom and Security highlighted that "the processing of personal data in the framework of police and judicial cooperation in criminal matters should be subject to common standards to ensure the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data protection in the framework of police and judicial cooperation in criminal matters".

The Justice and Home Affairs Council adopted Council Conclusions concerning the Framework Decision on the protection of personal data processed in the framework of police and judicial cooperation in criminal matters.

The Council concluded that the Framework Decision will build upon the Council of Europe's existing minimum data protection principles. Moreover, the Council announced that it will examine all solutions suggested by the European Parliament and take the opinion of the European Parliament into consideration. Finally, the Council intends to reach a political agreement on the Framework Decision as soon as possible and at the latest by the end of 2007.

The Commission regrets that the Framework Decision is not yet adopted, in particular because the Commission's proposal for the Framework Decision was already tabled in 2005 and it only establishes a minimum level of harmonisation of data protection principles.

The Commission encourages Council to give priority to the discussions on the Framework Decision in order to reach a political agreement on the Framework Decision as soon as possible.

For more information on the activities of Vice-President Frattini, please visit his website at

http://www.ec.europa.eu/commission_barroso/frattini/index_en.htm