THE PARLIAMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

SENATE



7th term

299th RESOLUTION

OF THE SENATE

delivered on the 11th meeting held on 7th October 2009

on Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council: An area of freedom, security and justice serving the citizen

(Senate Press no. K 052/07)

The Senate

I. 1. Regards

the Communication of the Commission for the preparation of a new multi-annual program in the field of justice and home affairs to be an essential document dealing with the area of freedom, security and justice;

2. Considers important

that the content of the Stockholm Programme is realistic while reflecting real needs in the area of justice and home affairs;

3. Stresses

that the measures foreseen by the Stockholm Programme should be based on indepth evaluation and real functioning of measures in force, should present an added value to a current state of affairs and should be subject to a thorough examination as regards their compliance with the principle of subsidiarity;

II. 1. Requests

that the Stockholm Programme includes clear and realistic schedules for the development of information systems, so that there are no delays from the original plans, as was the case of Schengen Information System II and Visa Information System;

2. Supports

the development of electronic system for recording entries and exits, registered traveller programmes and the establishment of a new agency for management of large information systems in the area of freedom, security and justice;

3. Is of the opinion

that FRONTEX agency is an effective coordinator of protection of EU external border. Protection of the external borders falls within the Member States' competence. The Senate does not recommend, in the context of protection of the state borders, any activities that would lead to establishment of "European Border Police";

4. Assumes

that in the area of illegal migration, complex and balanced approach is important. Proposed measures address predominantly protection of illegal migrants and victims of human trafficking, however, emphasis on preventive measures leading to minimization of the inflow of migrants and on effective readmission policy is missing;

5. Does not consider

the instrument of internal resettlement (relocation of the people with recognized refugee status from a country that is under migration pressure to other Member States of the EU) to be an effective long-term solution;

6. Does not consider

it appropriate to set up at present a common European Schengen visa, that would not be based on the nationality of the applicant;

7. Does not find

it appropriate to set up a common flexible system for admission of legal migrants, as the approaches of Member States vary, mainly with regard to the different needs of labour markets of individual Member States and their specifics;

8. Does not support

adoption of a legal regulation under which third country citizens legally staying in the EU (immigrants) would be granted the same rights as EU citizens, mainly as regards the unlimited access to the social welfare system;

III. 1. Requests

the Government to inform the Senate about the way this position was taken into account and to provide the Senate with further information on the proceeding of negotiations;

2. Authorises

the President of the Senate to forward this resolution to the European Commission.