



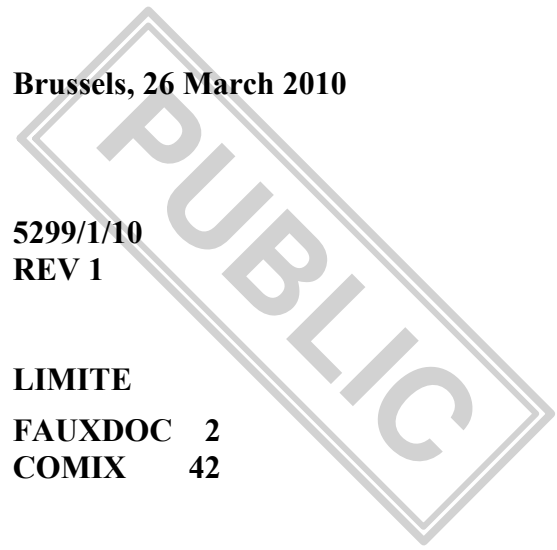
**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 26 March 2010

**5299/1/10
REV 1**

LIMITE

**FAUXDOC 2
COMIX 42**



NOTE

from: Presidency
to: Working Party on Frontiers/False documents / Mixed Committee
(EU-Iceland/Liechtenstein/Norway/Switzerland)

Subject: **State of play concerning the electronic identity cards in the EU Member States**

1. INTRODUCTION

The Member States of the European Union face the significant challenge of achieving successfully the full and effective incorporation into their passports of primary and secondary biometrics. Further challenges for the near future will be the implementation of electronic resident permits and the issuance by many EU Members of electronic identity cards.

Concerning electronic Identity Cards, there is a lack of up to date and precise information about the current state of play concerning the issuance of electronic identity cards in EU Members States.

Considerable efforts have been made to define the various criteria for incorporating biometrics in the EU electronic identity and travel documents. Following the ICAO recommendations in this respect EU Member States have followed them for the issuance of these documents.

2. GENERAL ASSESSMENT

In light of all the above, and with a view to increasing the state of general knowledge about the current situation on the issuance of these documents and the Presidency considers appropriate to collect information with regard to the EU electronic identity cards, that would be very useful in general and in particular in the field of forged documents and control borders.

At the meeting of the Working Party on Frontiers/False Documents / Mixed Committee on 3 February 2010 the Presidency presented the above initiative and the set of questions set out in the Annex to doc. 5299/10 FAUXDOC 2 COMIX 42. The Presidency invited delegations to send possible written comments on the suggested set of questions to the General Secretariat of the Council by 10 March 2010.

Following that meeting and on the basis of the comments received from delegations, the Presidency has prepared the revised questionnaire set out in the Annex. Delegations are invited to send their replies to the General Secretariat of the Council (giovanna.giglio@consilium.europa.eu; carina.rosengren@consilium.europa.eu) at the latest **by 5 May 2010**.

QUESTIONNAIRE ABOUT THE STATE OF PLAY OF IDENTITY CARDS

1. Does your country issues identity cards?
2. **(if yes)** What kind? (traditional or electronic ID, RF chip or Contact chip)
What usable data size/capacity?
3. **(if not)** Has your country planned the issuance of identity cards in the near future?
4. What material is the card constructed from (e.g. polycarbonate)?
5. Does your country issue a card in ICAO TD1 or TD3 format?
6. How are the electronically stored data protected? BAC, EAC?
7. What kind of biometric data are electronically stored in the identity card and by which authorities?
8. Is any other information electronically stored on the identity card,(i.g. certificates)?
9. Does your country have a centralized or decentralized system for the issuance of identity cards and/or storage of biographic or biometric data?
10. How much does the citizen pay for the card?
11. What is the validity period of the card?
12. From what age the first issuance of the identity card is mandatory in your country?
13. What other functionality does the card have?
14. Can the card be used for internet transactions?
15. Are all of the identity cards you issue valid for travelling within the EEA?
16. Did you detect any altered or forged data storage device in any identity card?
17. Does your country see the need for a harmonization of these security features and standards of identity cards beyond the voluntary minimum security standards already agreed ?