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NOTE

from : General Secretariat
to : Working Party on Frontiers/Mixed Committee
(EU-Iceland/Liechtenstein/Norway/Switzerland)

Subject : **Questionnaire on the possible creation of a system of electronic recording of entries and exits of third country nationals in the Schengen area**

Delegations will find attached the replies from Bulgaria, France (EN translation), Italy, Portugal, Iceland and Norway to the questionnaire on the possible creation of a system of electronic recording of entries and exits of third country nationals in the Schengen area, as set out in doc. 7226/1/09 REV 1 FRONT 12 COMIX 200.

BULGARIA

1. With regard to your border crossing points,
- a. do you register the number of entries/exits at your border crossing points? If yes, of which categories of persons and in which breakdown (e. g. third country nationals, broken down by persons holding a visa und persons without a visa).

All third country nationals are subject to full checks at the BCPs and are systematically registered in the database system.

Individuals from EU countries, enjoying the right of free movement, are subject to minimum border checks upon entry/exit at the BCPs and only in certain cases, based on risk analysis can be registered in the database system.

- b. how many border guards/police officers in total are performing border checks at the external borders?

Total – 1098 police officers

- c. how many entries of third country nationals did you have last year (2008)? (or estimation)

In 2008, 2 687 221 third country nationals entered the country

- i. with visa - 2 433 600
ii. without visa - 253 621

- d. how many exits of third country nationals did you have last year (2008)? (or estimation)

In 2008, 2 419 370 third country nationals exit the country

- i. with visa - 2 168 115
ii. without visa - 251 255

- e. how many entries of EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons did you have last year (2008)? (or estimation)

In 2008 upon entry in the Republic of Bulgaria 5 137 875 EU citizens and travelers enjoying free movement of persons are checked

- f. how many exits of EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons did you have last year (2008)? (or estimation)

In 2008 upon exit in the Republic of Bulgaria 6 764 776 EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons are checked

2. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an entry check at the external land border for

The average time for border check of persons entering the external land border of the Republic of Bulgaria is:

- a. third country nationals holding a visa - up to 3 min
- b. third country nationals without a visa - up to 2 min
- c. EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons - up to 0,5 min

3. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an exit check at the external land border for

The average time for border check of persons exiting the external land border of the Republic of Bulgaria is:

- a. third country nationals holding a visa - up to 3 min
- b. third country nationals without a visa - up to 2 min
- c. EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons - up to 0,5 min

4. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an entry check at the external air border for

The average time for border check of persons entering the external air border of the Republic of Bulgaria is:

- a. third country nationals holding a visa - up to 2 min
- b. third country nationals without a visa - up to 2 min
- c. EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons - up to 0,5 min

5. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an exit check at the external air border for

The average time for border check of persons exiting the external air border of the Republic of Bulgaria is:

- a. third country nationals holding a visa - up to 2 min
- b. third country nationals without a visa - up to 2 min
- c. EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons - up to 0,5 min

6. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an entry check at the external sea border for

The average time for border check of persons entering the external sea border of the Republic of Bulgaria is:

- a. third country nationals holding a visa - up to 2 min
- b. third country nationals without a visa - up to 2 min
- c. EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons - up to 0,5 min

7. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an exit check at the external sea border for

The average time for border check of persons exiting the external sea border of the Republic of Bulgaria is:

- a. third country nationals holding a visa - up to 2 min
 - b. third country nationals without a visa - up to 2 min
 - c. EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons - up to 0,5 min
8. How many illegal immigrants does your country have within the territory (estimation)?
- a. upper level estimate
 - b. lower level estimate

Note: In order to receive comparable answers for the purpose of this questionnaire, Member States should consider an illegal migrant as a person who either crossed the border illegally or overstayed the period of an authorized stay. Persons with pending application for international protection etc. shall be excluded from the figures.

The imposed coercive administrative measures under the Law for the foreigners in the Republic of Bulgaria in 2008 are as follows:

- revoking the right of stay in the Republic of Bulgaria - 1051
- compulsory taking to the border of the Republic of Bulgaria - 1282
- expulsion - 147
- prohibition to enter the Republic of Bulgaria - 1003
- prohibition to leave the Republic of Bulgaria - 294

9. How many overstayers did your country detect last year (2008)?
- a. at the border
 - b. within the territory

The number of the overstayed persons with imposed administrative penalties by the Chief Directorate Border Police in 2008 is 2546.

10. What sanctions does your country impose on overstayer detected at exit?

According to the national legislation Law on Foreigners in the Republic of Bulgaria for exceeding the authorized term of residence the following administrative sanctions and coercive administrative measures are imposed:

- Fine;
- Forcefully taking to the border;
- Prohibition of entry into Bulgaria.

11. Do you think the future EES should allow for different procedures at different types of border crossing point as regards data collection? (for example: taking into consideration the difficulties faced by border control authorities at some types of borders)

Bulgaria considers that the same procedure should be followed at the different types of BCPs regarding data collection.

12. Do you think the aims of an entry/exit system could be achieved by collecting alphanumerical data for the initial period and only after the Member States gain experiences in this field, introduce biometrics?

Yes, Bulgaria is of opinion that the aims of an entry/exit system could be achieved by collecting only alphanumerical data for the initial period

The following questions are only for those Member States that already have an entry/exit system in place at the external border.

13. For what purposes is the information stored in the entry/exit system used?

This information is used to counteract the general and organized crime, control of migration processes and for statistical purposes.

14. What has been the added value of the entry/exit system?

The Bulgarian entry/exit system allows identifying third country nationals that have overstayed the authorized term of residence and undertaking the respective legal measures. Furthermore it contributes to more effective prevention of the illegal migration.

15. Are all third country nationals' entries and exists recorded? If not, why not? What are the exceptions?

Yes, all third countries nationals' entries and exists are recorded.

16. Is the information stored into a database
- automatically, for example using MRZ,
 - manually or
 - combination using both methods.

The information is stored automatically in databases after manually set procedures.

17. How long does it take to insert all necessary information into database? If done,
- automatically - 10 seconds, during the check
 - manually - up to 1 min.
 - combination – rarely – 40 seconds

Databases refresh every 10 minutes - at the local level in real time. At the central level data is processed - by twenty-four-hour period, depending on the speed of communications and the volume of traffic.

18. Which authorities have direct access to the entry/exit information?

Direct access to information of entry and exit have all services with police functions from the Ministry of the Interior and State Agency “National security”.

19. Can other authorities use/have access to information stored into the database based on specific request? If yes, which authorities?

The Bulgarian judicial authorities, the Prosecutor’s Office, the investigation services and the Ministry of Finance (Customs Agency) can have access to the information stored in the entry/exit database only in case of specific request.

20. What kind of alphanumeric data is stored into database?

In the database is stored identification information for persons and vehicles crossing the state border.

21. What are the search criteria of the entry/exit system and what search keys are used?

A search for phonetic images of names, search of a digital ID number and the number of documents are used.

22. How long is the information stored? After the retention period expires, is the data deleted automatically?

The data is stored for a period of 1 year, archived for a period of 5 years and after that deleted.

23. How do you ensure that the system complies with general data protection standards?
How is the security of the stored data ensured?

The system is established in compliance with the general data protection standards.

In view of ensuring the security of the stored data the following security measures are established:

- Providing the necessary infrastructure
- Applying rules governing physical access to the premises and the workstations as part of the security measures for protection at technical and organizational level
- Applying mechanisms for personnel access - user name; personal access passwords; user's access rights; fingerprint identification
- The access to the AIS's resources is individual and is granted by the AIS ACCESS - an unified instrument for administration and provision of the individual users' right of access
- All activities (query/create/update, date and time of execution, user's access identifier, unique object identifier) of every user are registered in the database for control of the AIS JOURNAL

Possible pilot project - related questions

24. In case a pilot project is launched, at what types of borders should the pilot project be implemented?
- a. all types
 - b. other

Bulgaria is of the opinion that such pilot project could be launched at the borders with most intensive migration pressure.

25. How long should the pilot project last?

Bulgaria considers that a period of 6 months would be enough to have a general view of the functioning of the system

26. Which data should be collected in the pilot project?
- a. alphanumeric and biometric
 - b. alphanumeric

Bulgaria holds the view that only alphanumeric data should be collected in the pilot project.

27. Which persons should be targeted in the pilot project?
- a. third country nationals without visa requirements
 - b. third country nationals who require a visa
 - c. all third country nationals
 - d. others

Bulgaria is of the opinion that all third country nationals should be targeted in the pilot project.

Additional comments of Bulgaria to the Questionnaire on the possible creation of a system of electronic recording of entries and exits of third-country nationals in the Schengen area:

Bulgaria suggests that within the scope of the Questionnaire the following questions should also be included

- the type of the exchanged information(messages)
- the structure of the information(messages) and the used code-tables
- the used algorithms for name correspondence;
- the technology for the exchange of the information(messages);
- means and tools for verification.

FRANCE

1. With regard to your border crossing points,
 - a. do you register the number of entries/exits at your border crossing points? If yes, of which categories of persons and in which breakdown (e. g. third country nationals, broken down by persons holding a visa und persons without a visa).

France does not have an entry/exit system.

In order to avoid disparities in the information provided by Member States which do not have a national entry/exit system either, France repeats its proposal that systematic operations be implemented, for a relatively brief period (three or four days), at all border-crossing points of all the Member States, to count entries and exits of third-country nationals, whether requiring a visa or not, and also of Community citizens, for the reasons put forward by the Commission. To best reflect the various seasonal patterns, such operations would usefully be repeated several times in the course of the year.

- b. how many border guards/police officers in total are performing border checks at the external borders?

Each day, 5 393 border guards perform border checks at external borders.

At the end of 2008, the Central Border Police Directorate (DCPAF) had a total staff of 9 133 active and auxiliary security officers, of whom 3 194 (34,9 %) were allocated to checks at external borders. These 3 194 officers are strictly assigned to land, sea and air border crossing points in France. The 5 939 other officers are assigned either to structures for combating illegal immigration within France (for example, specialised units such as the railway squads, the mobile investigation squads, whose task is principally to combat organised forms of illegal immigration, the air police squads and the expulsion units) or to hierarchical operating structures at department, area or national level.

Border police	Type of border			Total
	Land	Sea	Air	
	288	566	2 340	3 194

- c. how many entries of third country nationals did you have last year (2008)? (or estimation)
 - i. with visa
 - ii. without visa

On the basis of statistics collected at the main border-crossing points in 2007, the estimated number of persons checked (EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement, plus third-country nationals) is around 35 million on entry into France and 38 million on exit. France issued 2 068 653 visas in 2008.

- d. how many exits of third country nationals did you have last year (2008)? (or estimation)
 - i. with visa
 - ii. without visa
- e. how many entries of EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons did you have last year (2008)? (or estimation)
- f. how many exits of EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons did you have last year (2008)? (or estimation)

Reply d-f: See the reply to question 1(c).

- 2. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an entry check at the external land border for
 - a. third country nationals holding a visa,
 - b. third country nationals without a visa,
 - c. EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons

Excluding cases where technical faults arise (computer connection problems, for example), average checking times vary from a few seconds to several minutes, in the case of a manual file search and/or checks on conditions of stay.

- 3. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an exit check at the external land border for
 - a. third country nationals holding a visa,
 - b. third country nationals without a visa,
 - c. EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons
- 4. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an entry check at the external air border for
 - a. third country nationals holding a visa,
 - b. third country nationals without a visa,
 - c. EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons
- 5. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an exit check at the external air border for
 - a. third country nationals holding a visa,
 - b. third country nationals without a visa,
 - c. EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons
- 6. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an entry check at the external sea border for
 - a. third country nationals holding a visa,
 - b. third country nationals without a visa,
 - c. EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons

Reply questions 3-6: See the reply to question 2.

7. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an exit check at the external sea border for
- third country nationals holding a visa,
 - third country nationals without a visa,
 - EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons

See the reply to question 2.

8. How many illegal immigrants does your country have within the territory (estimation)?
- upper level estimate
 - lower level estimate

Note: In order to receive comparable answers for the purpose of this questionnaire, Member States should consider an illegal migrant as a person who either crossed the border illegally or overstayed the period of an authorized stay. Persons with pending application for international protection etc. shall be excluded from the figures.

Estimating the number of persons within the country illegally is, by its nature, a difficult exercise. The figures most commonly put forward range from 200 000 to 400 000.

For further information, in 2008 the police and gendarmerie in metropolitan France charged 111 692 individuals with breaches of the law on entry and residence of aliens.

9. How many overstayers did your country detect last year (2008)?
- at the border
- On exit (at the border), no estimate can be provided.

- within the territory

The statistical tools used by the police and gendarmerie to show illegal aliens detected do not at present make it possible to distinguish overstayers.

10. What sanctions does your country impose on overstayer detected at exit?

Under Article L. 621-1 of the Code on entry and residence of aliens and on asylum, aliens who remain within French territory beyond the period authorised on their visa are liable to a one-year prison sentence and a fine of EUR 3 750 euros.

11. Do you think the future EES should allow for different procedures at different types of border crossing point as regards data collection? (for example: taking into consideration the difficulties faced by border control authorities at some types of borders)

It is difficult to say without knowing what exactly is meant by "different procedures": does it mean a different way of operating or a difference in the nature of the information collected?

12. Do you think the aims of an entry/exit system could be achieved by collecting alphanumerical data for the initial period and only after the Member States gain experiences in this field, introduce biometrics?

The French delegation is in favour of the proposal made during previous discussions on this matter, as set out in 15630/08 FRONT 97 COMIX 809, i.e. phasing in the system by beginning with the recording of alphanumeric data only, before adding biometric data as a second stages.

Possible pilot project - related questions

24. In case a pilot project is launched, at what types of borders should the pilot project be implemented?
- a. all types
 - b. other

For France, a pilot project should concern all types of border and all modes of transport, perhaps with air borders being given priority.

25. How long should the pilot project last?

Initially, a minimum period of one week could be set.

26. Which data should be collected in the pilot project?
- a. alphanumeric and biometric
 - b. alphanumeric

France considers it logical to collect both alphanumeric and biometric data.

27. Which persons should be targeted in the pilot project?
- a. third country nationals without visa requirements
 - b. third country nationals who require a visa
 - c. all third country nationals
 - d. others

All third-country nationals should be recorded in the pilot project.

ITALY

1. With regard to your border crossing points,
 - a. how many border guards/police officers in total are performing border checks at the external borders?
The total number of National border guards/police officers is 5289
 - b. how many entries of third country nationals did you have last year (2008)?
 - i. with visa
 - ii. without visa
 - c. how many exits of third country nationals did you have last year (2008)?
 - i. with visa
 - ii. without visa
 - d. how many entries of EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons did you have last year (2008)?
 - e. how many exits of EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons did you have last year (2008)?

With regard to the questions above we can only provide the following data:

Number of passengers, on entry and exit, on board intra Schengen flights: 81.277.752
Number of passengers, on entry and exit, on board extra Schengen flights: 35.921.804
Number of passengers, on entry and exit, on board cruise ships: 9.031.596
Number of intra Schengen passengers, on entry and exit, on board ships: 23.091.099
Number of extra Schengen passengers, on entry and exit, on board ships: 3.806.900

2. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an entry check at the external land border for
 - a. third country nationals holding a visa,
 - b. third country nationals without a visa,
 - c. EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons

There are no external land borders in Italy.

3. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an exit check at the external land border for
 - a. third country nationals holding a visa,
 - b. third country nationals without a visa,
 - c. EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons

There are no external land borders in Italy.

4. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an entry check at the external air border for
 - a. third country nationals holding a visa - 1 min
 - b. third country nationals without a visa - 20-30 sec
 - c. EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons - 5sec

5. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an exit check at the external air border for
 - a. third country nationals holding a visa - 20-30 sec
 - b. third country nationals without a visa - 15 sec
 - c. EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons - 5 sec

6. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an entry check at the external sea border for
 - a. third country nationals holding a visa - 1 min
 - b. third country nationals without a visa - 30-40 sec
 - c. EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons - 5 sec

7. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an exit check at the external sea border for
 - a. third country nationals holding a visa - 1 minute
 - b. third country nationals without a visa - 20-30 sec
 - c. EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons - 5 sec

8. How many illegal immigrants does your country have within the territory (estimation)?
 - a. upper level estimate
 - b. lower level estimate

Note: In order to receive comparable answers for the purpose of this questionnaire, Member States should consider an illegal migrant as a person who either crossed the border illegally or overstayed the period of an authorized stay. Persons with pending application for international protection etc. shall be excluded from the figures.

It is impossible to provide an accurate estimate of the illegal immigrants within our territory.

9. How many overstayers did your country detect last year (2008)?
 - a. at the border
 - b. within the territory

10. What sanctions does your country impose on overstayer detected at exit?

The overstayer detected at exit is subjected to the administrative sanction of expulsion. In case the overstayer is detected again after the adoption of the aforesaid administrative provision, he/she is punished with 1 to 4 years' imprisonment and is expelled again by accompanying him/her immediately to the border.

11. Do you think the future EES should allow for different procedures at different types of border crossing point as regards data collection? (for example: taking into consideration the difficulties faced by border control authorities at some types of borders)

Different procedures should be allowed according to the different types of border crossing points, provided that the collection of fundamental data is ensured by all BCPs

12. Do you think the aims of an entry/exit system could be achieved by collecting alphanumerical data for the initial period and only after the Member States gain experiences in this field, introduce biometrics?

Yes, Italy thinks it is advisable to collect alphanumerical data for the initial period and introduce biometrics only after gaining enough experience.

Possible pilot project - related questions

24. In case a pilot project is launched, at what types of borders should the pilot project be implemented?
- a. all types
 - b. other

All types of border.

25. How long should the pilot project last?

6 months.

26. Which data should be collected in the pilot project?
- a. alphanumeric and biometric
 - b. alphanumeric

Both alphanumeric and biometric data should be collected in order to detect and evaluate the possible difficulties encountered.

27. Which persons should be targeted in the pilot project?
- a. third country nationals without visa requirements
 - b. third country nationals who require a visa
 - c. all third country nationals
 - d. others

All third country nationals.

PORTUGAL

1. With regard to your border crossing points,
 - a. do you register the number of entries/exits at your border crossing points? If yes, of which categories of persons and in which breakdown (e. g. third country nationals, broken down by persons holding a visa und persons without a visa).
Yes, all third country nationals, visa and visa exempt and resident permit holders.
 - b. how many border guards/police officers in total are performing border checks at the external borders?
337 border guards.
 - c. how many entries of third country nationals did you have last year (2008)? (or estimation)
Total: 821 074.
 - d. how many exits of third country nationals did you have last year (2008)? (or estimation)
Total: 746 210.
 - e. how many entries of EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons did you have last year (2008)? (or estimation)
Approximately: 1 784 689.
 - f. how many exits of EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons did you have last year (2008)? (or estimation)
Approximately: 1 823 851.
2. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an entry check at the external land border for
 - a. third country nationals holding a visa,
 - b. third country nationals without a visa,
 - c. EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons

Not applicable
3. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an exit check at the external land border for
 - a. third country nationals holding a visa,
 - b. third country nationals without a visa,
 - c. EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons

Not applicable
4. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an entry check at the external air border for
 - a. third country nationals holding a visa - average 3 min
 - b. third country nationals without a visa - average 3 min
 - c. EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons - 5 to 10 seconds

5. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an exit check at the external air border for
 - a. third country nationals holding a visa - average 1,5 min
 - b. third country nationals without a visa - average 1,5 min
 - c. EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons - 5 to 10 seconds
6. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an entry check at the external sea border for
 - a. third country nationals holding a visa - average 3 min
 - b. third country nationals without a visa - average 3 min
 - c. EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons - 5 to 10 seconds
7. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an exit check at the external sea border for
 - a. third country nationals holding a visa - average 1,5 min
 - b. third country nationals without a visa - average 1,5 min
 - c. EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons - 5 to 10 seconds
8. How many illegal immigrants does your country have within the territory (estimation)?
 - a. upper level estimate
 - b. lower level estimate

Note: In order to receive comparable answers for the purpose of this questionnaire, Member States should consider an illegal migrant as a person who either crossed the border illegally or overstayed the period of an authorized stay. Persons with pending application for international protection etc. shall be excluded from the figures.

9. How many overstayers did your country detect last year (2008)?
 - a. at the border – Not available
 - b. within the territory – 17.091 overstayers
10. What sanctions does your country impose on overstayer detected at exit?

A fine is previewed for this purpose and it is graduated accordingly to the period of overstaying.

11. Do you think the future EES should allow for different procedures at different types of border crossing point as regards data collection? (for example: taking into consideration the difficulties faced by border control authorities at some types of borders)

No, Portugal thinks that all Border Posts should collect the same data.

12. Do you think the aims of an entry/exit system could be achieved by collecting alphanumerical data for the initial period and only after the Member States gain experiences in this field, introduce biometrics?

Yes.

The following questions are only for those Member States that already have an entry/exit system in place at the external border.

13. For what purposes is the information stored in the entry/exit system used?

Statistical purposes regarding UE citizens and data collection concerning third country nationals.

14. What has been the added value of the entry/exit system?

Registration of data from third country nationals in a faster and more secure way (with verification of document validity and several databases), thus allowing to abolish Embarkation and Disembarkation cards.

15. Are all third country nationals' entries and exits recorded? If not, why not? What are the exceptions?

Yes.

16. Is the information stored into a database

- a. automatically, for example using MRZ,
- b. manually or
- c. combination using both methods

When the passport does not have MRZ everything is done manually.

17. How long does it take to insert all necessary information into database? If done,

- a. automatically - approximately 30 sec
- b. manually - approximately 60 sec
- c. combination.

18. Which authorities have direct access to the entry/exit information?

Immigration and Border Service.

19. Can other authorities use/have access to information stored into the database based on specific request? If yes, which authorities?

Upon request – only by Law Enforcement Authorities.

20. What kind of alphanumeric data is stored into database?

Date of border crossing, register number of the flight, passport number, visa number.

21. What are the search criteria of the entry/exit system and what search keys are used?

Combination. as search key can be used time period, names, date of birth, nationality, register numbers and border crossing point.

22. How long is the information stored? After the retention period expires, is the data deleted automatically?

10 years.

23. How do you ensure that the system complies with general data protection standards? How is the security of the stored data ensured?

Data is stored in secured servers own by Immigration and Border Service. Storage of data and it is regulated by national legislation.

Possible pilot project - related questions

24. In case a pilot project is launched, at what types of borders should the pilot project be implemented?

- a. all types
- b. other

All types.

25. How long should the pilot project last?

1 year

26. Which data should be collected in the pilot project?

- a. alphanumeric and biometric
- b. alphanumeric

Alphanumeric

27. Which persons should be targeted in the pilot project?

- a. third country nationals without visa requirements
- b. third country nationals who require a visa
- c. all third country nationals
- d. others

All third country nationals

ICELAND

1. With regard to your border crossing points,
 - a. do you register the number of entries/exits at your border crossing points? If yes, of which categories of persons and in which breakdown (e. g. third country nationals, broken down by persons holding a visa und persons without a visa).

An estimated 98% of the total external flow of passengers to and from Iceland goes through the International airport in Keflavik. At the Keflavik airport only the number of passengers is being recorded without any categorical breakdown.

- b. how many border guards/police officers in total are performing border checks at the external borders?

Border control in Iceland is the responsibility of the Police. There is no independent Border Police in the country but border control is among the obligations the Police Force around the country has, including the Keflavik International Airport. A total of 50 police officers can be estimated working on a daily bases as border guards in the country.

- c. how many entries of third country nationals did you have last year (2008)? (or estimation)
 - i. with visa
 - ii. without visa
 - d. how many exits of third country nationals did you have last year (2008)? (or estimation)
 - i. with visa
 - ii. without visa

Reply c-d: In the year 2008 the total number of passengers going through the external borders, on exit and entry, was 733.736 (est.). No categorical breakdown exists. A total guesswork of how many visa nationals went through the borders might be about 1-2 % of the total number of passengers, giving a number of 7000-14000.

- e. how many entries of EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons did you have last year (2008)? (or estimation)
 - f. how many exits of EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons did you have last year (2008)? (or estimation)

Reply e-f: A guesswork would be about 50-60% of the total number of passengers, giving a number between 366.868 and 440.242 of EU passengers going through the external borders in the year 2008.

2. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an entry check at the external land border for
 - a. third country nationals holding a visa,
 - b. third country nationals without a visa,
 - c. EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons

There are no land borders in Iceland.

3. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an exit check at the external land border for
- third country nationals holding a visa,
 - third country nationals without a visa,
 - EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons

There are no land borders in Iceland.

4. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an entry check at the external air border for
- third country nationals holding a visa - about 60-120 seconds on average
 - third country nationals without a visa - about 25-45 seconds on average
 - EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons - about 5-10 seconds on average to check an EU/EEA citizen.
5. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an exit check at the external air border for
- third country nationals holding a visa - about 40-60 seconds on average
 - third country nationals without a visa - about 25-35 seconds on average
 - EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons - 5-10 seconds on average to check EU/EEA citizens.
6. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an entry check at the external sea border for
- third country nationals holding a visa,
 - third country nationals without a visa,
 - EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons

No information available. It may take as long as checks at the air border, or slightly longer.

7. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an exit check at the external sea border for
- third country nationals holding a visa,
 - third country nationals without a visa,
 - EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons

No information available. It may take as long as checks at the air border, or slightly longer.

8. How many illegal immigrants does your country have within the territory (estimation)?
- upper level estimate - 250
 - lower level estimate - 100

Note: In order to receive comparable answers for the purpose of this questionnaire, Member States should consider an illegal migrant as a person who either crossed the border illegally or overstayed the period of an authorized stay. Persons with pending application for international protection etc. shall be excluded from the figures.

9. How many overstayers did your country detect last year (2008)?
- at the border
 - within the territory

The number of overstayers detected at the external borders in Iceland is not being recorded. A few cases are detected each year.

10. What sanctions does your country impose on overstayer detected at exit?

No sanctions are being imposed on overstayers in Iceland when detected on exit.

11. Do you think the future EES should allow for different procedures at different types of border crossing point as regards data collection? (for example: taking into consideration the difficulties faced by border control authorities at some types of borders)

This question seems to be open for a lot of considerations. The important thing is what the system is all about, what it is aimed at. To be able to give accurate information on which foreigners are already staying illegally in the area (overstaying) or of when a certain foreigner entered the area, there is a need for minimum information to be collected at each external border (e.g. name, dob, citizenship and date of entries and exits for at least the past six months).

12. Do you think the aims of an entry/exit system could be achieved by collecting alphanumerical data for the initial period and only after the Member States gain experiences in this field, introduce biometrics?

(What are the aims of the system? Alphanumerical information may be sufficient and a lot easier to handle in terms of data volume and access time, at least to begin with.)

Possible pilot project - related questions

24. In case a pilot project is launched, at what types of borders should the pilot project be implemented?
- all types
 - other

Hard to say. A pilot project should be limited. It might be good to focus only on persons entering and exiting the same border (presenting a return ticket at entry), or the same type of border.

25. How long should the pilot project last?

This could depend on many things like the work of technicians regarding hardware setups and configurations.

26. Which data should be collected in the pilot project?
- a. alphanumeric and biometric
 - b. alphanumeric

Alphanumeric. A pilot project is limited and this might thus be sufficient to start with.

27. Which persons should be targeted in the pilot project?
- a. third country nationals without visa requirements
 - b. third country nationals who require a visa
 - c. all third country nationals
 - d. others

Third country nationals who require a visa. Also, if the pilot project would be implemented at certain types of border, e.g. air borders, then maybe only persons already with a return air-ticket should be targeted (for the pilot project system to be able to register people in and out....).

NORWAY

1. With regard to your border crossing points,
 - a. do you register the number of entries/exits at your border crossing points? If yes, of which categories of persons and in which breakdown (e. g. third country nationals, broken down by persons holding a visa und persons without a visa).

Norway has only one border crossing point at our external land border. The police, who are responsible for border control, register the number of border crossings at this border crossing point. Border crossings at air and maritime border crossing points are not being registered as such. However, the Civil Aviation Authorities and the Sea Port authorities count the number of persons crossing the external air and maritime borders. Passengers on cruise ships and pleasure boats are not included in these numbers. Norway has no information about the nationality of the persons crossing the external air and maritime borders, nor of these persons are subject to a visa-requirement or not.

- b. how many border guards/police officers in total are performing border checks at the external borders?

Some 150 police officers are performing border checks at the external borders as part of their main tasks. In addition a number of police officers are carrying out border checks in addition to other police responsibilities, at border crossing points with small volumes of travellers etc., i.e. at trade seaports.

- c. how many entries of third country nationals did you have last year (2008)? (or estimation)
 - i. with visa
 - ii. without visa
 - d. how many exits of third country nationals did you have last year (2008)? (or estimation)
 - i. with visa
 - ii. without visa
 - e. how many entries of EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons did you have last year (2008)? (or estimation)
 - f. how many exits of EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons did you have last year (2008)? (or estimation)

Reply c-f: No information available.

2. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an entry check at the external land border for
 - a. third country nationals holding a visa - 5 min
 - b. third country nationals without a visa - 3 min
 - c. EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons - 1 min
3. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an exit check at the external land border for
 - a. third country nationals holding a visa - 3 min
 - b. third country nationals without a visa - 2 min
 - c. EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons - 1 min

4. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an entry check at the external air border for
 - a. third country nationals holding a visa - 5 min
 - b. third country nationals without a visa - 3 min
 - c. EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons - 1 min

5. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an exit check at the external air border for
 - a. third country nationals holding a visa - 3 min
 - b. third country nationals without a visa - 2 min
 - c. EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons - 1 min

6. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an entry check at the external sea border for
 - a. third country nationals holding a visa - 5 min
 - b. third country nationals without a visa - 3 min
 - c. EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons - 1 min

7. On average, how long does it currently take to perform an exit check at the external sea border for
 - a. third country nationals holding a visa - 3 min
 - b. third country nationals without a visa - 2 min
 - c. EU citizens and travellers enjoying free movement of persons - 1 min

8. How many illegal immigrants does your country have within the territory (estimation)?
 - a. upper level estimate
 - b. lower level estimate

Note: In order to receive comparable answers for the purpose of this questionnaire, Member States should consider an illegal migrant as a person who either crossed the border illegally or overstayed the period of an authorized stay. Persons with pending application for international protection etc. shall be excluded from the figures.

The estimation was in 2008 that there might be between 10.000 and 30.000 persons who reside illegally in Norway.

9. How many overstayers did your country detect last year (2008)?
 - a. at the border
 - b. within the territory

Norway does unfortunately not collect such statistics yet.

10. What sanctions does your country impose on overstayer detected at exit?

According to Norwegian legislation the detection of unlawful stay is not sufficient to automatically issue a deportation order. Unlawful stay is punished with either a financial penalty, imprisonment, or a combination of both. Norwegian legislation does not provide for an obligation to issue a deportation decision against a foreigner who is lacking a residence permit; a deportation order may be issued, but only after an assessment of the individual case, in which Norwegian authorities shall observe the proportionality criteria.

11. Do you think the future EES should allow for different procedures at different types of border crossing point as regards data collection? (for example: taking into consideration the difficulties faced by border control authorities at some types of borders)

There will be a need of different procedures at some types of crossing points, i.e. trade seaports.

12. Do you think the aims of an entry/exit system could be achieved by collecting alphanumerical data for the initial period and only after the Member States gain experiences in this field, introduce biometrics?

Yes. Norway does think, however, that the use of biometrics should be tried out in pilot projects in an early phase of the roll-out.
