



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL JUSTICE, FREEDOM AND SECURITY

Directorate B : Immigration, Asylum and Borders
Unit B2 : Immigration and Asylum

Brussels, **24 MAI 2005**
JLS-B2/SP/ck D(2005) 5606

HEARING ON AN EU APPROACH TO MANAGING ECONOMIC MIGRATION

Tuesday, 14 June 2005, 09:15 – 18:00

Dear Madame, Sir,

Thank you very much for your contribution to the Green paper on an EU approach to managing economic migration, released by the Commission on 11 January 2005 (COM(2005)811final). The Commission is pleased to inform you that it received more than one hundred written contributions and would like to thank you for your important input to the debate.

The primary aim of the Green Paper was to call for reactions from interested parties and to launch a broad discussion among all relevant stakeholders. The European Parliament, the Council, the Economic and Social Committee, the Committee of the Regions, the candidate countries, third country partners, the social partners, international governmental organisations, non-governmental organisations, the academia and other interested civil society organisations and individuals have been invited to contribute to this discussion.

As a next step, the Commission will host a hearing on an EU approach to managing economic migration on 14 June 2005, from 09:15 to 18:00, in Brussels. The precise location will be published on the dedicated JLS website http://europa.eu.int/comm/justice_home/news/consulting_public/news_consulting_public_en.htm in the course of next week.

After an introductory part in which Vice-President Frattini and Commissioner Špidla will open the works of the day, the hearing will be articulated around three subsequent sessions as outlined in the attached draft agenda. The Commission would be honoured if you or another member of your organisation could attend this event.

We would be grateful if could you **please indicate your interest for attending** the hearing by filling in the registration form in the attachment and sending it to the secretariat of Unit B.2, Ms Lenka Jara (tel.: +32/2/29.21.125; lenka.jara@cec.eu.int), **no later than 30 May 2005**.

Please note that there will be no refund for travel or accommodation costs. Due to the high number of demands for attending this hearing and to the limited number of seats available, I would kindly ask you to enroll only if you are certain to participate in the event.

Yours faithfully,

Nicola Anecchino
Head of Unit

Annex: Draft agenda for the hearing on an EU approach to managing economic migration
Registration form

HEARING ON A COMMUNITY ECONOMIC MIGRATION POLICY

Tuesday, 14 June 2005

Charlemagne Building, room S3
170 rue de la Loi, 1040 Brussels (Metro: Schuman)

PROGRAMME

08:45 – 09:15 **Arrival and enrolment of participants**

09:15 – 10.15 **Opening and introduction**

Chair: *Mr. Jonathan Faull*, European Commission, Director General, Directorate General Justice, Freedom and Security

Mr. Franco Frattini, European Commission, Vice-President responsible for Justice, Freedom and Security

Mr Vladimir Spidla, European Commission, Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities

Luxembourg Presidency of the European Union

10.15 – 10.30 Coffee break

10.30 – 12.30 **Session 1: Developing a common policy on economic migration:
What degree of harmonisation should the EU aim at?**

Chair: *Mr. Jonathan Faull*, European Commission, Director General, Directorate General Justice, Freedom and Security

The first session will focus on the added value of having an EU approach to economic migration and on what could be the most feasible and effective approach to be pursued when trying to devise EU measures in this field: e.g. a horizontal approach, sectoral legislative proposals and/or a common fast – track procedure. The discussion will need to take into account the present and future trends in the EU labour market, and the need for labour migrants in the context of the implementation of the revised Lisbon agenda.

Questions from the floor and conclusions of the morning discussion

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch break

14:00 – 15.45 **Session 2: Admission procedures for paid and self-employment**

Chair: *Mr Antonis Kastrissianakis*, European Commission, Director, Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities

Session II will focus on which procedure(s) should be adopted at EU level for the admission of economic migrants – taking into account the different needs in the Member States' labour markets – and address issues such as: how to apply the principle of Community preference in an effective way, the admission systems that can be tested at EU level (economic needs test and/or special schemes, i.e. for seasonal workers, sectoral

fast track procedures, etc), the advantages/disadvantages of a combined “work-residence permit”, etc and network facilitating exchange of information

Questions from the floor and conclusions of the panel’s discussion

15:45 – 16:00 Coffee break

16:00 – 17:45 Session 3: Rights of the migrants workers, integration, return and cooperation with the countries of origin and transit

Chair: *Mrs Odile Quintin*, European Commission, Director General, Directorate for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities

Session III will be devoted to discussing the measures which should accompany any EU common framework for the admission of economic migrants. It will address questions such as, which rights should be granted to third-country nationals at EU level, whether or not rights could be given as incentives for the categories of migrants needed in the EU, integration policies and cooperation with countries of origin on the admission and return of third-country workers.

17:45 – 18:00 Closing Session: Results, Conclusions and Follow-up

Mr. Jean-Louis De Brouwer, European Commission, Director, Directorate General Justice, Freedom and Security