

# **SALZBURG FORUM MINISTERIAL MEETING**

*29-30 May 2009, Warsaw*

## **COMMON CONCLUSIONS**

### **of the Ministers responsible for Internal Affairs of the Salzburg Forum**

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On the occasion of their ministerial conference under the Polish Presidency on 29-30 May 2009 in Warsaw, the Ministers of the Salzburg Forum countries, together with Croatia as an observer, adopted the following conclusions related to the Forum Salzburg initiatives:

Considering the Salzburg Forum as a very important and efficient platform for enhancing co-operation of law enforcement services,

the Ministers of the Salzburg Forum declare their wish to continue the efforts aiming to improve safety within the Salzburg Forum countries and for their citizens by enhancing close co-operation.

1. Bearing in mind that all our activities are designed and realized in order to provide security for every citizen and to enhance confidence in the law enforcement services, the Ministers of the Salzburg Forum declare their wish to continue the initiative of citizens' perception of and confidence in public order services to make their activities recognizable and understandable for the citizens of our countries. In line with this initiative and in order to foster transparency the Ministers of the Salzburg Forum present their work and initiatives on the newly established Salzburg Forum Homepage.
2. Desiring to preserve the welfare of citizens from the countries affiliated in the Salzburg Forum, as well as aiming to make mass sport event security one of the priorities of the security-oriented policy and noting the particularly significant role that mass sport events play in creating human relations of friendship in the spirit of

sport competition, the Ministers of the Salzburg Forum declare their support to continue discussing the possibility to conclude an international agreement on the mutual recognition of the ban on entry into sport events for the fans who may pose a threat to public order.

3. Regarding that road safety is one of the priority issues on the Salzburg Forum agenda, and bearing in mind the observation that the number of people injured and killed in road events is increasing, especially those caused by drug-using drivers, the Ministers consider it necessary to continue the discussion thereon during the meeting of the Salzburg Forum Working Group for Driving Safety at the beginning of June 2009.

Considering the fact that the abovementioned threat requires additional measures taken by individual countries and the European Union institutions, the Ministers of the Salzburg Forum assure that they will analyse the future Recommendation of the Salzburg Forum Working Group for Driving Safety with a view to implement its conclusions at European Union level. Concrete ways of the enforcement of financial penalties should be worked out which may later on serve as a model for interested SF countries and as a solution on European level..

4. Recognizing the implications of the current economic crisis for Police work, and in particular an increase in crimes against property, increased violent behaviour at demonstrations and mass events, as well as growing propensity for violence which are commonly felt in all Salzburg Forum countries, SF Member States decided to organise a joint meeting of Police experts examining possible ways to step up operational cooperation, make the best use of resources, enhance increase of information flow and learn from each other, while ensuring the full compliance with the provisions of the Schengen acquis relating to the movement of persons.
5. Identifying the better use of new technologies as one of the crucial means to develop and strengthen the Member States' response to threats, the Ministers of the Salzburg Forum declare their readiness to support the realization of the Pilot Project in the Integrated Border Management and to support the Salzburg Forum Member States

which take part in the Project. The Ministers of the Salzburg Forum also support to continue the initiative on cooperation concerning civil crisis management.

The Ministers of the Salzburg Forum countries, who represents the EU Member States adopted the following conclusions concerning EU issues:

6. As the security and effective management of the European Union external borders are among the priorities in the European Union, the Ministers of the Salzburg Forum express their concern about the delays in the work on the SIS II project that occurred in the past. The Ministers of the Salzburg Forum welcome the efforts made by the Czech Presidency to develop a plan in order to accelerate the way to recover from this problem. The Schengen Area is a functioning reality and these delays should not undermine its positive perception among our citizens. The Ministers of the Salzburg Forum find it necessary to develop a stable system that would introduce new functionalities. .
7. The Salzburg Forum countries shall continue to support Bulgaria and Romania in their efforts to reach the Schengen standards and to join the Schengen area, in accordance with the foreseen calendar.
8. With a view of the upcoming JHA Council of 4 – 5 June, the Ministers of Interior of the Salzburg Forum who represent the EU Member States exchanged the opinion on the first Asylum Package. Conscious of the importance to complete the Common European Asylum System for the European Union, the Ministers of the Salzburg Forum state their wish for a debate on policy directions for establishing the so-called 2nd phase in the Council of the European Union and for a comprehensive still outstanding evaluation of existing legislation in this area. Legislation should be founded on the principles of a fair and swift examination of the claims of applicants for asylum or international protection, the avoidance of additional pull factors and the prevention of abuse. Furthermore, the interests of the Member States of the European Union should be taken duly into account in legislative proposals especially in terms of their financial and administrative capacity.

9. The Ministers of the Salzburg Forum who represent the EU Member States welcome the works on the next multi-annual programme in the area of freedom, security and justice for 2010-2014, commonly referred to as the Stockholm programme, being currently underway within the European Union.

The Salzburg Forum Ministers are looking forward to the European Commission communication on the new multi-annual programme in that area planned to be presented on 10 June 2009.

10. The Ministers of the Salzburg Forum welcome the priorities of the Romanian Presidency in the second semester of 2009 and consider the proposals useful and consistent

Warsaw, 30<sup>th</sup> May 2009