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B5-0268/2003

## **PROPOSAL FOR A RECOMMENDATION**

pursuant to Rule 49(1) of the Rules of Procedure

by Carlos Coelho

on behalf of the PPE-DE Group

on the second-generation Schengen information system (SIS II)

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**B5-0268/2003****Recommendation on the second-generation Schengen information system (SIS II)***The European Parliament,*

- having regard to Rule 49(1) of the Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the Council has decided to develop a new second-generation Schengen Information System (SIS II),
- B. whereas SIS II should allow for:
  - enlargement: SIS II will have to be designed to handle more than double the number of Member States that the current SIS deals with;
  - new developments: SIS II must have the potential to handle a significantly larger quantity of data and to be extended to cope with new information types, new subjects, further new functions and new categories of users,
  - economy: SIS II should be more homogenous from the user's perspective in order to remain manageable and cost-effective despite having more users and functions,
- C. whereas on 18 February 2003, in accordance with the requirement under Article 6 of Council Regulation 2424/2001 on the development of the second-generation Schengen Information System (SIS II) of 6 December 2001, the Commission published a staff working paper on SIS II (SEC(2003) 206),
- D. whereas the target date for SIS II given by the Council is set at around 2006 and whereas, in order to achieve this, the Council intends to decide on the terms of reference for the new system in July,
- E. whereas the European Parliament should have the opportunity to express its views on the development of SIS II before the decision on the terms of reference is taken,
- F. whereas there are still many open questions to which answers need to be found,
  1. Takes the view that the selection of the functional specifications and the network for SIS II will have wide implications for its operational management;
  2. Believes that the SIS cannot continue to be managed in secrecy on a purely intergovernmental basis, given the incorporation of the Schengen *acquis* in the Treaties, and that it should be managed by the Commission;
  3. Recalls that the SIS contains extremely sensitive personal data and that the Joint Supervisory Authority raised concerns concerning the data quality and data protection

aspects in particular;

4. Calls on the Council to ensure that the safeguards for the protection of citizens' rights are not undermined;
5. Calls in consequence on the Council to cooperate closely with data protection authorities;
6. Considers it imperative – especially in view of enlargement and the challenge of effective external border controls – that the EU institutions and all the Member States should work together in every phase of setting up SIS II;
7. Demands therefore to be closely involved in the development of SIS II;