



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 21 February 2013

6621/13

**Interinstitutional File:
2012/0334 (NLE)**

**VISA 42
COEST 37
OC 79**

"I/A" ITEM NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
to: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

No. Cion prop.: 16883/12 VISA 236 COEST 410

Subject: Council Decision on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Armenia on the facilitation of the issuance of short-stay visas
COMMON GUIDELINES
Consultation deadline for Croatia: 20.02.2013

1. On 27 November 2012, the Commission submitted a proposal for a Council Decision on the signature¹ and a proposal concerning the conclusion² of the Agreement between the European Union and Armenia on the facilitation of the issuance of short-stay visas.
2. Following their legal and linguistic revision, the Decision on signature³ was adopted by the Council on 5 December 2012 and the Agreement⁴ was signed on 17 December 2012 in Brussels.

¹ 16881/12 VISA 235 COEST 409.

² 16883/12 VISA 236 COEST 410.

³ 16900/12 VISA 237 COEST 411 OC 693, published in OJ L 3, 8.1.2013, p.1.

⁴ 16913/12 VISA 238 COEST 414 OC 694.

3. In accordance with Article 218(6)(a)(v) of the Treaty on the functioning of the European Union, the Council shall adopt the Decision concluding the Agreement after obtaining the consent of the European Parliament.
4. This Decision constitutes a development of the provisions of the Schengen acquis in which the United Kingdom does not take part, in accordance with Council Decision 2000/365/EC of 29 May 2000 concerning the request of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to take part in some of the provisions of the Schengen acquis¹; the United Kingdom is therefore not taking part in its adoption and is not bound by it or subject to its application.
5. This Decision constitutes a development of the provisions of the Schengen acquis in which Ireland does not take part, in accordance with Council Decision 2002/192/EC of 28 February 2002 concerning Ireland's request to take part in some of the provisions of the Schengen acquis²; Ireland is therefore not taking part in its adoption and is not bound by it or subject to its application.
6. In accordance with Articles 1 and 2 of the Protocol (No 22) on the position of Denmark, annexed to the Treaty on European Union and to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, Denmark is not taking part in the adoption of this Decision and is not bound by it or subject to its application.
7. With a view to preparing for the conclusion of the Agreement, the Permanent Representatives Committee is on this basis invited to suggest that the Council, under part "A" of the agenda of its meeting on 5 March 2013, decide to forward the draft decision on conclusion as contained in 5835/13 VISA 24 COEST 18 OC 46 as well as the text of the Agreement as contained in 16913/12 VISA 238 COEST 414 OC 694 (texts finalised by the legal linguist experts) to the European Parliament for its consent once the draft decision on conclusion in relation to the Agreement between the EU and Armenia on the readmission of persons residing without authorisation has also been agreed on for being forwarded to the EP.

¹ OJ L 131, 1.6.2000, p. 43.

² OJ L 64, 7.3.2002, p. 20.