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From: Secretary-General of the European Commission,
signed by Mr Jordi AYET PUIGARNAU, Director

date of receipt: 16 June 2015

To: Mr Uwe CORSEPIUS, Secretary-General of the Council of the European
Union

No. Cion doc.: C(2015) 3894 final

Subject: COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION of 15.6.2015 amending the
Recommendation establishing a common "Practical Handbook for Border
Guards (Schengen Handbook)" to be used by Member States' competent
authorities when carrying out the border control of persons (C (2006) 5186
final)

Delegations will find attached document C(2015) 3894 final.

Encl.: C(2015) 3894 final



Brussels, 15.6.2015
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COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

of 15.6.2015

amending the Recommendation establishing a common "Practical Handbook for Border Guards (Schengen Handbook)" to be used by Member States' competent authorities when carrying out the border control of persons (C (2006) 5186 final)

COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

of 15.6.2015

amending the Recommendation establishing a common "Practical Handbook for Border Guards (Schengen Handbook)" to be used by Member States' competent authorities when carrying out the border control of persons (C (2006) 5186 final)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 292 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Commission Recommendation of 6 November 2006 C(2006)5186 established a "Practical Handbook for Border Guards (Schengen Handbook)" containing common guidelines, best practice and recommendations on border controls.
- (2) The Commission committed itself to ensuring regular updates of the Practical Handbook for Border Guards. It did so by Commission Recommendations C(2008)2976, C(2009)7376, C(2010)5559, C(2011)3918 and C(2012)9330.
- (3) The Practical Handbook for Border Guards should be adjusted to the changes of Regulation (EC) No 562/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council¹ brought by Regulation (EU) No 610/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council².
- (4) The Practical Handbook for Border Guards should reflect the accession of Croatia to the Union on 1 July 2013.
- (5) The terminology of the Practical Handbook for Border Guards should be aligned with the Lisbon Treaty, which entered into force on 1 December 2009, including the replacement of the European Community by the European Union.
- (6) The Practical Handbook for Border Guards should take into account mandatory verification of fingerprints of short-stay visa holders on entry at the Schengen external borders as of 11 October 2014, as required under Article 7(3)(aa) of Regulation (EC)

¹ Regulation (EC) No 562/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 March 2006 establishing a Community Code on the rules governing the movement of persons across borders (Schengen Borders Code) (OJ L 105, 13.4.2006, p. 1)

² Regulation (EU) No 610/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2013 amending Regulation (EC) No 562/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a Community Code on the rules governing the movement of persons across borders (Schengen Borders Code), the Convention implementing the Schengen Agreement, Council Regulations (EC) No 1683/95 and (EC) No 539/2001 and Regulations (EC) No 767/2008 and (EC) No 810/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 182, 29.6.2013, p. 1).

No 562/2006 and Article 18 of the Regulation No 767/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council³.

HEREBY RECOMMENDS:

1. The Annex to the Recommendation of 6 November 2006 (C(2006)5186 final) should be amended as set out in the Annex to this Recommendation.
2. Member States should transmit the amendments to the Practical Handbook for Border Guards, laid down in this Recommendation, to their national authorities competent for carrying out border controls on persons.

Done at Brussels, 15.6.2015

*For the Commission
Dimitris Avramopoulos
Member of the Commission*

³ Regulation (EC) No 767/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 July 2008 concerning the Visa Information System (VIS) and the exchange of data between Member States on short-stay visas (VIS Regulation) (OJ L 218, 13.8.2008, p. 60).