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Registered Traveller Programmes: EU perspectives and requirements

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Workshop on Registered Traveller Programmes
Brussels, 27 June 2007

Agenda

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1. Background on Registered Traveller (RT) initiatives in EU
2. Objectives of RT programmes
3. EU activities and planning
4. Challenges and long-term vision



Focussing in on DG JLS and its Units B/1 and B/3

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DG Justice, Freedom and Security (JLS) in European Commission

Relevant policy areas in Hague Programme:

- Immigration/integration, Asylum, Borders
- Data protection, freedom of movement
- Crime prevention, terrorism

DG JLS Unit B/3: Large Scale IT Systems

- Manage operations of ~~EURODAC~~ ~~Project Manager~~ ~~an Information system II~~ project, plus

Together Units B/1 and B/3 are investigating possible future Entry/Exit systems and Registered Traveller Programmes

~~Biometric Match~~

project (including a

DG JLS Unit B/1 Borders and Visas

- Visa policy and management of external borders, legal basis of VIS



Background

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Origin of RT in EU?

- Proposed as long-term possibility in the Commission's 'Synergies Communication' of November 2005
- Aspect of transatlantic dialogue with US in the Commission's Communication on 'A stronger EU-US Partnership and a more open market for the 21st century' of May 2005
- Need to increase security but ensure border crossing times do not increase - ABC concept
- Need to focus resources on more 'risky' groups – also relates to crime and terrorism

RTP developments in Member States, 3rd countries

- Advanced pilots and successful programmes:
 - E.g. Privium at Schiphol; IRIS, MiSense pilot in UK
 - Pegase in CDG, Frankfurt pilot
 - US TSA Clear programme, SPT initiatives



Commission studies

DG JLS + DG TREN*

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Objective to be pursued:

‘Facilitate the crossing of the EU external border for *bona fide* travellers (both 3rd country nationals and EU citizens) via automated or semi-automated border crossing procedures on entry and exit, thus allowing to better focus resources on border controls’

DG TREN

- Feasibility study of ‘Registered Passenger Concept’
- Focus on aviation security

DG JLS

- Preliminary study on legal, social, political, environmental aspects of entry/exit and RTP
- Scenarios to be defined

DG JLS

- Technical feasibility study to be carried out on basis of selected and validated scenarios

Merged results of studies will steer debate among Member States and European Parliament regarding next steps, pilot programmes

Main challenges

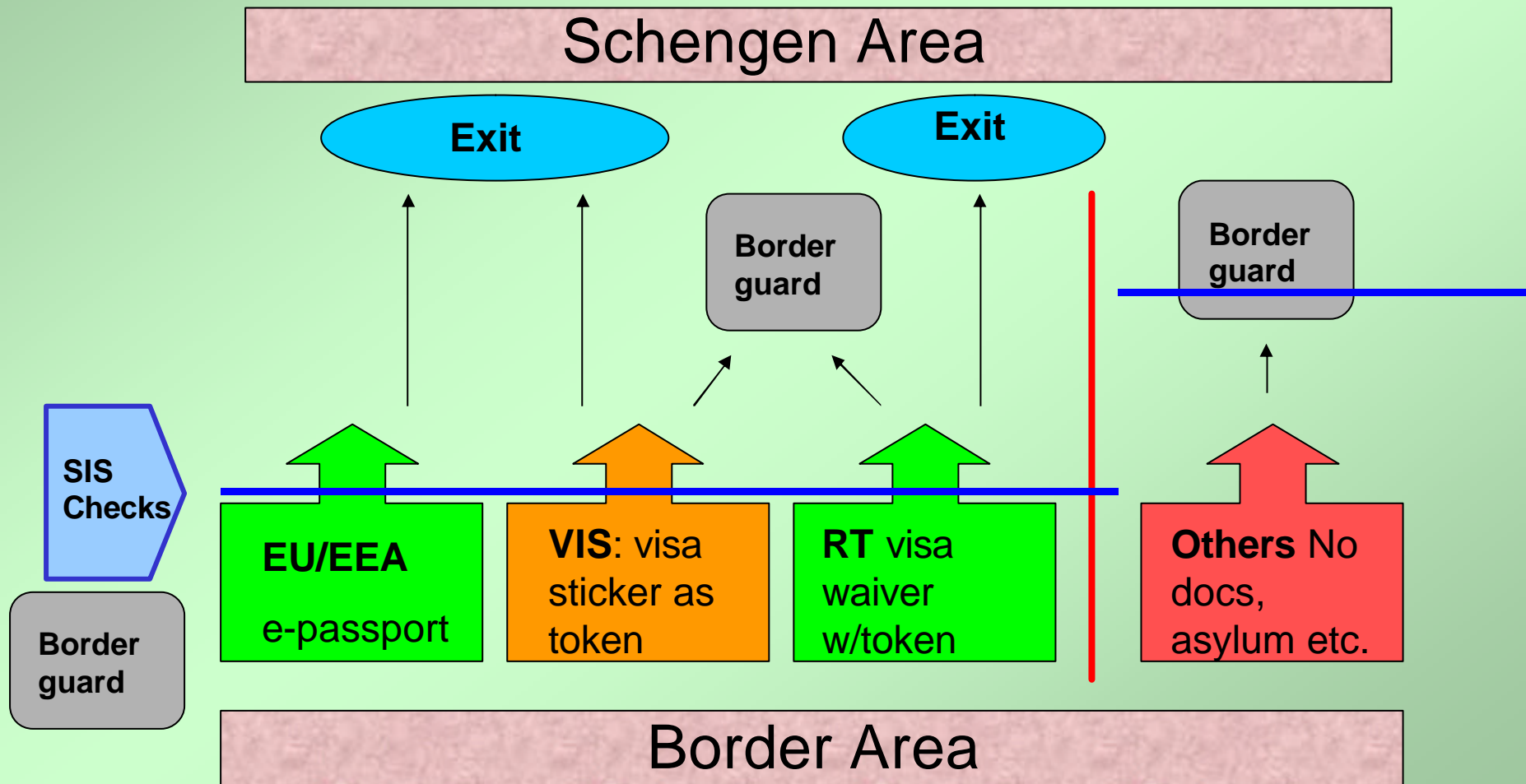
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- ✓ defining **concepts** e.g. legal framework, control of individuals vs. security controls, infrastructure, **social acceptance** (“class society”)
- ✓ legislation (EU + national), Schengen compatibility
- ✓ defining **stakeholder requirements**
- ✓ defining **criteria** for identifying bona fide travellers, eligibility requirements
- ✓ Ensuring **appropriate infrastructure** at borders
- ✓ Data-sharing agreements between governments
- ✓ **Privacy/ data protection issues**
- ✓ Interoperability (technical and functional)



Integrated Border management Automated Border Control

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Future vision

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Next steps:

- Completion of all studies and presentation in Council by end 2007
- Possible extension of existing/pilot programmes?
- New, more comprehensive pilots in Member States?
- Setting up joint pilots with Schengen/ extra-Schengen MS?
- Question of future third country partnerships? Global technical interoperability must be established BUT appropriate legal framework needed
- Any data-sharing arrangements must safeguard privacy and integrity of personal data

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Thank you

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