

Residence permits: uniform format, biometric identifiers

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Subject to a parliamentary scrutiny reservation by the Polish delegation, the Council adopted the conclusions in which it invites the Commission to make every effort, including with respect to budgetary programming, to bring the activation of biometric identifiers in the development of the central part of the VIS forward to 2006.

Lastly, it invites the Commission to amend its proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation 1030/2002/EC laying down a uniform format for residence permits for third-country nationals to take account of the consensus reached by the Council on incorporating biometric identifiers into residence permits in the form of a separate card within a period of 24 months, and to take account of the Council's desire to discontinue the use of residence permits in the form of stickers.