ARTICLE 29 Data Protection Working Party



Brussels, **2 9 MAI 2007** D(2007) 6124

Mr. Franco Frattini Commissioner for Justice Freedom and Security European Commission Rue de la Loi 200 B - 1049 Brussels

Dear Mr. Frattini,

The European Agency for Fundamental Rights established by Council Regulation of 12 February 2007 (Doc 16241/06) has resumed its duties on 1 March. In this connection the Council will adopt a Multi-Annual Framework covering the next five years to determine the future areas of activities. The Art. 29 Working Party learned that this will be done on a proposal from the Commission after consultation with the European Parliament.

I consider it very important that data protection as a fundamental right is an integral part of this framework. All Data Protection Commissioners agreed at the last plenary meeting of the Art. 29 Working Party which took place in April 2007 that the Agency might be of great help in strengthening and promoting this fundamental right. The work of the Agency and the Article 29 Working Party might create valuable synergies for our civic society. For that reason, I, as Chairman of the Article 29 Working Party would appreciate if the Commission could include in its proposal of the future work programme data protection as a general theme and other specific items such as discrimination of citizens due to their score values available on them in the economic area to be considered by the European Agency for Fundamental Rights.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Schaar Chairman

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This Working Party was set up under Article 29 of Directive 95/46/EC. It is an independent European advisory body on data protection and privacy. Its tasks are described in Article 30 of Directive 95/46/EC and Article 15 of Directive 2002/58/EC.

The secretariat is provided by Directorate C (Civil Justice, Rights and Citizenship) of the European Commission, Directorate General Justice, Freedom and Security, B-1049 Brussels, Belgium, Office No LX-46 01/43.

Website: http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/fsj/privacy/index_en.htm