REPORT

from: Steering Group I (Asylum/Immigration)
on: 8 and 9 November 1993
to: Article K.4 Committee
No. prev. doc.: WGi 1620

Subject: Report to the Council on the progress of work carried out with a view to implementation of the Dublin Convention (1)

1. The Dublin Convention was signed in Dublin on 15 June 1990 and in Luxembourg on 13 June 1991. Following the signing by all the Member States, work was put in hand to enable the Convention to enter into force immediately after ratification by the Member States.

2. In order to ensure that co-operation between the Member States was as effective as possible when the State responsible for examining an application for asylum was being determined, the Twelve agreed to establish common procedures and to harmonize their views on a number of questions. The result of this work is given in the Annex.

(1) General reservation by the Spanish delegation.
As a result the preparations for implementation of the Dublin Convention are now completed. This means that the Article 18 Committee will be able to approve all of these instruments after the Dublin Convention enters into force.

4. Work is meanwhile continuing on the possibility of setting up a computerized system for identifying fingerprints (Eurodac). Invitations to tender were issued in July 1993 and tenders were received from applicants to evaluate user requirements.

These tenders are currently being assessed and it is possible that a final decision may be taken before the end of 1993. This would enable the consultant to make a rapid start on the work with a view to bringing it to completion towards the middle of 1994.
WORK COMPLETED
IN THE CONTEXT OF THE DUBLIN CONVENTION

The following documents were finalized in earlier proceedings:

- (WGI 938 REV 1) Standard form for determining the State responsible for examining an application for asylum
- (WGI 1028) Conclusions on the burden of proof and the interpretation of certain Articles of the Convention
- (WGI 1039 REV 1) Calculation of periods of time
- (WGI 1193 REV 1) Flow chart concerning determination of the State responsible for examining applications for asylum lodged under the Dublin Convention
- (WGI 1269) Conclusions on the transfer of asylum applicants
- (WGI 1278) Decisions on the preparation of a joint handbook of European asylum practice (compilation of texts)
- (WGI 1495 and WGI 1631 REV 1) Joint handbook for the application of the Dublin Convention
- (WGI 1505) Compilation of texts on European practice with respect to asylum
- (9948/93 ASiM 5) Conclusions regarding evidence in the context of the Dublin Convention
- (9950/93 ASiM 7) Documents for use in the context of the transfer of applicants for asylum
- Computerized programme for the implementation of the Dublin Convention.