



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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NOTE

From :	General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union
To :	Member States
Subject :	Framework Decision on the European Arrest Warrant – state of implementation by Member States

According to the information the General Secretariat of the Council has received by 22 December 2003, the following eight **Member States will apply** the regime of the **European Arrest Warrant** and surrender procedures **as from 1 January 2004** in their relations to other Member States that have passed legislation under the Framework Decision:

Belgium, Denmark, Ireland, Finland, Spain, Sweden, Portugal and the United Kingdom.

At the time of the drafting of this note, these eight Member States have informed the General Secretariat that they have adopted their national legislation. Finland, Ireland and Belgium have in addition informed the General Secretariat that their legislation will be submitted for signature by the President of Finland on 30 December, by the President of Ireland and the King of Belgium before the end of the year. This will enable them to operate the European Arrest Warrant from 1 January 2004.

The Council General Secretariat would like to request Member States to inform the Secretariat immediately after they have adopted the legislation on the European arrest warrant with information on the date of entry into force of this legislation. The Council General Secretariat will then distribute this information to all Member States and Acceding States so that everyone is informed in the speediest manner about which Member States have implemented the Framework Decision on the European arrest warrant. Further information on the operation of the European Arrest Warrant may be found at <http://ue.eu.int/ejn2/default.asp?lang=EN>.

The General Secretariat of the Council would like to draw the attention of delegations to the fact that any information or notifications sent in after 23 December 2003, will not be able to be transmitted to delegations until next year since the Council will be closed as from 23 December, 18.00 h.

Member States are kindly requested to inform, preferably by e-mail, either of the following persons at the General Secretariat:

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The General Secretariat reminds delegations of the declarations they may or are obliged to make in accordance with the Framework Decision, Articles 6(3), 7(2), 8(2), 25(2), 27(1), 28(1) and 31(2). For the practical operation of the European arrest warrant, the notification under Article 6(3) would seem to be particularly important.