

Report to the Biometric Focus group on May 31 from the Porvoo 7 meeting May 26 and 27 in Reykjavik, Iceland.

The meeting was attended by 79 government representatives of 20 countries, including the US, Japan, a UN representative and 3 EC officials.

1. The Porvoo group thanks the BFG for its advice on the standardisation of fingerprint minutiae in relation to the matching on card request. In particular Nicolas Delveau and Christophe Bush were mentioned who helped Jan van Arkel in formulating the BFG advice.

2. The Porvoo group discussed in its meeting once more the issue of matching on card. Given the situation that in the wake of the ePassport developments a number of countries is envisioning to set up a central database with fingerprint data the Porvoo group realised that the privacy advantage of matching on card has considerably lost in value. The convenience and performance issue is however still valid.

3. The Porvoo group realised that given the situation that: :

- the EC ePassport technical specification for fingerprint are expected in the near future
- minimum common security standards for national eID cards will be published by the EC in a report due in July 2005 (following a EU Member State meeting in The Hague in April 2005)
- the MINIOX test report on interoperability will deliver its results at the end of 2005,
- the outcome of the ILO seafarers biometric test might also lead to adaptation of the relevant standard,

the Porvoo group has decided to take no further resolutions on this subject at this time but to address the issue once again in 6 month time at its next meeting.

The Porvoo group asks its co-chair and liaison to the BFG Jan van Arkel to inform the BFG accordingly.