

ARTICLE 29 Data Protection Working Party



Brussels, 03 April 2012
just.c.3(2012)439788

Vice-President Viviane Reding
Commissioner for Justice,
Fundamental Rights and
Citizenship
European Commission
B – 1049 Brussels

Dear Ms Reding,

Following Article 30 of the Directive 95/46/EC, the Working Party has adopted favourable opinions on the adequacy levels of both Uruguay on 12 October 2010 and New Zealand on 4 April 2011.

Since more than a year has passed, I would like to urge the Commission to make progress on both files and convene a meeting of the Article 31 committee as soon as possible to ensure both countries can be accepted as ensuring an adequate level of data protection, in the sense of Article 25 of the Directive.

Whilst I naturally fully understand the workload of your services during the last year, I feel that considering the importance the Commission attaches to the adequacy regime, the processes of assessing the adequacy of both Uruguay and New Zealand must be speeded up. As you are probably aware, this year's International Conference of Data Protection and Privacy Commissioners will take place in Uruguay, therefore I would like to urge you to ensure that in both cases a decision is taken before the summer.

Yours sincerely,

On behalf of the Article 29 Working Party,

Jacob Kohnstamm
Chairman

CC: Marie Shroff, Privacy Commissioner of New Zealand
José Clastornik, Executive Director of the Agencia de Gobierno Electrónico y Sociedad de la Información of Uruguay

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 (Fundamental Rights and Union Citizenship) of the European Commission, Directorate General Justice, B-1049 Brussels, Belgium, Office No MO-59 02/013.

Website: http://ec.europa.eu/justice/policies/privacy/index_en.htm