NOTE

From: Norwegian delegation

to: Working Party on Frontiers/Mixed Committee
(EU-Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland)


Delegations will find attached a copy of a letter received by the General Secretariat of the Council on 30 November 2009 concerning the temporary reintroduction of internal Schengen border controls between 26 November and 12 December 2009.
Brussels, 26 November 2009

Dear Mr Solana,

As a result of increased security requirements for the Nobel Peace Prize Ceremony, to be held in Oslo, 10th of December 2009, the Norwegian Government has found it necessary to prepare for the possibility to reintroduce border checks at internal Schengen borders in accordance with Article 23(1) of Regulation (EC) No 562/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 March 2006 (Schengen Borders Code).

From 26th of November to 12th of December 2009, border checks will therefore be carried out at Norwegian land, air and sea borders, as the situation requires. The scale and intensity of these border checks will not exceed what is necessary for security in each case. Depending on police intelligence, such checks are not to be carried out permanently or comprehensively, but in a flexible manner as to time and place.

This measure is necessary in order for the Norwegian border control authorities to discharge their duties in full at internal borders. It is designed in particular to prevent potential violent troublemakers from travelling to venues in Norway and thus to help prevent disruption to the ceremony.

While border crossing will normally continue to be allowed all along internal borders, travellers may experience border control checks at any point on them.

I should be grateful if you would pass on this information to all states taking part in the Schengen cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Oda Helen Sletnes
Ambassador

Javier Solana
European Union
Secretary General of the Council of the European Union
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B-1048 Brussels