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THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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from : Dr Ernst STRASSER, Austrian Federal Minister for the Interior  
date of receipt : 4 March 2002  
to : Mr Javier SOLANA, Secretary-General/High Representative

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Subject : Application of Article 2(2) of the Schengen Convention

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Delegations will find attached a copy of a letter on the above subject.

**Dr Ernst STRASSER**  
**Federal Minister for the Interior**

Vienna, 4 March 2002

To: Mr Javier Solana  
Secretary-General/High Representative for the CFSP  
Council of the European Union  
Rue de la Loi 175  
B – 1048 Brussels

Dear Mr Solana,

The Iranian President, Mr KHATAMI, will be paying an official visit to Austria from 11 to 13 March.

In view of the current situation, a possible threat to public security on the occasion of this visit cannot be ruled out. For this reason Austria has decided, in accordance with Article 2(2) of the Schengen Convention, to reinstate border checks temporarily at the land borders with Germany and Italy and at the airports in Vienna, Linz, Salzburg, Innsbruck, Graz and Klagenfurt.

This measure is limited to the period from 00.00 on 7 March to 12.00 on 13 March 2002.

In accordance with Decision SCH/Com-ex 20 rev 2 of 20 December 1995, may I ask you to inform the Schengen States of the measure adopted by Austria and to request that they too respond to the threat to public security by stepping up checks accordingly, so as to confront the threat as effectively as possible.

I have arranged for a separate crisis management centre to be set up for this occasion in my department; during the period in which border checks are reinstated it can be reached under telephone number +43-1-53126-4101 or 4103, fax number +43-1-53126-4110 or 4111 and by e-mail address [EBTJD@bmi.gv.at](mailto:EBTJD@bmi.gv.at).

May I ask you also to pass on this information to the Schengen States and to ask them to forward to us via one of the above means any observations they may have.

I shall also notify all my counterparts in the European Union of the measures taken by Austria and – as hitherto in the course of preparing for this visit – closely coordinate the measures to be taken with the neighbouring States, so as to prevent as far as possible any obstructions of traffic.

Thank you in advance for your support.

(Complimentary close)

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