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NOTE

From:	Estonian delegation
To:	Working Party on Frontiers/Mixed Committee
	(EU-Iceland/Liechtenstein/Norway/Switerland)
No. prev. doc.:	7025/20
Subject:	Prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls at the Estonian internal borders in accordance with Article 28 of Regulation (EU) 2016/399 on a Union Code on the rules governing the movement of persons across borders (Schengen Borders Code)

Delegations will find attached a copy of a letter received by the General Secretariat of the Council on 16 April 2020 regarding the prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls by Estonia at the internal borders between 16 April and 1 May 2020.

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Ylva JOHANSSON EU-Commissioner for Home-Affairs

Ministers of the Interior EU Member States and Schengen Countries

Prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border control at the internal borders of Estonia 15.04.2020 ne 9-8/13-1

Dear colleagues,

Estonia has informed you about the reintroduction of border control as of 17 March at land, sea and air borders of the Republic of Estonia. On 25 March, also about the prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border control at the internal borders until 15 April 2020.

Although the number of detected cases of coronavirus remains relatively stable in Estonia at the moment, the overall epidemiological situation in Estonia as well in Europe continues to be critical. To prevent the spread of the virus, all nationwide measures and limitations, which have been taken to deal with the emergency situation remain in place. Therefore, Estonia, based on Article 28 (3) of the Regulation (EU) 2016/399, on a Union Code on the rules governing the movement of persons across borders (Schengen Borders Code), has decided to prolong the temporary reintroduction of border control at the Republic's internal borders for additional 16 days until 1 May 2020 23:59.

The list of temporary border crossings points through which it is possible to cross internal borders remains the same as indicated in our notification from 17 March 2020. The movement of persons wishing to return to their countries of residence, for the purpose of frontier work and transport of goods is not impeded and where possible, facilitated.

We assure you that border control is carried out to the extent strictly necessary to prevent the further spread of COVID-19 and to ensure public order on the territory of the Republic.

Sincerely,

Mart Helme Minister of the Interior

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