NOTE

from: Icelandic delegations

to: Working Party on Frontiers/Mixed Committee

(EU-Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland)


Delegation will find attached a copy of a letter received by the Council General Secretariat on 9 March 2009 regarding the temporary reintroduction of border checks by Iceland at Keflavik International Airport from 5 to 7 March 2009.
Mr. Ivan Bizjak  
Director General, Justice and Home Affairs  
Council of European Union  
Rue de la loi 175  
B-1048 Bruxelles  
BELGIUM

Reykjavik March 4, 2009  
Reference: DKM09020308/10.13.1-


Dear Mr. Bizjak,


The European Commission and each Schengen States have likewise been notified of the declaration.

[Signature]
Ragna Árnadóttir

SECRETARIAT DU CONSEIL  
DE L’UNION EUROPÉENNE  
SGE9/02116  
REGLE: 09.03.2009  
DEST. PRIN: M. BIZJAK  
DEST. UNE: SERVICE JURIDIQUE  
BUREAU DES ACCORDS

7421/09  
DG H 1 A  
GG/cr  
LIMITE EN
DECLARATION

Increased security requirements due to specific threat to the public order and the national security of Iceland, caused by an event taking place on Saturday 10 March, have led the Icelandic government to temporarily reintroduce border controls at the internal borders, pursuant to Chapter II of the Regulation (EC) No 562/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 March 2006 establishing a Community Code on the rules governing the movement of persons across borders (Schengen Borders Code), i.e. Article 25.

From 5 March until 7 March 2009, border checks, adapted to the circumstances justifying them, will take place at Keflavik International Airport. The scope and duration of those border checks will – in accordance with the Schengen Borders Code - be restricted to the respective extent needed. The checks will apply during specific hours during the time period mentioned and only to incoming flights landing at Keflavik International Airport, depending on the prospective travel routes of the group of persons in question and other relevant findings.

The reintroduction of border-checks shall, in particular, prevent the entry of potentially defined group of dangerous persons from and via neighbouring European countries.

The Icelandic Minister of Justice is in parallel notifying the Secretary General of the Council of the European Union, the President of the European Commission, and all Schengen Member States of this decision.

The Ministry of Justice and the subordinate authorities in charge of conducting the border checks will also contact the respective border authorities of a limited number of Schengen partners, to make sure that border checks on the occasion will be carried out smoothly. No general measures are requested from other Schengen partners.