

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Brussels, 12 March 2009

7421/09

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FRONT 15 COMIX 222

NOTE

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.

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Dóms- og kirkjumálaráðherra

Minister of Justice and Ecclesiastical Affairs

Justits- og kirkeminister

Mr. Ivan Bizjak
Director General, Justice and Home Affairs
Council of European Union
Rue de la loi 175
B-1048 Bruxelles
BELGIUM

Reykjavík March 4, 2009 Reference: DKM09020308/10.13.1-

Subject: Declaration 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).

Dear Mr. Bizjak,

Please take note of the attached declaration from the Republic of Iceland, made 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.

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

Ragna Árnadóttir

SECRETARIAT DU CONSEIL
DE L'UNION EUROPÉENNE
SGE 9 / 0 2 1 1 6
REQUE: 0 9. 03. 2009

DEST. PRINC M. BIZJAK
DEST. COP:
SERVICE JURIDIQUE
BUREAU DES ACCORDS

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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.



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