NOTE
from: Maltese delegation

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

Subject: Temporary reintroduction of border controls at internal borders in accordance with Article 23(1) of Regulation (EC) No 562/2006 establishing a Community 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 22 March 2010 regarding the temporary reintroduction of border controls by Malta at internal borders on 5-18 April 2010.
Mr Ivan Bizjak  
Director-General Justice, Freedom and Security  
General Secretariat of the Council  
Directorate-General H  
Council of the European Union  
Rue de la Loi 175  
B-1048 Brussels  
Belgium  

15 March 2010  

Dear Mr Bizjak  

Border control on the basis of the Article 23(1) of the Schengen Borders Code  

As a result of increased security requirements for the forthcoming visit to Malta of His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI on 17 and 18 April 2010, Malta deems it necessary to reintroduce border checks at internal Schengen borders in accordance with Article 23(1) et seq. of Regulation (EC) No 562/2006 on the Schengen Borders Code.  

Between the 5 April 2010 at 00:01 hours to 18 April 2010 at 24:00 hours border control checks will be reintroduced at the Malta International Airport and the Valletta Sea Passenger Terminal in order to ensure that on the dates of this major event, the risk of any potential disruptive incidents is minimised and national security is secured throughout.  

The Malta border control authorities will take steps to ensure that the border control activities during this period will not obstruct the smooth processing of travellers.  

I would be grateful if you could pass on this information to all Member States of the European Union and to the States that are members of the Schengen area.  

Yours Sincerely  

[Signature]  

Ambassador  
Permanent Representative  

Copy: Jonathan Faul, Director-General for Justice, Freedom and Security, European Commission  
Permanent Secretary, Ministry for Justice and Home Affairs