NOTE

From: Lithuanian delegation
To: Working Party on Frontiers/Mixed Committee (EU-Iceland/Liechtenstein/Norway/Switzerland)

No. prev. doc.: 7784/20

Subject: Prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls at the Lithuanian internal borders in accordance with Article 25 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 29 May 2020 regarding the prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls by Lithuania at the internal borders between 1 and 16 June 2020.

Border controls at internal land borders with Latvia are lifted as of 1 June 2020.
European Commission
General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union
European Parliament
Home Affairs Ministers of EU Member States
and Schengen Associated Countries

RE PROLONGATION OF INTERNAL BORDER CONTROL

Dear Colleagues,

In the notification of 14 March 2020, the Republic of Lithuania informed about the decision of the Government to temporarily reintroduce border control at all internal land, sea and air borders in accordance with Article 28 of the Regulation (EU) 2016/399 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on a Union Code on the rules governing the movement of persons across borders (Schengen Borders Code). In the notifications of 24 March, 10 April and 24 April the Republic of Lithuania informed about the decision of the Government to prolong the temporary reintroduction of border control. In the notification of 6 May 2020, the Republic of Lithuania informed about the decision of the Government to temporarily reintroduce border control at all internal land, sea and air borders in accordance with Articles 25 and 27 of Schengen Borders Code.

The prolongation of the quarantine regime, which was announced on 16 March 2020 on the entire territory of the Republic of Lithuania, as well as the necessity and proportionality of internal border control, is being reassessed regularly. After thorough examination of the epidemiological situation based on most recent information and data evidence in the Republic of Lithuania, other Baltic States and across Europe, and having taken due account of the European Commission's recommendations set out in Joint European Roadmap towards lifting COVID-19 containment measures, we conclude that border control at the internal land border with the Republic of Latvia may be lifted, however, the grounds for internal border control at sea, air borders and land border with the Republic of Poland continue to be valid, making it necessary to prolong border control in accordance with the paragraph 3 of Article 25 of Schengen Borders Code.
The prolongation of border control will take effect from 1 June 2020 00:00 and will last until 16 June 2020 24:00.

The border control will be carried out at international airports, seaport of Klaipėda and the following land border crossing points (BCP) with the Republic of Poland – Kelvarijos BCP, Lazdijų BCP and Šeitoku BCP.

The border control at internal land border with the Republic of Latvia will be lifted as of 1 June 2020 00:00.

Please rest assured that the scope and duration of the internal border control will be limited to what is strictly necessary. The Republic of Lithuania will continue to carefully monitor and assess the development of the situation, as well as the impact and proportionality of the measures taken.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Rita Tamašuniene
Minister of the Interior