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From: Swedish delegation

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

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Subject: Prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls at the Swedish internal borders for a period of six months as of 12 May 2024 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 the letter received by the General Secretariat of the Council on 11 April 2024 regarding the prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls by Sweden at the internal borders for six months as of 12 May 2024.



Government Offices of Sweden

9 April 2024

IM 004194 2024
11-04-2024

Ministry of Justice
Minister for Justice

E-MAIL

Secretary-General
Thérèse Blanchet

Dear Secretary-General,

I would hereby like to inform you that the Swedish Government intends to take the decision of temporarily reintroducing border control at the Swedish internal border for a period of six months as of 12 May 2024.

The decision will be in accordance with article 25 of the Regulation (EU) no 2016/399 of the European Parliament and of the Council on a Union Code on the rules governing the movement of persons across borders (Schengen Borders Code).

The scope of the border control may extend to all internal borders, be it land, sea, or air. The specific border sections and border crossing points will be determined by the Swedish Police Authority following a continuous risk analysis. In accordance with the Schengen Borders Code the scope will be limited to what is strictly necessary to respond to the serious threat to public policy and internal security.

The security situation in Sweden remains very serious, and on the scale of the National Centre for Terrorist Threat Assessment (NCT) the terrorist threat level is still considered as High (level 4 out of 5). The attack on Israel by Hamas on 7 October 2023 and the Israeli offensive in Gaza has increased polarization and tensions in both Sweden and in other Member States. Recent events have shown how the conflict has further fuelled extremism and radicalization as well as increasing the risk of serious violence and attacks motivated by Anti-Semitism. The fact that Islamist and other extremist actors find inspiration from the Hamas-Israeli conflict has added new dimensions to an already very sensitive security situation and threat level.

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The decision of reintroducing border control at the internal border is the most effective response to the serious threat and it is also a last resort. The Police Authority are now working with police checks in border areas as a relatively new tool but at this time a full evaluation on the effectiveness of this method has not taken place.

I want to reassure you that I remain committed to the goal of returning to a Schengen area without internal border control, and to a well-functioning Schengen cooperation as soon as the security situation allows.

Yours sincerely,


Gunnar Strömmer

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