NOTE

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

No. prev. doc.: 8678/20

Subject: Lifting/prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls at the Spanish internal borders in accordance with 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 23 June 2020 regarding the lifting of the temporary reintroduction of border controls by Spain at the internal borders.

Controls at borders with Portugal will remain between 21 and 30 June 2020.
On March 17th, Spain reintroduced controls at its internal land borders in order to support the measures taken inside its territory by the state of alarm to limit the spreading of COVID-19. These controls have been successively prolonged, including air and sea borders at a later stage, the last time until 06:00, June 23rd, linked to the duration of the state of alarm by Order 955/2020 of the Minister of Health, of May 3rd.

The state of alarm has not been prolonged and movement restrictions inside the Spanish territory have ended. Therefore, it is considered coherent to lift controls at the internal borders. They will only be prolonged at the internal borders with Portugal, as bilaterally agreed, until June 30th.

The categories of persons allowed to cross these internal borders remain unchanged and are:
- Spanish citizens.
- Residents in Spain.
- Residents in other Member States or Schengen Associated Countries going to their residence.
- Cross border workers.
- Healthcare and elderly care professionals going to their work.
Entries for other work reasons, including seasonal workers, are allowed if documentary evidence can be provided.
- Those able to prove with documents being subject to force majeure or state of necessity.
- Staff of diplomatic missions, consular offices or international organizations seated in Spain, accredited as such and travelling in the scope of their official mission.
- Transport of goods, including maritime and air crews, only if an onward journey is guaranteed.

Therefore, in accordance with articles 15 and 27 of the Schengen Borders Code, I have issued Order INT/XXX/2020 of the Minister of Interior of June 21st prolonging controls temporarily reintroduced at the internal borders with Portugal due to COVID-19. Duration comprises from 00:00, June 21st, until 24:00, June 30th.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]