



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 8 March 2016
(OR. en)

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COMIX 194

NOTE

From: Swedish delegation

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

No. prev. doc.: 5914/16 FRONT 56 COMIX 92

Subject: Prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls at the Swedish internal borders in accordance with Article 23 and 24 of Regulation (EC) 562/2006 establishing a Community Code on the rules governing the movement of persons across border (Schengen Borders Code)

Delegations will find attached a copy of a letter received by the General Secretariat of the Council on 4 March 2016, concerning the prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls by Sweden at its internal borders until 8 April 2016.



REGERINGSKANSLIET

3 March 2016

Ministry of Justice Sweden
Minister for Home Affairs

Secretary General for Justice and
Home Affairs
Jeppe Tranholm-Mikkelsen

SECRETARIAT GÉNÉRAL DU CONSEIL DE L'UNION EUROPÉENNE	
SGE16/02264	
Reçu le	04-03-2016
DEST. PRINC.....	DG D
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Dear Secretary General,

The Swedish government decided on 12 November 2015 to temporarily reintroduce border control at the Swedish internal borders between 12 November and 21 November. Other measures had, after detailed consideration, been deemed insufficient. The Swedish government thereafter decided on 19 November 2015, 10 December 2015, 18 December 2015, 7 January 2016 and 4 February 2016 to prolong the border control at the internal borders. Today, the Swedish government has decided to prolong the border control at the internal borders until 8 April 2016.

The decision to prolong the border control was made due to the remaining serious threat to public policy and internal security posed by the consequences of the unprecedented migratory pressure and the ensuing significant challenges to the functioning of the Swedish society.

In its most recent situational pictures, the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency states that there are challenges for a range of important services in Swedish society and that the strained situation is likely to remain so for some time. The influx of asylum applicants in Sweden has decreased, but still remains high, especially for this time of the year. During the period from 23 February 2016 to 29 February 2016, the Swedish Migration Agency registered almost 550 asylum applications. Although the number of new asylum seekers has decreased, the effects from the unprecedented migratory pressure in the latter part of 2015 combined with the current influx, still makes the situation very challenging for many of the important services in Sweden.

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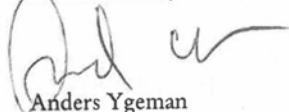
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The border control may extend to all internal borders, including land, sea and air borders, whereby the specific border sections and border crossing points are determined by the Swedish Police Authority. For now, the controls will remain focused on the regions mentioned in my letter to You of 12 November 2015. The scope of the control will remain limited to what is strictly necessary to respond to the threat to public policy and internal security and constantly adapted to the relevant circumstances.

Today's decision to prolong the border control was made in accordance with articles 23 and 24 of the Regulation (EC) no 562/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a Community Code on the rules governing the movement of persons across borders (Schengen Borders Code).

I would be grateful for Your support for this necessary measure.

Yours sincerely,



Anders Ygeman
Minister for Home Affairs