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NOTE

From: Icelandic Mission

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

No. prev. doc.: 7505/20

Subject: Prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls at the Icelandic internal borders in accordance with Article 28 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 4 May 2020 regarding the prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls by Iceland at the internal borders between 4 and 14 May 2020.

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European Commission
European Parliament
Secretary-General of the Council
Member States of the Schengen Cooperation

DÓMSMÁLARÁÐUNEYTID
Ministry of Justice

Sólvhálsgötu 7 101 Reykjavík Iceland
(tel.: +(354) 545 9000 fax: +(354) 552 7340
postur@dmr.is dmr.is

Reykjavík April 30, 2020
Reference: DMR20040102/10.13.1

Subject: Prolongation of border controls at the Icelandic internal borders

In order to combat the spread of the Covid-19 virus, Icelandic authorities reintroduced internal border controls at all borders for 10 days on the 24 April.

Active Covid-19 infections have continued to decline in the last week, with only a few new cases being confirmed. Hence, the Icelandic government still considers it necessary to apply all relevant measures to limit the potential of any possible reinfections in society resulting in a second wave of the epidemic.

For Icelandic authorities to continue to be able to enforce existing regulation on quarantine for all travelers to Iceland and to combat further spread of the virus, it is deemed necessary to prolong border controls at all internal borders in Iceland (air and sea borders). The prolongation is unavoidable at this time, based on a risk assessment by the National Commissioner of the Icelandic Police. Therefore, pursuant to Art. 28. of Regulation 2016/399 on the rules governing the movements of persons across borders (Schengen Borders Code), Iceland kindly informs the Commission that it will prolong border controls for a period of 11 days on May 4. A decision on any further prolongation is expected to be taken later.

The internal border controls will be implemented in light of the Commission guidelines for border management measures to protect health and ensure the availability of goods and essential services.

Minister of Justice