



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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NOTE

from : Austrian delegation
to : Working Party on Frontiers/Mixed Committee
(EU-Iceland/Liechtenstein/Norway/Switzerland)
Subject : Reintroduction of border control at the internal borders

Increased security requirements on the occasion of the European Football Championship which Austria is hosting from 7 to 29 June 2008 together with Switzerland have led the Austrian government to temporarily reintroduce border controls at the internal borders, pursuant to Chapter II of the Regulation (EC) No 562/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 March 2006 establishing a Community Code on the rules governing the movement of persons across borders (Schengen Borders Code).

From 2 June until 1 July 2008, i.e. for the duration of the event including run-up and follow-up times, border checks, adapted to the circumstances justifying them, will again take place at all border crossing points along the land-, water- and air-borders. The scope and duration of those border checks will – in accordance with the Schengen Borders Code - be restricted to the respective extent needed. The checks are not planned to be throughout and area-wide but shall be flexible in time and location, depending on the respective games, the fans' prospective travel routes and other relevant findings.

The reintroduction of border-checks shall, in particular, prevent the entry of potentially dangerous fans from and via neighbouring European countries and contribute to this major sports event running smoothly.

The Austrian Minister of the Interior is in parallel notifying the Secretary General of the Council of the European Union, the President of the European Commission, the European Parliament and all Member States as well as the Associated States of this decision and asking for close cooperation in implementing the measure.

The Federal Ministry of the Interior and the subordinate authorities in charge of conducting the border checks will also contact - or have already contacted - the respective border authorities of the neighbouring countries in good time to make sure that border checks on the occasion of the European Football Championship will be carried out smoothly.

The Austrian delegation kindly asks the respective delegations to pass on this communication to all bodies in the respective Member-States as well as to provide corresponding information to the national media.
