



19 January 2017

Ministry of Justice Sweden

Minister for Home Affairs

Commissioner for Migration,
Home Affairs and Citizenship
Dimitris Avramopoulos

Dear Commissioner,

In accordance with the recommendation set out by the Council Decision of 11 November 2016, please accept this the second of our monthly reports regarding the temporary reintroduction of internal border control in Sweden.

Sweden continuously reviews the border control at our internal borders in adherence with the recommendations of the Council. The situation for vital society functions such as social services and the public health care system is still strained due to the migration situation of 2015. Our conclusion is therefore that internal border control is still necessary in order to address the serious threat to public policy and internal security that still exist.

Alternative measures to border control are not sufficient in addressing the serious threat and the controls are therefore a last resort. In accordance with national legislation, a decision to carry out a check of a person's legal status in Sweden has to be founded in a formal reason to believe that the person is staying illegally in the country. The judgement and decision by the Police Authority to perform such a check has to be made on an individual basis and cannot be based on a perceived impression of nationality. A simultaneous check of a large number of people in the proximity of a border crossing point would therefore be impossible to carry out without the legal grounds that are provided by the Schengen Borders Code.

The total number of persons crossing the border sections is estimated to be at an average of 400 000 persons per week, although this can vary

greatly. There are still no clear statistics available regarding delays for the general public and the commercial flow. With regards to the car and ferry traffic the delays continue to be very minor. The checks performed at Hyllie train station are carried out during the trains scheduled stop but prolong the waiting time for each train with an average of up to ten minutes.

The controls are still performed on a strict basis of necessity and proportionality with regard to the serious threat and the specific characteristics of each border section. The number of checks being carried out now varies between 0 -98 % of all persons passing through a specific internal border crossing point. The Police Authority adapts the intensity and frequency of the checks according to need, and their operational priorities. Border checks are still being carried out at Öresund Bridge and at the harbours of Trelleborg, Malmö and Helsingborg in the Police Region South. In the Police Region West, border checks are performed at Gothenburg Harbour.

Please find the relevant figures for the month of December enclosed. All figures regarding the number of persons crossing, the number of checks performed, and the percentage of persons being checked are estimates.

Yours sincerely,



Anders Ygeman

Number of persons checked

Week 49: 177 897

Week 50: 197 394

Week 51: 193 732

Week 52: 197 662

Total number of persons checked: 766 685

Number of removal decisions in connection with checks

Week 49: 40

Week 50: 56

Week 51: 60

Week 52: 75

Total number of removal decisions: 231

Number of applications for asylum in connection with checks

Week 49: 3

Week 50: 2

Week 51: 7

Week 52: 1

Total number of applications for asylum in connection with checks: 13.

Number of asylum applications for Sweden as a whole

Total number of asylum applications for Sweden as a whole: 1 798.