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ANNEX

ANNEX

to the

**COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN
PARLIAMENT, THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL AND THE COUNCIL**

**on the third assessment of the application of the temporary restriction on non-essential
travel to the EU**

Checklist to be used for the possible lifting of the temporary restriction on non-essential travel to the EU

The purpose of this checklist is to find common ground between Member States, and therefore a common approach within the EU+ area, with regard to the assessment whether the situation in a third country and measures taken to limit the spread of the virus are sufficient yet in order to lift travel restriction on non-essential travel into the EU+ area. The checklist should form the basis to be used by the Member States for a common assessment of third countries based on the above criteria which can be used both for lifting but also for reintroducing travel restrictions should the level of infections change. Following a first assessment at the national level based on the available data of ECDC and WHO, the checklist in Annex and information provided by the EU Delegations, a first discussion should take place in the 'COVID-19 Information Group – Home Affairs' in order to prepare a draft list of countries where travel restrictions could be lifted. The preparation of a concrete coordinated approach and the further updating of the list of countries should take place within the existing and well-functioning framework of the EU's integrated political crisis response mechanism (IPCR). Based on the outcome of the discussions within the IPCR, the Commission invites the Council to act with a view to the adoption, by the Schengen Member States together with the Schengen Associated States, of a concrete coordinated approach on the list of countries for which travel restrictions can be lifted. This list should be updated on a regular basis.

1. Can the country be considered as being in a comparable or better epidemiological situation as the average in the EU+ area with regard to:
    a. Number of new infections;
    b. Trend in new infections; and
    c. Response to COVID -19 taking into account available information on aspects such as: testing, surveillance, contact tracing, containment, treatment and reporting.

2. Does the country ensure a comparable or better level of containment measures as the EU from its transport and transport hubs operators, including physical distancing to reduce the risk of infection associated with international travel in line with the recommendations issued for the transport[1] by the European Commission and in particular with the COVID-19 Aviation Health Safety Protocol[2] issued by European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) and ECDC, or equivalent:
    a. During travel to points of departure;
    b. At points of departure; and
    c. During travel, from origin to destination.

    The following elements should also be taken into consideration:

    d. Do airports comply with ICAO safety recommendations?
    e. Do airlines serving specific routes comply with ICAO recommendations?
    f. Are airports on the EASA list[3]?
    g. Is there negative travel advisory for this country in most of the Member States?

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[1] C (2020) 3139.
[2] https://www.easa.europa.eu/document-library/general-publications/covid-19-aviation-health-safety-protocol
[3] Enhanced aircraft disinfection for mitigating risks of transmission of the COVID-19 infection.

     h. Do airlines check, in relation to transit passengers, whether the country of departure is on the list of countries for which travel restrictions can be lifted?

3. Does the country agree to the same or comparable travel arrangements with the EU? Does this apply to <u>all</u> EU and Schengen States?

4. Have the EU Member States and Schengen States lifted their travel warnings for the country concerned?