

DECISION

No. 159, dated 2.3.2016

ON THE APPROVAL OF THE LIST OF SAFE THIRD COUNTRIES

Based on article 100 of the Constitution and point 2, article 10, of the law no. 121/2014, “On Asylum in the Republic of Albania”, upon proposal of the Minister of Internal Affairs, the Council of the Ministers

Decided:

1. To endorse the list of safe third countries as per the annex attached to this decision.
2. When developments in one or more countries may cause changes of the conditions in those countries, the Minister of Internal Affairs, in accordance with the provisions of article 10, of Law no. 121/2014, “On Asylum in the Republic of Albania”, after receiving the official opinion of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, presents proposals for the modification of this list.
3. In preparing the changes to the list of safe third countries, the data taken from specialized institutions of the Republic of Albania for the provision of information from countries of origin, the lists prepared on such purpose by various countries or international organizations, as well as the relevant opinion of UNHCR or of international human rights organizations shall be taken into account.
4. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, based on the data it possesses and on the evaluations it carries out may at any time recommend to the Minister of Internal Affairs changes in the list attached to this decision.
5. The Decision of the Council of the Ministers no. 1260, dated 23.12.2009, “On the Approval of the List of Safe Third Countries”, is abrogated.
6. The Ministry of Internal Affairs is tasked with the execution of such decision.

This decision shall enter into force upon publication in the Official Gazette.

Prime Minister

Edi Rama

Annex No. 1 List of safe third countries

Countries included in the list of safe third countries are as follows:

1. Andorra
2. Australia
3. Austria
4. Belgium
5. Bosnia and Hercegovina
6. Bulgaria
7. Denmark
8. Estonia
9. Finland
10. France
11. Greece
12. Germany
13. Holland
14. Hungary
15. Ireland
16. Iceland
17. Italy
18. Japan
19. Canada
20. South Korea
21. Kosova
22. Croatia
23. Latvia
24. Lithuania
25. Luxemburg
26. Montenegro
27. Malta
28. United Kingdom
29. Norway
30. Poland
31. Portugal
32. Cyprus
33. Czech Republic
34. Macedonia
35. Romania
36. Serbia
37. Slovakia
38. Slovenia
39. Spain
40. Sweden
41. United States of America
42. Turkey
43. New Zealand
44. Switzerland