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**WORKING DOCUMENT**

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From:	Presidency
To:	Delegations

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N° prev. doc.:	WK 9955/2023 INIT
Subject:	Revised Action file to follow up on the EU Action Plan for the Western Mediterranean and Atlantic routes

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In view of the MOCADDEM Roundtable meeting of 29 September 2023, delegations will find attached the revised Action file to follow up on the EU Action Plan for the Western Mediterranean and Atlantic routes - the clean version and the version showing previous and new wording in track changes.

**ACTION FILE TO FOLLOW UP ON THE EU ACTION PLAN FOR THE WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN AND ATLANTIC ROUTES**

Action	Lead actor(s)	Status	Way ahead incl. timeline	Comments
<i>Strengthen cooperation with partner countries</i>				
<p><b>1. Identify short-term operational priorities and coordination measures among EU Member States</b></p>	<p>MS, Commission, EEAS</p>	<p>Ongoing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ensure implementation of recommendations of the MOCADDEM evaluation report to enhance operational coordination, including through involvement of local level and strengthening the link to CRP and other relevant working groups.</li> <li>- Cooperate with partner countries and international organizations in alignment with the Rabat Process priorities.</li> </ul>	<p><i>As an example of improved coordination at local level, the EU DEL in Morocco created a coordination group in the context of TEIs. Since September 2022, the EU DEL Morocco holds quarterly meetings on migration with the Immigration Liaison Officers (ILOs) deployed by the EUMS. These meetings facilitate the exchange of information and better coordination between all partners.</i></p> <p><i>For two years the EU DEL Nigeria has held monthly migration meeting with EUMS deployed immigration liaison Officer (ILO). In the ILO group operational migration initiatives are coordinated, such as return operations, reintegration support, mapping of legal pathways and organized crime affecting the EUMS. The regular cooperation counsellors' meetings also discuss migration issues regularly, in particular, in the context of new national and regional actions under the NDICI.</i></p> <p><i>In Senegal there are periodic coordination meetings called by the EU DEL on different issues related with migration.</i></p>



Action	Lead actor(s)	Status	Way ahead incl. timeline	Comments
3. Adopt and kick off the implementation of a regional programme under NDICI-Global Europe to fight against the smuggling of migrants and the trafficking in human beings (North Africa)	Commission, EEAS, MS, Frontex	Ongoing	-	<p><i>Morocco window of regional programme on anti-smuggling and anti-trafficking to be funded in 2024, given current situation in TU and Egypt/Libya</i></p> <p><i>Action documents for future programming will be drafted and approved over the course of 2024.</i></p>
4. Consolidate counter-smuggling activities with partner countries along the whole route	MS, Europol, Frontex	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Consolidate synergies within and between the existing Common Operational Partnerships (COPs) and Joint Investigation Team projects with Mauritania, Senegal, Côte d’Ivoire, The Gambia, Mali, Guinea and Niger, and facilitate their cooperation with Morocco. Timeline: in preparation.</li> <li>- Continue awareness-raising and information campaigns in the EU DELs in relevant countries on the risks of migrant smuggling and irregular migration.</li> </ul>	<p><i>Cooperation with Niger authorities, both in bilateral and in regional cooperation exercises are currently on hold.</i></p> <p><i>ASOP <b>Niger</b>: Between 2017 and May 2023 the JIT contributed to identifying 273 smuggling networks and 938 suspected migrant smugglers, out of whom 504 were prosecuted. The III Phase of the JIT was recently launched with a budget of 13 M for the next five years (fully funded under NDICI-Global Europe).</i></p> <p><i>Senegal : continuation of the activities, notably the COP. [REDACTED]</i></p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>

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				<p>██████████. The contract for the II Phase of the COP (COP II ) which will implement the second component of the security project, covering also the fight against smuggling and trafficking in human beings, was signed on 15 September 2023.</p> <p>A new project has been approved under HOME-ISF for about 1.7 MEUR covering Mauritania, Senegal and The Gambia (Niger ' s leg was put on hold), to foster migration intelligence services cooperation</p>
<b>Border management</b>				
<p><b>5. Cooperate with Morocco, Mauritania, Senegal and The Gambia, strengthening their capacities to develop national jointly targeted actions to prevent irregular migration</b></p>	MS, Commission	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Maintaining a support for border (land and sea) and migration management, and reinforce search and rescue capacity.</li> <li>- Build on the expansion of the mandate of the FLO in Senegal to also cover Mauritania and the Gambia by implementing joint regional and bilateral activities</li> <li>- Management of land and sea border project in Mauritania - under AAP 2023 (about EUR 6.4 million). Timeline: ██████████ ██████████. The Gambia - support to the Gambian Security Sector Reform process for improved Security, Migration and Border management (2MEUR). Timeline: project started end of</li> </ul>	<p>Contracts of the action in Senegal “ Appui à la stabilité et à la sécurité intérieure”- MEUR 15, adopted under AAP 2022 – NDICI and including COP II, to be signed before end 2023.</p> <p>An action on land and sea borders in Mauritania is in the pipeline for adoption by end 2023.</p> <p>- Liaison magistrate from Niger to Morocco in the framework of Niamey Process.</p>

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			<p>August 2023, implementation until end of August 2025.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Senegal - Budget support. Fixed tranche (10 M EUR) paid in July 2023, [REDACTED]</li> <li>- [REDACTED] For 2024, there remains two migration variable tranche indicators (1.6 M EUR each).</li> <li>- Morocco - EUR 152 million budget support focusses on the migration national strategy and in particular border management.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>6. Foster increased bilateral cooperation between Frontex and Morocco, Mauritania and Senegal</b></p>	<p>Frontex, Commission</p>	<p>Ongoing /</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- [REDACTED]</li> <li>- Support the deployment of a FLO to Rabat, thus facilitating the implementation of joint activities, operational cooperation, and coordination between Frontex and the Moroccan authorities. Timeline: on-going.</li> <li>- Continue engagement of Frontex with Morocco through the annual holding of Frontex Morocco Comite Mixte meetings and the implementation of agreed Road Maps. Timeline: Comité mixte planned in Autumn</li> <li>- Regularly evaluate the opportunity to relaunch exchanges on a status agreement with Mauritania.</li> </ul>	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>
<p><i>Return, readmission and reintegration</i></p>				

Action	Lead actor(s)	Status	Way ahead incl. timeline	Comments
<b>7. Enhance the ongoing engagement to improve practical cooperation on readmission</b>	MS, Commission, EEAS	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- [REDACTED] The next high level meetings should reaffirm this message.</li> <li>- SOM Nigeria 5-6 October; Timeline: under revision by Nigeria</li> <li>- Ministerial Nigeria 19-20 October (tbc).</li> <li>- Follow-up to the 11<sup>th</sup> EU-Algeria Sub-committee on Justice and Home Affairs (20 June 2023) as well as an EU-Algeria Informal Dialogue on Migration (13 July 2023).</li> </ul>	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p><i>In the EU-Algeria Informal Dialogue on Migration, a point was dedicated to returns, readmission and reintegration. The two parties have convened the organisation of a tripartite meeting between the EU, Algeria and IOM to coordinate (date tbd),</i></p>
<b>8. Support protection and voluntary return operations</b>	MS, Frontex	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Assisted voluntary returns from Morocco to countries of origin continue through the Migrants Return and Reintegration programme (MPRR North of Africa).</i></li> <li>- The Migrant Protection, Return and Reintegration programme for Sub-Sharan Africa(MPRR, 180 M EUR). Timeline: Contract signed in July 2023, retroactivity as of August 2022. Implementation expected to end in 2025.</li> </ul>	<p><i>Signature of the contract of the action Migrant Protection, Return and Reintegration (MPRR) for Sub-Saharan Africa signed in July 2023 – retroactivity of costs ensured since August 2022.</i></p> <p><i>Enhance coordinating with EUDELS and liaison officers with various mandates in priority countries</i></p> <p><i>Between January and July 2023, under the MPRR, a total of 906 people have been returned from Morocco to their country of origin.</i></p>
<b>9. Enhance the sustainable reintegration of returnees in their countries of origin</b>	MS, Commission, Frontex,	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Nigeria: consider new funding for the reintegration of returning Nigerians [REDACTED]. Timeline: on-going.</li> </ul>	<p><i>First steps in cooperation between Morocco and Western Balkans on returns with support of IOM.</i></p> <p><i>Migrant Protection, Return and Reintegration (MPRR, funded under</i></p>

Action	Lead actor(s)	Status	Way ahead incl. timeline	Comments
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Actions supporting migration governance including reintegration have been adopted in Ghana (MEUR 6, October 2022) and in Nigeria (EUR 28.4 million, April 2023) budget support in Senegal (EUR 70 million signed in December 2022) includes indicators on reintegration. Timeline: on-going.</li> <li>- Support the strengthening of national systems, to ensure effective referral mechanisms, notably in The Gambia, Senegal and Ivory Coast. Timeline: preparation work on-going.</li> <li>- Senegal - action included as a specific indicator under budget support Fixed tranche (10 M EUR) was paid in July 2023, [REDACTED]</li> <li>- [REDACTED]</li> <li>- [REDACTED]</li> <li>- [REDACTED]</li> <li>- [REDACTED]</li> <li>- [REDACTED]</li> <li>- [REDACTED]</li> <li>- [REDACTED]</li> <li>- [REDACTED]</li> <li>- Morocco - ongoing programme with GIZ (EUR 6 M) to support sustainable reintegration of Moroccan returnees.</li> <li>- The Migrant Protection, Return and Reintegration programme for Sub-Sharan Africa (MPRR, 180 M EUR). Contract signed in July</li> </ul>	<p><i>NDICI for Sub-Saharan Africa signed in July 2023 – retroactivity of costs ensured since August 2022.</i></p> <p><i>NDICI actions at country level with components relevant for reintegration adopted in Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal and planned for Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, and Morocco</i></p> <p><i>Exploring coordination between GIZ and Frontex programme in Morocco.</i></p>



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			2023, retroactivity as of August 2022. Implementation expected to end in 2025.	
<b><i>Protection and legal pathways</i></b>				
<b>10. Foster the quick and effective implementation of protection mechanisms in partner countries</b>	EEAS, Commission, MS, EUAA	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Implement the Phase 6 projects of the Regional Development and Protection Programme (RDPP) in North Africa and Mauritania with relevant partners like IOM, UNHCR etc. Timeline: implementation on-going until 2025.</li> <li>- COM Implement a protection action for Morocco Timeline: decision 26 June 2023.</li> </ul>	<p><i>RDPP has been signed and protection activities are being implemented.</i></p> <p><i>Consider the extension of the RDPP after 2024.</i></p> <p><i>Under protection package for Morocco, contract with UNHCR signed for EUR 1 M on access to basic services.</i></p> <p><i>Under the protection package for Mauritania, contract signed with IOM and UNHCR for 1.5 and 1.9 MEUR for protection of migrant children and refugees</i></p>
<b>11. Promote and support legal pathways to protection in the EU</b>	MS, Commission	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Following High-Level Ministerial Discussion and expert-level Resettlement Forum in May, kick-off the 2024-2025 pledging exercise with deadline 15 September 2023, including with regard to the targeted use and innovative practices including humanitarian corridors.</li> <li>- Additional funding for resettlement available for Member States on their programs with MEUR 480 for 2023-2025</li> </ul>	
<b><i>Labour migration and partnerships</i></b>				
<b>12. Advance on the operationalization of the Talent Partnerships with Morocco</b>	MS, Commission	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Talent Partnership Roundtable held on 26 April First follow-up technical meeting will be held in October 2023 (tbc) to identify the priority sectors of common interest and discuss a</li> </ul>	<p><i>A technical meeting on sectors/professions to take place with Moroccan authorities end of October (participation of Talent Partnership MS).</i></p>

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			<p>roadmap on the concrete steps to take the process forward.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Support mobility schemes via THAMM programme and Migration Partnership Facility. Timeline: on-going.</li> </ul>	
<b>13. Asses the feasibility of launching Talent Partnerships with Nigeria and Senegal</b>	MS, Commission	S2 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Promote the participation of EU and MS private sector.</li> <li>- Support mobility schemes via the Migration Partnership Facility. Reinforcement of the MPF concluded.</li> <li>- (Projects depending on the interest and initiatives of the Member States)</li> </ul>	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p><i>The Flexible Mechanism (NDICI) could potentially be used to support relevant activities, identified in Team Europe approach, contributing to TP in Nigeria and Senegal, depending on depending on Member States' interests and identified potential for sustainable labour migration as well as progress on readmission and returns.</i></p> <p>New project approved in 2023 under HOME AMIF "Skills Partnerships between Senegal/Ghana and Germany* for about 4.3 MEUR.</p>
<b>14. Encourage the contribution of the diaspora of third country nationals' in the development of</b>	MS, Commission	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Foster their involvement in legal migration/mobility scheme projects. Timeline: reflection on the implementation on-going; participation of Member States is essential.</li> </ul>	<p><i>The FMM II regional action (NDICI) covers West Africa and includes work on the contribution of the diasporas in the region, together with ECOWAS.</i></p> <p><i>South-South action (NDICI, NEAR-INTPA) planned, involving diasporas</i></p>

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their countries of origin				<i>established in Morocco from several Sub-Saharan African countries (including Senegal). The EUDiF (NDICI) is an ongoing global action that supports diaspora organisations including in Africa. Phase II planned to be adopted before end of 2023.</i>
<b>15. Identify, through a Frontex targeted assessment of the situation in the Atlantic and Western Mediterranean, needs for reinforced support to partner countries</b>	MS, Frontex	S2 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Review of priorities and deployments completed (Management Board 20-21 June).</li> <li>- Consider support through joint operations, surveillance, capacity building and situational awareness.</li> </ul>	
<b>16. Enhance returns from EU Member States to partner countries</b>	MS, Frontex, Commission, EU Return Coordinator	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continue Frontex return operations and post-return services under Joint Reintegration Services (JRS).</li> <li>- Expand Frontex Joint Reintegration Services to cover ██████. Timeline: next step: in April 2024 a new list of third countries is expected for the JRS.</li> <li>- Take stock and implement the Commission Recommendation on mutual recognition of return decisions and expediting returns decided in March 2023.</li> <li>- Follow-up of the High-Level Network for Returns meeting held on 14-15 June.</li> </ul>	<i>-Second Frontex Joint Return Operation to Nigeria scheduled for October/ November Pending results of consultations with the Member States and the identification of a new partner, the Joint Reintegration Services are provided to returnees in ██████</i>

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<b>17. Link up the reintegration of voluntary returnees with Member States/European Commission companies' investments</b>	MS	S2 2023	- Explore projects of European companies in countries of origin and transit that could be linked to the reintegration of voluntary returnees in key economic sectors. Timeline: reflection on the implementation on-going; participation of Member States is essential.	
<b>18. Achieve more efficient and quicker relocations</b>	MS, EUAA, Commission	Ongoing	- Make use of the Solidarity Platform in order to enhance coordination between beneficiary and pledging Member States.	Participating countries agreed in May to continue implementation until full implementation of the pledges. The Commission sent a letter to Member States on 27/7 calling for full implementation of the VSM mechanism. The Commission holds coordinating meetings with participating countries, EUAA and IOM to facilitate procedures (9 technical meetings to date; the latest on 15/9) beyond supporting the process financially. 199 persons have been transferred from Spain since the beginning of the mechanism, more are in the pipeline to be transferred and Spain is in the process of constituting a new pool of candidates. In parallel to relocations, financial solidarity contributions should be concretised. COM received 27 project proposals with 5 matches for financial contributions already identified.

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				Spain proposed 9 possible projects to be supported. 2 projects met with the interest of possible contributing states <div style="background-color: black; width: 100px; height: 15px; margin-top: 5px;"></div>

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