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OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From: High-Level Working Group on Asylum and Migration
On: 22 April 2016
To: Delegations

Subject: Summary of discussions

1. Tailor-made country packages: strategic discussion

The **Group** had a strategic discussion on the tailor-made country packages, on the basis of a presentation made by the **Commission** and **EEAS**. Delegations welcomed the good progress achieved in the handling of the files which, as underlined by the **EEAS**, currently undergo a process of refining. In the framework of the discussion, the importance of further reinforcing the coordination of the action of the EU and of the Member States was particularly stressed, along with the need of adequately involving the EU delegations and the diplomatic representations in the countries concerned.

In the framework of this item, the **Chair**, the **EEAS** and the **Commission** provided information on the state-of-play of the high-level dialogues. Moreover, DK presented some suggestions, on behalf of AT, FI, as well as CH, on a comprehensive approach to readmission, return and reintegration, on which the Group had an exchange of views.

The **Chair** concluded that the tailor-made country packages will be further addressed by the Group.

2. Reinforcing cooperation with priority partner countries – development aspects of the tailor-made country packages

This joint item was addressed in the presence and with the participation of the delegates of the Working Party on Development Cooperation. The **Group** had a strategic discussion on the development aspects of the tailor-made country packages.

Delegations welcomed the organisation of the joint discussion. In the debates the growing role that migration is acquiring in the framework of the development policy, as well as the increasing contribution that development can provide (both with respect to managing migration and to addressing the root causes) were highlighted. In this context, the importance of the Valletta Summit and of its follow-up were specifically emphasised.

3. Prague Process

PL and **SK** provided information on the state-of-play of the preparations of the third Ministerial Conference of the Prague Process, to be held in Bratislava on 19-20 September 2016. The Group had an exchange of views on the approach to be taken, in particular in view of a Senior Official Meeting of the Prague process, expected to be organised mid-June.

4. Implementation of the Global Approach

The **Commission** referred to the GAMM update, which outlines the state of play of dialogues and processes under the Global Approach (the GAMM update is set up in the Annex to this Note).

Specific information was provided, by the **Commission**, on the outcome of the expert meeting on International Protection, in the framework of the EU-Russia Dialogue, held in Moscow on 17-18 March 2016.

HU drew attention to the recent opening in Pakistan (in Islamabad and Lahore) of Migrant Resource Centres, a project implemented under the Budapest Process.

5. Cooperation on Migration with China

The **Commission** provided information on the preparation of the EU-China High Level Dialogue on Migration and Mobility.

6. Dialogues on Migration, Mobility and Security

The **Commission** and **EEAS** provided information on the state of play of the ongoing dialogues, with special focus on the most recent developments concerning Lebanon, on which the Group had an exchange of views.

7. Common Agendas on Migration and Mobility (CAMM)

The **Commission** provided information on the state of play of the dialogue with the Brazilian authorities for the establishment of a CAMM.

The Commission also informed of the interest expressed by Ghana and Bangladesh in establishing a CAMM with the EU.



GAMM UPDATE

20 April 2016

This document provides an updated overview of the main external migration dialogues and processes implemented in the framework of the EU Global Approach to Migration and Mobility (GAMM). The document is compiled for the information of the EU High Level Working Group on Asylum and Migration by the responsible European Commission services, in association with the EEAS.

Part 1- The regional processes

(A) THE PRAGUE PROCESS

The Prague Process is a framework for dialogue and cooperation between the EU and its Member States, the non-EU Schengen States and 19 partner countries to the East (Russia, Eastern Partnership countries, Central Asian countries, Western Balkan countries, Turkey).

The work is based on the Joint Ministerial Declaration (Prague 2009) and the Action Plan 2012-2016, adopted at the second Ministerial Conference of the Prague Process (Poznan, 2011).

Recent and upcoming events

4 November 2011	Ministerial Conference, Poznan	Adoption Action Plan 2012-2016
5 November 2015	5 th Core Group Meeting, Bratislava	Preparations of the agenda and topics of the concluding SOM of the Prague Process Targeted Initiative project; presentation and endorsement of PP TI results; 2nd Preparatory Meeting for the 3rd Ministerial Conference in 2016
7-8 December 2015	Senior Officials Meeting, Prague	2nd Preparatory Meeting for the 3rd Ministerial Conference in 2016: agenda, expected outcomes and Work Plan 2016
5 April 2016	6 th Core Group Meeting, Warsaw	Fine-tuning of the agenda and topics of the concluding SOM of the Objective 3 of the Prague Process Targeted Initiative project; presentation and endorsement of PP TI results; 3rd Preparatory Meeting for the 3rd Ministerial Conference in 2016

15-16 June 2016	Senior Officials Meeting, Krakow	Concluding Objective 3 of the Prague Process Targeted Initiative project; presentation and endorsement of PP TI results; 3rd Preparatory Meeting for the 3rd Ministerial Conference in 2016: final draft of the Ministerial document endorsed
5 September 2016	7 th Core Group, tbd.	Finalisation of agenda and topics of concluding SOM of the PP TI project; presentation and endorsement of the PP TI results; 4 th preparatory meeting for 2016 Ministerial.
19 September 2016	Senior Officials Meeting, Bratislava	Last comments to the Ministerial document and its finalisation for endorsement
19-20 September 2016	Ministerial Conference, Bratislava	Adoption of results of PP TI, endorsement of the Ministerial document and agreement on the future of the Prague Process in the coming five years (2017 – 2021)

(B) THE EASTERN PARTNERSHIP PANEL ON MIGRATION AND ASYLUM

The Eastern Partnership is the framework for cooperation between the EU and Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. Joint Declarations were adopted at Eastern Partnership Summits of Prague (2009), Warsaw (2011) and Vilnius (2013) and Riga (2015).

The dialogue on migration takes place in the context of the panel on Migration and Asylum, established in December 2011 which succeeds the work undertaken through the Söderköping process.

Recent and upcoming events

29 January 2015	Eastern Partnership JHA Ministerial Meeting, Riga	
21-22 October 2015	Expert workshop, Kiev	Theme: Unaccompanied minor asylum seekers
26-27 November 2015	9 th Panel on Migration and Asylum, Tbilisi	Theme: Family reunification
14-15 April 2016	10 th Panel on Migration and Asylum, Chisinau	Theme: Illegal migration
2-3 June 2016	Expert meeting, Stockholm	Theme: Resettlement and relocation
October/November 2016	Expert workshop, Riga	Theme: on Information technology in migration management
November/December 2016	11 th Panel on Migration and Asylum, Minsk (tbc)	Theme: migration strategies (tbc)

(C) THE AFRICA-EU MIGRATION AND MOBILITY DIALOGUE

The Africa-EU Migration and Mobility Dialogue is the framework for dialogue and cooperation on migration issues between the EU and all African States. It was launched at the second Africa-EU Summit in December 2007 in Lisbon. The third Action Plan (2014-2017) was adopted at the Africa-EU Summit on 2-3 April 2014 together with the Africa-EU Declaration on Migration and Mobility. This dialogue will contribute to the implementation of the Valetta Action Plan.

Recent and upcoming events		
2-3 April 2014	EU-Africa Summit, Brussels	Adoption of the next Action Plan 2014-2017 and a Political Declaration on Migration and Mobility
21 April 2015	College-to-College (C2C) meeting, Brussels	Migration was the first point on the agenda, a substantial paragraph on migration is included in the joint Declaration
4-5 April 2016	Joint Annual Forum of the Africa-EU Partnership, Addis Ababa	Review and assessment of implementation of the Roadmap and discussion of the Roadmap strategic themes and Valetta implementation.
7 April 2016	College-to-College (C2C) meeting, Addis Ababa	Launching of the project "Support to Africa-EU Migration and Mobility Dialogue"

(D) THE RABAT PROCESS

The Rabat process was launched at the first Euro-African Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development that took place in July 2006 in Rabat. The process aims to enhance dialogue and cooperation between countries of origin, transit and destination along the West African migration route. The fourth ministerial conference was held in Rome on in November 2014 where Ministerial Declaration and Action Plan for 2015-17 were adopted. This dialogue will contribute to the implementation of the Valetta Action Plan.

Recent and upcoming events		
27 November 2014	4 th Euro-African Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development, Rome	Adoption of Rome Declaration
15-16 June 2015	Thematic seminar on International protection, Rabat Steering Committee, Rabat	Exchange of information and good practice among the Rabat Process partners 2 flagship projects were recommended, thematic meetings and proposals for trainings discussed
1-4 December 2015	Thematic meeting on trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants, Porto (co-chair Portugal and Niger) Senior Officials Meeting, Steering Committee, Porto	Exchange of information and good practice among the Rabat Process partners Follow up to the Valletta Summit, adoption of the Porto Monitoring Plan, confirm thematic meetings and trainings, inform and consult countries outside the

		Steering Committee about developments since the last Ministerial
31 May-1 June 2016	Thematic meeting on return, readmission and reintegration, Brussels	
September 2016	Steering Committee and thematic meeting on diaspora, Mali	
November 2016	Thematic meeting on visa facilitation, Cape Verde	

(E) THE BUDAPEST PROCESS

The Budapest Process was initiated in 1991 as a consultative forum, currently containing of more than 50 governments and 10 international organisations, aiming at developing comprehensive and sustainable systems for orderly migration. Within the Budapest Process, a Silk Routes Partnership for Migration was established at the Ministerial Conference held in Istanbul on 19 April 2013. The Istanbul Declaration sets out the main objectives and activities of the countries along this migratory route. This Dialogue will be instrumental to reinforce cooperation at regional level with priority countries with which the EU aims to conclude High-Level Dialogues on Migration, in particular with Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh.

Recent and upcoming events

19 April 2013	Ministerial Conference, Istanbul	Adoption of the Istanbul Declaration on "A Silk Routes Partnership for Migration"
15-16 December 2014	Senior Officials Meeting, Istanbul	
17-18 March 2015	Fourth meeting of the Black sea Region working group, Sofia	
14-15 December 2015	Senior Officials Meeting, Budapest	
19-21 January 2016	Inauguration of Migration Information Centre in Lahore and Islamabad, Pakistan	
15-17 March 2016	Regional police cooperation – guidelines drafting workshop, Warsaw	
26-27 May 2016	8th Silk Route Working Group meeting	
26-28 July 2016	Guideline drafting workshop, Turkey	
5-7 September 2016	Training on data assessment, Turkey	
24-25 October 2016	9th Silk Route Working Group meeting	
23-25 November 2016	Regional training on selected fields of police cooperation, Turkey	
8-9 December 2016	Senior Officials Meeting, Baku	
23-25 January 2017	Regional training on selected fields of police cooperation, Turkey	
January 2017	Screening of first episode of TV drama, Pakistan	
25-27 February 2017	Regional training on selected fields of police cooperation, Turkey	
29-31 March 2017	Final workshop of pilot project on initiating regional police cooperation, Turkey	

(F) THE KHARTOUM PROCESS

The Khartoum Process (the EU Horn of Africa Migration Route Initiative) is a framework for dialogue and cooperation with countries of origin, transit and destination along the migratory route from the Horn of Africa to Europe. It primarily focuses on smuggling of migrants and trafficking in human beings and, once consolidated, is expected to be further expanded to the other GAMM priority areas. The Khartoum Process will contribute to the implementation of the Valetta Action Plan adopted at the EU-Africa Summit on Migration on 11-12 November 2015.

Recent and upcoming events		
28 November 2014	Ministerial Conference, Rome	Launch of the Khartoum Process and adoption of the Rome Declaration
23-24 April 2015	First meeting of the Steering Committee, Sharm el Sheik, Egypt	The Action Plan was adopted. Participating MS presented over 40 projects for implementation
23 November 2015	Steering Committee Meeting, London	2 nd Steering Committee Meeting
24 November 2015	Senior Officials Meeting, London	1 st Senior Official Meeting. Approval of rules for steering committee and of the terms of reference of the secretariat. Discussions took place on ongoing and future projects, and well as on implementation of Valletta Declaration and Action Plan.
25 February 2016	Informal working group meeting, Paris	Report on progress and follow up on Valetta Summit; discussions on projects including the regional training centre, calendar for the upcoming months.
24-25 May 2016	Thematic meeting on people smuggling, Khartoum	First thematic meeting within the Khartoum Process
7-8 July 2016	Second Meeting of the Informal Working Group of the Khartoum Process, Rome	Progress in implementation of the projects and monitoring of Valetta Action plan among the subjects to be covered.
October 2016	Steering Committee Meeting, Addis Ababa	3 rd Steering Committee Meeting
October 2016 (tbc)	Senior Official Meeting, Addis Ababa	2 nd Senior Official Meeting

(G) THE ACP-EU MIGRATION DIALOGUE

The ACP-EU Migration Dialogue was launched in June 2010 through a Joint Declaration of the ACP-EU Joint Council. The dialogue is based on Article 13 of the Cotonou Agreement. In May 2011 it was decided to further deepen the dialogue, focusing in particular on the subjects of remittances, visa and readmission, with the specific aim to strengthen the operational aspects of ACP-EU cooperation on these topics.

A series of expert meetings took place to this effect, both at expert and Senior Official / Ambassador level. A joint report including recommendations on remittances, visas and readmission was adopted in June 2012 at the ACP-EU Joint Council of Vanuatu. Joint Visa subgroup meeting, technical workshop on return and readmission and experts' seminar on trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants took place in 2014. This Process will contribute to the implementation of the Valetta Action Plan adopted at the EU-Africa Summit on Migration on 11-12 November 2015, in particular in the areas of return and readmission, visas, remittances, and smuggling of migrants and trafficking in human beings.

Recent and upcoming events

9 April 2015	Second Visa working group meeting, Brussels (meets on biannual basis)	Discuss visa-related practices and legislation, including the implementation of the Visa Code
28-29 May 2015	Joint ACP-EU Council of Ministers, Brussels	The JMC adopted the recommendations on trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants
28-29 September 2015	Second expert seminar on return and readmission in West African States, Brussels	Continuation of the established dialogue in line with conclusions of the previous workshop and the Vanuatu recommendations
28-29 April 2016	Joint ACP-EU Council of Ministers, Dakar	
July 2016	Seminar on Remittances, Brussels	Exchange of information, practices and policies in line with the recommendations on remittances endorsed by the ACP-EU Joint Council in June 2012
November 2016 (tbc)	Seminar on Trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants, tbd	

(G) THE EU-CELAC MIGRATION DIALOGUE

The EU and Latin America and the Caribbean countries (CELAC) Structured and Comprehensive Dialogue on Migration was launched in June 2009 following the mandate of the EU- LAC Lima Summit. The EU-CELAC Action Plan, adopted at the 2010 Madrid Summit, calls for further developing this Dialogue. This commitment was renewed during the last EU-CELAC Summit held in Brussels in June 2015.

Recent and upcoming events

26-27 January 2013	EU-CELAC Summit, Santiago	
26-27 November 2013	8 th EU-CELAC High Level Meeting on Migration, Brussels	Seminar on new migration trends between the two regions
4 November 2014	Brussels-based meeting	Preparations for the High level Meeting
13 November 2014	9 th EU-CELAC High Level Meeting on Migration, Brussels	
10-11 June 2015	EU-CELAC Summit, Brussels	
Postponed, date tbd	10 th EU-CELAC High Level Meeting on Migration	

Part 2 – The bilateral dialogues

(A) TURKEY

Turkey

In 2008 the Council adopted a revised Accession Partnership with Turkey. On 16 December 2013 the EU and Turkey signed a readmission agreement and launched a visa liberalisation dialogue. The Commission adopted the first report on the implementation of the Visa liberalisation roadmap on 20 October 2014. The readmission agreement entered into force on 1 October 2014. On 29 November 2015 EU and Turkey agreed to cooperation on the Joint Action Plan.

The EU and Turkey launched at the last EU-Turkey Summit on 29 November 2016 an ambitious Action Plan on Migration in order to step up cooperation for the support of Syrian refugees under temporary protection and their host communities in Turkey and to strengthen cooperation to prevent irregular migration flows to the EU.

Recent and upcoming events

23 June 2014	EU-Turkey Association Council, Luxembourg	
18 May 2015	53 th meeting of the EU-Turkey Association Council, Brussels	
29 November 2015	EU-Turkey Migration Summit	
14 December 2015	Meeting between Turkish authorities and Commission services, Brussels	Verification of progress in implementing the visa liberalisation roadmap and the joint action plan
17 January 2016	Meeting between Turkish authorities and Commission services, Ankara	Verification of progress in implementing the visa liberalisation roadmap and the joint action plan
18 January 2016	EU-Turkey Joint Readmission Committee meeting, Ankara	
8 March 2016	Second Commission's report on the implementation by Turkey of the Visa liberalisation roadmap	

4 May 2016	Third Commission report on the implementation by Turkey of the Visa liberalisation roadmap (should Turkey continue speedily adopting all the necessary measures and engage to complete the work in due course, the Commission would exceptionally present its visa liberalisation proposal to the Council and the European Parliament already in May - although the roadmap will not have been entirely fulfilled - so as to make it possible for the co-legislators to agree on it before the target date of 30 June for lifting of visa requirements	
30 May 2016	Fourth meeting of the Joint Readmission Committee	

(B) SOUTHERN MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES

<p>Morocco <i>The EU-Morocco Association Agreement entered into force in 2000. Meetings of the EU-Morocco Social Affairs and Migration Working Group take place once a year. Negotiations on an EU-Morocco readmission agreement are formally ongoing since 2003 but de facto stalled since June 2010. Negotiations were resumed in January 2015.</i></p> <p><i>On 13 October 2011 a Dialogue on migration, mobility and security was launched. A Mobility Partnership was signed in June 2013. Finalisation of the readmission agreement and the negotiation of a visa facilitation agreement between the EU and Morocco are part of the commitments taken. In line with the mandate of the European Council conclusions of June and October 2015, Morocco will be one of the priority countries to be considered for a High Level Dialogue on Migration once normal relations are reestablished.</i></p>		
Recent and upcoming events		
4 October 2013	Adoption by the Commission of the draft negotiating directives for an EU-Morocco Visa Facilitation Agreement	
5 December 2013	Adoption by the Council of the negotiation mandate on visa facilitation	
1-2 April 2014	Commission mission to Rabat	Preliminary talks on the visa facilitation and readmission agreement and technical review of the annexes to the Mobility Partnership
19 January 2015	Opening of the negotiations on the EU-Morocco Visa Facilitation Agreement, Brussels	
20 January 2015	Resume of the negotiations on the EU-Morocco Readmission Agreement, Brussels	
20 April 2015	High-level Meeting on the Mobility Partnership + Review of the Mobility Partnership scoreboard	

Second semester 2016 (tbc)	Second round of negotiations on visa, 17th rounds of negotiations on readmission	Due to the EU General Court judgment on 10/12/2015, partly annulling the Council Decision on the Agriculture Agreement with Morocco, several dialogues have been postponed including the next sub-committee on migration and social affairs foreseen to take place on 18 January. The re-launching of the negotiations should have been discussed on that occasion.
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<p>Tunisia <i>The EU-Tunisia Association Agreement entered into force in 1998. Meetings of the EU-Tunisia Social Affairs and Migration Working Group take place once per year.</i></p> <p><i>A Dialogue on migration, mobility and security was launched on 6 October 2011. A Mobility Partnership was signed on 3 March 2014. A Visa Facilitation and a Readmission Agreement between the EU and Tunisia are part of this partnership.</i></p>		
Recent and upcoming events		
19 June 2013	EU-Tunisia Association Committee	
28-29 April 2014	Discussions on the Document implementing the Mobility Partnership Declaration ("the Annex"), Tunis	
30 July 2014	Adoption by the Commission of the draft negotiating directives for an EU-Tunisia Visa Facilitation Agreement and for an EU-Tunisia readmission agreement	
21-22 April 2015	High-level Meeting on the Mobility Partnership + Review of the Mobility Partnership scoreboard	
1-2 June 2016 (tbc)	Subcommittee on social affairs and migration-High Level Meeting on the Mobility Partnership, Tunis	
Second half of 2016 (tbc)	Opening of the negotiations on the EU-Tunisia Visa Facilitation Agreement and Readmission Agreement	

<p>Algeria The EU-Algeria Association Agreement was signed in 2002 and entered into force on 1 September 2005.</p> <p>The Commission received a mandate to negotiate a readmission agreement with Algeria in November 2002. No negotiation has so far taken place. In line with the mandate of the European Council conclusions of June and October 2015, Algeria will be one of the priority countries to be considered for the establishment of a High Level Dialogue on Migration.</p>		
Recent and upcoming events		

10 September 2015	Information session on a Dialogue on migration, mobility and security between the EU and Algeria	Information session addressed to all Algerian Ministries concerned by migration in order to help Algeria confirm its readiness to engage in a Dialogue on migration, mobility and security with the EU.
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Egypt		
<i>Relations between the EU and Egypt are governed by an Association Agreement since 2004.</i>		
Recent and upcoming events		
8 April 2014	Meeting between Ambassador for Egypt and Director General of DG HOME	Ambassador informs that Egypt is prepared to engage in dialogue with the EU on migration-related issues
22 May 2014	Follow-up to above meeting at technical level	Informal exchange on possible topics to be included in the dialogue, and next steps to be taken.
21 January 2016	Migration and Social Affairs Subcommittee, Cairo.	

Jordan		
<i>Relations between the EU and Jordan are governed by an Association Agreement which entered into force in 2002. On 12 December 2012, the EU and Jordan launched a Dialogue on Migration, Mobility and Security. On 9 October 2014 the EU and Jordan signed a Mobility Partnership.</i>		
Recent and upcoming events		
Ongoing	Discussions on the Annex to the MP	

Lebanon		
<i>In response to the Arab Spring, the first EU-Lebanon ENP Action Plan 2005-2010 was revised in 2012. The new Action Plan 2013-2015 was adopted on 20/06/2014. A Dialogue on Migration, Mobility and Security was launched in December 2014.</i>		
Recent and upcoming events		
July 2014	Official request from Lebanon to start a Dialogue on Migration, Mobility and Security.	Request was discussed with MS at September and October HLWG with agreement to commence Dialogue.
10 December 2014	Launch of EU-Lebanon Dialogue	
2-6 March 2015	First expert mission	Mission covered asylum, international protection and mobility/facilitation of legal migration.
2-5 June 2015	Second expert mission	

(C) EASTERN PARTNERSHIP COUNTRIES

Armenia

EU relations with Armenia are governed by the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA), which entered into force in 1999. In July 2010, the EU and Armenia launched negotiations on a future EU-Armenia Association Agreement to succeed the PCA. A Mobility Partnership was signed on 27 October 2011.

The Visa Facilitation Agreement was signed on 17 December 2012 and the Readmission Agreement on 19 April 2013. Both agreements entered into force on 1 January 2014.

Recent and upcoming events

9 December 2014	EU-Armenia Cooperation Committee, Brussels	
20 January 2015	EU-Armenia Cooperation Council, Brussels	
29 April 2015	2 nd EU-Armenia Joint Visa and Readmission Committee, Brussels	
17 July 2015	JLS Subcommittee with Armenia, Brussels	
9 December 2015	Mobility Partnership, High Level Meeting	
18 March 2016	JLS Subcommittee with Armenia, Yerevan	
End 2016 (tbc)	Local Cooperation Platform, Mobility Partnership, Yerevan	

Azerbaijan

EU relations with Azerbaijan are governed by the EU-Azerbaijan PCA which entered into force in 1999. Since July 2010 the EU and Azerbaijan are negotiating an Association Agreement to succeed the PCA. An EU migration mission visited Azerbaijan on 16 and 17 June 2011 to further enhance cooperation and dialogue with Azerbaijan on migration issues. A Mobility Partnership with Azerbaijan was signed on 5 December 2013.

The Visa Facilitation Agreement was signed in the margins of the Vilnius Summit of the Eastern Partnership, on 28 November 2013. The Readmission Agreement was signed on 28 February 2014. Both agreements entered into force on 1 September 2014.

Recent and upcoming events

28 February 2014	JLS Subcommittee with Azerbaijan, Brussels	
27 May 2015	1st EU-Azerbaijan Joint Visa and Readmission Committee, Baku	
2-3 May 2016	2 nd EU-Azerbaijan Joint Visa and Re-admission Committee, Brussels	
End 2016/Early 2017 (tbc)	Mobility Partnership, High Level Meeting	The targeted initiative contract with ICMPD was signed at the end of 2015

Georgia

The EU - Georgia Association Agreement and the Deep and Comprehensive Trade Agreement, which succeed the PCA of 1999, were signed on 26 June 2014 in Brussels.

An EU migration mission visited Georgia in 2009. The Mobility Partnership between the European Union and Georgia was signed in November 2009. Readmission and Visa Facilitation Agreements entered into force on 1st March 2011.

In June 2012 a visa dialogue was opened, examining conditions for visa-free travel of Georgian citizens to the Schengen area. The Visa Liberalisation Action Plan (VLAP) was presented to Georgia on 25 February 2013. The Commission has issued four progress reports on the implementation of the VLAP, the fourth report was issued on 18 December 2015. The fourth report concluded that Georgia has successfully met all benchmarks under the VLAP. Subsequently, on 9 March 2016, the European Commission proposed to the Council and the European Parliament to lift visa requirements for the citizens of Georgia by transferring Georgia to the list of countries whose citizens can travel without a visa to the Schengen area.

Recent and upcoming events

17 November 2014	EU-Georgia Association Council, Brussels	
8 May 2015	Publication of 3 rd VLAP progress report by the Commission	
16 June 2015	JFS Subcommittee with Georgia, Tbilisi	
18 December 2015	4 th Commission progress report on the VLAP	
9 March 2016	Commission proposal to the Council and the European Parliament to lift the visa requirements for Georgian nationals to travel to the Schengen area.	
21 April 2016	JLS Subcommittee with Georgia, Brussels	
22 April 2016	Mobility Partnership, High Level Meeting	

Republic of Moldova

The EU-Republic of Moldova (hereinafter Moldova) Association Agreement, including a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area was signed on 27 June 2014, thus succeeding the PCA of 1994. The agreement has been provisionally implemented since September 2014. Moldova and all EU Member States have now ratified the agreement and the procedures for finalising the entry into force are expected to be finalised by July 2016.

The EU-Moldova visa facilitation and readmission agreements entered into force in January 2008. An amended visa facilitation agreement entered into force in July 2013. A Mobility Partnership was signed in June 2008.

In June 2010 a visa dialogue was opened, examining conditions for visa-free travel of Moldovan citizens to the EU. Following the Commission's proposal to amend Visa Regulation 539/2001 of 27 November 2013, Moldova was granted visa-free travel to the Schengen area on 28 April 2014. According to figures provided by Moldova, from April 2014 to February 2016 more than 500.000 Moldovans travelled visa-free to the Schengen area. The visa-free regime has been smoothly implemented, with very low numbers of infractions or entry refusals.

Following the completing of the visa liberalisation process, in the framework of the new ENP, Moldova is pursuing the convergence of its border management with the requirements of the Schengen Catalogue and Schengen Borders Code, and it would like to start cooperation with the EUROSUR system. Additionally, Moldova is seeking to reinforce its cooperation with EASO and Frontex and benefit from capacity building and training.

Moldova is seeking to become a pilot country for initiatives of the European Agenda on Migration, namely fostering legal and labour migration channels to the EU. This is in line with the need to rebalance the GAMM priority areas in the Mobility Partnership towards legal migration and migrant centric projects, namely through circular and seasonal migration schemes to the EU.

Recent and upcoming events

9 June 2015	EU-Moldova JLS Subcommittee, Brussels	
9 July 2015	Extended Local Cooperation Platform, Mobility Partnership, Chisinau	
2016	Mobility Partnership, Senior Officials Meeting, Brussels	
First half of 2016	7 th VFA/RA joint committees, Chisinau	
Summer 2016	Local Cooperation Platform, Mobility Partnership, Chisinau	

Ukraine

The PCA entered into force in 1998. Negotiations on an EU-Ukraine Association Agreement started in September 2008 and initialled in 2012. Ukraine and the EU parliament simultaneously ratified the economic and political parts of the Association Agreement that will on 16 September 2014. Economic integration is postponed until the end of 2015. The Readmission and Visa Facilitation agreements were concluded in 2008. An amended version of the Visa Facilitation agreement with Ukraine entered into force in July 2013.

In 2008 a visa dialogue was opened, examining conditions for visa-free travel of Ukrainian citizens to the EU. A VLAP was endorsed by the Council on 10 November 2010 and presented by the EU to Ukraine at the EU-Ukraine Summit on 22 November 2010. The sixth and final progress report, which was adopted on 18 December 2015, concluded that based on the commitments taken by the Ukrainian leadership, all the measures identified in the fifth progress report had been taken by Ukraine and that all the benchmarks of the VLAP had been met. On 20 April, EU Commission has issued its legislative proposal today to transfer Ukraine to the list of visa-free countries. The proposal will be transmitted to the Council and the EU Parliament.

26 March 2014	Visa Dialogue Senior Officials Meeting, Kiev	
14 May 2014	Joint Visa Facilitation Committee, Kiev	
18 December 2015	6 th Commission progress report on the VLAP	
June 2016	JLS Subcommittee	

Belarus

An EU migration mission visited Belarus in 2009. On 28 February 2011 the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations on visa facilitation and readmission agreements with Belarus. The Commission submitted a formal invitation to the Belarusian authorities in June 2011 which was accepted in January 2014. The first technical negotiations took place in Minsk in June 2014, the second round in November 2014 in Brussels and the last round in March 2015 in Minsk. The results were encouraging, but progress was stalled as five MS voiced concerns regarding the security of the Belarussian diplomatic passports. The Commission offered to Belarus in May 2015 expert advice on security standards for diplomatic passports, and Belarus confirmed its interest only in February 2016. In

March 2016 COM reiterate its invitation to start technical consultations. Belarus claims it cannot upgrade its passports without EU's financial assistance.

Belarus and the EU agreed on 1 June 2015 on the political declaration for a Mobility Partnership, which is not yet signed due to postponing on the Belarus side. Belarus is expecting EU financial and technical assistance for the development of **biometric ID documents**, for the **digitalisation of the civil registry** and for the **implementation of the future Readmission agreement**. The draft Annex of project priorities was approved by the Council in November 2015 and it is still under consideration by Belarus.

Belarus has indicated that it would like to reinforce cooperation with EU agencies Europol, EASO, Cepol and Frontex, and if possible sign cooperation agreements with them.

Recent and upcoming events

30 January 2014	Political launch of EU-Belarus Visa Facilitation/Readmission Agreement negotiations, Brussels	
11-12 March 2015	Third technical round of VFA/RA negotiations, Minsk	
6 March 2015	Endorsement by Council of the draft Joint Declaration of the EU-Belarus Mobility Partnership	
26 March 2015	First round of consultations on MP Declaration, Minsk	MP Declaration was agreed on both sides on 1 June 2015
First half of 2016	Discussion in Council and with Belarus of the Annex to the Joint Declaration of the EU-Belarus Mobility Partnership	MS are encouraged to consider specific projects they would like to take part in.
Second half of 2016	Signing of the EU-Belarus Mobility Partnership, Visa Facilitation Agreement and Readmission agreement	

(D) RUSSIA

Russia

The EU-Russia PCA came into force in 1997. Ministerial meetings for Freedom, Security and Justice area (PPC) were organised regularly until the Ukraine crisis. The Visa Facilitation and Readmission Agreements entered into force on 1 June 2007. On 11 April 2011 the Council adopted the mandate for the renegotiation of the Visa Facilitation Agreement. The Visa Dialogue was launched in 2007 and in this context, on 15 December 2011, the Parties agreed on a list of Common Steps which would need to be implemented before the talks on EU-Russia visa waiver agreement might be launched. In March 2014, in the context of the crisis in Ukraine, the EU decided to suspend bilateral talks with the Russian Federation on visa matters (Visa dialogue and amended VFA). Meetings under the Joint Visa Facilitation Committee and Joint Readmission Committee are continuing.

In May 2011 Russia and EU launched a Dialogue on Migration. The Dialogue focuses through experts' discussions and field visits on legal migration, migration and development, asylum and other forms of international protection, as well as on addressing irregular migration and trafficking in human beings. In the context of the crisis with Ukraine, the migration dialogue is continuing only at expert level, but without a work programme for 2015-2016. The Russian side has agreed that at this stage no senior official meetings of the migration dialogue will be held.

EU and Russia have established Senior Officials Meeting on JLS matters which should meet once a year and should constitute the bridge between experts level discussion and political contacts (JLS PPC). Meetings have been discontinued following the start of the Ukraine crisis.

Recent and upcoming events

28 January 2014	EU-Russia Summit	
2 July 2014	14 th EU-Russia Joint Readmission Committee	
17 December 2014	11th meeting of the Joint Visa Facilitation Committee between the EU and Russia	
12-13 February 2015	8 th meeting of the Migration Dialogue, Helsinki	Legal/labour migration
3 July 2015	15th EU-Russia Joint Readmission Committee	
17-18 March 2016	9 th meeting of the Migration Dialogue, Moscow	International protection
30 June 2016	15th EU-Russia Joint Readmission Committee, Moscow	
Second half of 2016	10 th meeting of the Migration Dialogue, MS capital	Irregular migration Member States are encouraged to come forward to host the next meeting

(E) AFRICAN COUNTRIES

<p>Cape Verde <i>In 2007 the EU and Cape Verde agreed on a Special Partnership Agreement. An EU migration mission visited Cape Verde in May 2007. The Mobility Partnership with Cape Verde was signed in 2007. Cape Verde ratified visa facilitation and readmission agreements in October 2014. They entered into force on 1 December 2014.</i></p>		
<p>Recent and upcoming events</p>		
6-7 June 2011	Political dialogue meeting at Ministerial level, Praia	
8 April 2014	Political Dialogue Meeting at Ministerial Level	Explore possible ways to strengthen MP
5 October 2015	Joint Committees on visa facilitation and readmission	
13 October 2015	Political Dialogue Meeting at Ministerial level, Luxembourg	Ministers welcomed entry into force of Visa Facilitation and Readmission Agreements. Cabo Verde asked for EU assistance to conclude similar visa facilitation agreements with European States associated to Schengen and with EU MS to which the Agreement does not apply. Parties underlined need to define new priorities to maintain the dynamism of the Partnership.

<p>Nigeria <i>Under the umbrella of the EU-Nigeria Ministerial meetings, several political dialogues session on migration have taken place in the last few years. A Common Agenda on Migration and Mobility (CAMM) was signed on 12 March 2015.</i></p>		
<p>Recent and upcoming events</p>		
12 March 2015	Signature of CAMM at the side of the JHA Council	
8-9 July 2015	Local dialogue on migration issues in Abuja	Identify priorities for CAMM implementation
3 February 2016	Nigerian president addressed EP plenary in Strasburg and met with Pres. Juncker, Commissioner Avramopoulos and Stylianides and President Schulz 15 March: HRVP Mogherini held Ministerial Dialogue with Nigerian MFA in Brussels, including migration as discussion point. MFA was accompanied by Minister of Interior	
7-9 March 2016	Technical mission to Abuja led by DG HOME participants: COM, EEAS, Frontex, DE, AU, NL, ES	Prepare the ministerial dialogue focus on return and readmission
14 March 2016	Csr. Avramopoulos held Migration Dialogue with Nigerian Minister of Interior in Brussels	A list of priorities for the swift implementation of the CAMM was agreed covering: capacity to collect and analyse information and statistics, return and readmission, combating smuggling and trafficking of human beings, protection and assistance of internally displaced persons, cooperation with Frontex on border management, regular migration and addressing the root causes of irregular migration. It was agreed to take the necessary steps to launch negotiations for an EU-Nigeria readmission agreement and to: (i) establish direct exchange for the confirmation of the nationality of the returnees where there is no Nigerian Diplomatic Mission, (ii) ensure timely issuance of emergency travel documents, (iii) further explore the conditions of use of the EU Travel Document and (iv) organise joint identification missions under the auspices of Frontex.
15 March 2016	HRVP Mogherini held Ministerial Dialogue with Nigerian MFA in Brussels, including migration as discussion point. MFA was accompanied by Minister of Interior	

<p>Ethiopia <i>The Common Agenda on Migration and Mobility (CAMM) was signed by the EU and Ethiopia on 12/11/2015 aside the Valletta Summit. Negotiations are also ongoing for a "Strategic Engagement", which would include a sectoral dialogue on migration.</i></p>		
<p>Recent and upcoming events</p>		
20 October 2015	HRVP visit to Addis – first High Level Dialogue on Migration with Ethiopia	Migration was on the agenda of the HRVP for meetings with PM and MFA. Technical discussions took place at the margins of the visit to agree on a text for the CAMM.
11 November 2015	Signature of CAMM by EC and Council Pdt, HRVP and ETH PM, in Valletta	
13 January 2016	Visit of Ethiopian MFA to Brussels – second High Level Dialogue on Migration with HRVP and Csr Avramopoulos	Migration high on the agenda, particularly EUTF projects and returns and readmission
2-4 February 2016	CAMM implementation technical mission, Addis Ababa	Joint mission COM-EEAS and EU MS to discuss CAMM annex, particularly on return. Encouraging commitments, effective cooperation to be monitored in the coming weeks
7 April 2016	HRVP and Csr Avramopoulos visit, Addis Ababa	In the margins of the College-to-College meeting with the African Union, they will hold bilateral meetings on migration. a Joint Declaration for an EU-Ethiopia Strategic Engagement might be signed.

<p>South Africa <i>South Africa and the EU entered into a Strategic Partnership in 2007. An EU migration mission visited South Africa in September 2008. Since then, in the frame of the Joint Cooperation Council, a Migration Dialogue Forum is organised.</i></p>		
<p>Recent and upcoming events</p>		
10 June 2013	EU/SA Ministerial meeting, Brussels	
18 July 2013	EU/SA Summit, Pretoria, Pretoria	
25 November 2014	Migration dialogue	Discussion on border management, Khartoum Process, Rabat Process; GAMM and CAMM and EU visa policy
26 November 2014	EU/SA Joint Cooperation Council	

(F) ASIAN COUNTRIES

China

The EU-China comprehensive strategic partnership came into force in 2003. China signed an Approved Destination Status Agreement in 2004, facilitating the entry of Chinese tourists into EU Member States and including provisions on readmission. Formal negotiation of an EU readmission agreement, based on 2002 negotiating directives, has not started yet. Negotiation of a PCA, including an article on readmission and visa cooperation, started in 2007.

At the 14th EU-China Summit in February 2012 both sides agreed to explore the possibilities of facilitating mobility for Chinese and EU citizens, and strengthen cooperation on illegal immigration, as well as to pay special attention to the question of mutual visa exemption for holders of diplomatic passports. The 15th EU-China Summit reiterated these objectives, while calling for the launch an EU-China High Level Dialogue on Migration and Mobility.

Recent and upcoming events

14 October 2013	EU-China Migration and Mobility Dialogue , Brussels	Provided basis for general information exchange and discussed broad parameters of cooperation package on visa-readmission.
20-21 November 2013	16 th EU-China Summit	Negotiations did not result in the consolidation of above cooperation package. Reply to EU letter on outcome of October HLD was received in September 2014, proposing different parameters than those suggested by the EU. Further exchanges with China are ongoing.
9 April 2015	2 nd meeting of the EU-China Migration and Mobility Dialogue, Beijing	Some progress achieved with two outstanding issues on visa application centres and return cooperation
29 June 2015	17 th EU-China Summit	The package on the visa, mobility and readmission cooperation was finalised in the form of the joint minutes of the MMD and endorsed by the Summit.
5 November 2015	Meeting on irregular migration, Beijing	
8 April 2016	3rd EU – China High Level Dialogue on Mobility and Migration	

India

The EU-India Co-operation Agreement entered into force in 1994. In 2004 the EU and India entered into a Strategic Partnership. The EU-India Joint Action Plan was agreed in 2005 at the Summit in The Hague and revised in 2008 at the eighth EU-India Summit in Marseille. This plan aims to promote among others people-to-people contacts and cultural exchanges. After the first EU-India migration dialogue meeting held in 2006, the December 2010 EU-India Summit emphasised the importance of movement of people, and agreed to deepen cooperation by establishing a regular, comprehensive and structured dialogue on migration issues.

The 12th EU-India Summit discussed possible ways to facilitate mobility – a recurring Indian request – in parallel with preventing and combating irregular migration.

Recent and upcoming events

10 February 2012	12 th EU-India Summit, India, Delhi	
2 July 2012	EU-India High Level Dialogue Meeting on Migration and Mobility, Delhi	Possible ways to strengthen cooperation with India were discussed, including the establishment of a EU-India working group on migration and mobility and of a CAMM.
30 January 2013	EU-India Ministerial Meeting	
4 February 2013	22 nd EU-India Joint Commission	Discussions on EU-India "non-political" cooperation, including on migration and mobility.
2 April 2013	Transmission of draft CAMM political declaration to India	Reply received in May 2015 and exploratory talks took place on 22-23 June..
16 October 2015	EU-India Subcommittee on economic cooperation	India was encouraged to revert to EU including on proposal to continue technical talks that could re-launch CAMM negotiations.
30 March 2016	13 th EU-India Summit - as a key deliverable – the establishment of the EU-India Common Agenda on Migration and Mobility (CAMM)	

(G) UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Relations between the EU and the US have been formalised in 1990 in the Transatlantic Declaration, and further developed in the New Transatlantic Agenda which outlined a new framework for cooperation including a number of areas for joint action. An EU-US Joint Statement endorsed by the EU-US JHA Ministerial Troika in October 2009 (the so-called "Washington Statement") sets out common values and foundations of EU-US cooperation in the JHA area until 2014 and includes a commitment to enhance both political and operational cooperation in various JHA issues.

Further to this commitment cooperation has been developed on migration and asylum issues in the context of the EU-US Cooperation Platform on Migration and Refugee issues, launched in 2010. Activities include areas such as unaccompanied minors, biometrics, refugee resettlement, trafficking in human beings, development of capacity building for migration management in third countries and contribution of the Diaspora to the development of countries of origin of migration.

Recent and upcoming events

26 March 2014	EU US Summit, Brussels	The Joint Declaration reasserts the objective to reach full visa reciprocity as soon as possible
29 April 2014	Meeting of the Steering Committee of the EU-US Platform for cooperation on migration and refugee issues, Brussels	Priority actions for 2014 and consultations ahead of the GFMD
25 June 2014	EU-US JHA Ministerial Meeting, Athens	

17-18 September 2014	EU-US Senior Officials Meeting, Rome	Agenda includes : Visa reciprocity, ESTA, unaccompanied minors, EU-US Platform on Migration, update on EU Task Force Mediterranean, future migration outlook, update on Smart Borders
12-13 November 2014	EU-US Ministerial Meeting, Washington	On HOME issues, agenda focuses on foreign fighters and organised crime
3-4 February 2015	EU-US Senior Officials Meeting, Riga	
2-3 June 2015	EU-US JHA Ministerial Meeting, Riga	Agenda focused on counterterrorism; migration management and cybercriminality Statement on JHA cooperation was endorsed
8 – 9 September 2015	EU-US Senior Officials Meeting, Luxembourg	
13 November 2015	EU-US JHA Ministerial Meeting, Washington D.C	

(H) BRAZIL

<p><i>In the framework of the EU-Brazil Strategic Partnership, established in 2007, Brazil has expressed an interest in enhancing cooperation with the EU on migration and migration related issues, in particular on trafficking in human beings. Following technical exchanges with Brazil, the EU has presented a draft Joint Declaration establishing a CAMM to the Brazilian authorities in January 2015.</i></p> <p>Recent and upcoming events</p>		
20 January 2015	Transmission of a draft text of an EU-Brazil Joint Declaration establishing a CAMM with Brazil.	
19 November 2015	Reception of Brazilian comments to the EU Joint Declaration document proposal	

Part 3 - The global processes

GLOBAL FORUM FOR MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

<p><i>The GFMD is an initiative of the UN Member States to address the migration and development nexus in practical and action-oriented ways. It is an informal, non-binding, voluntary and government-led process.</i></p> <p><i>The process emerged after the UN High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development on 14-15 September 2006. The second High-level Dialogue on 3-4 October 2013 confirmed the GFMD as a valuable forum for holding frank and open discussions, which has helped to build trust among participating stakeholders.</i></p> <p><i>The 8th GFMD Summit came immediately after the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which includes migration as a recognised development enabler. During Turkey Chairmanship, an important feature was the insertion of forced displacement and refugees on the agenda, not the least due to the Syrian refugee crisis.</i></p> <p><i>The current Chair, Bangladesh, 2016, will be followed by jointly Germany and Morocco (2017-2018)</i></p> <p>Recent and upcoming events</p>

14-16 October 2015	8 th GFMD Summit, Istanbul	Theme: Strengthening Partnerships: Human Mobility for Sustainable Development
November 2016	9 th GFMD Summit, Dhaka	Theme: Making migration work for development for all

UNITED NATIONS

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 25 September 2015 recognizes that migration contributes to circular growth and development. It calls on UN Member States to increase international cooperation by facilitating orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people. In this respect, the EU counts on a long-standing strategic partnership with the UN. The EU welcomes and will strongly support the forthcoming UN events aimed at addressing the large movements of migrants and refugees.

Recent and upcoming events

30 March 2016	<i>UNHCR High-level meeting on Global Responsibility Sharing through Pathways for Admission of Syrian Refugees, Geneva.</i>	
23-24 May 2016	<i>World Humanitarian Summit, Istanbul</i>	
19 September 2016	<i>UNGA Summit on large movements of refugees and migrants, New York</i>	

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