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LIMITE

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WORKING DOCUMENT

From:	Presidency
To:	MOCADDEM Roundtable
N° prev. doc.:	WK 13153/2024 INIT
Subject:	Action file to follow up on the EU Action Plan for the Central Mediterranean route - Implementation report

In view of the Mocadem Roundtable of 19 June 2025, delegations will find attached the "Action file to follow up on the EU Action Plan for the Central Mediterranean route - Implementation report".

12 June 2025

ACTION FILE TO FOLLOW UP ON THE EU ACTION PLAN FOR THE CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE – Implementation Report

MOCADEM will revert to the action file and take stock of implementation on a regular basis.

Action	Lead actor(s)	Status	Way ahead incl. timeline	Comments
I. Strengthened cooperation with partner countries and international organisations				
1. Launch – before the end of the year – the Team Europe Initiative on the Central Mediterranean route	Commission, IT, FR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Work between EUDs and MSs to finalize country implementation plans in several TEI countries (Q4 2024) – TEI board meeting and TEI coordination committee with African partners took place on 18 October 2024 in Lisbon, in the margins of a combined Rabat and Khartoum Processes high level meeting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The next joint TEI management meeting would take place in the margins of the joint Rabat and Khartoum Process meeting in the fall of 2025 in Nigeria. 	<i>At the Coordination Committee African partners shared comments on their priorities and views. These are being taken into account by the TEI country teams that prepare planning and programming of specific initiatives.</i>

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		– 7th Management Meeting of the Team Europe Initiatives (TEIs) on Migration for the Atlantic/Western Mediterranean and Central Mediterranean Routes, took place on 3 April 2025.		
2. Enhance operational coordination of the external action on migration	Council, Commission	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ensure implementation of European Council conclusions and the Strategic Agenda 2024-2029 setting the ambition in this field. – Ensure implementation of recommendations of the MOCADDEM evaluation reports to enhance operational coordination, including through involvement of the local level, the link to Coreper and other working groups. Timeline: Ongoing 	<p><i>Commission together with EEAS organises coordination and reporting sessions with the Member States ahead and after its missions in the relevant countries.</i></p> <p><i>EUDs in relevant partner countries to regularly invite MS representatives on the ground to migration related meetings, e.g. migration working groups.</i></p>
3. Strengthen capacities of Tunisia, Egypt and Libya	Commission, EEAS, MS, Frontex	EU-Tunisia Memorandum of Understanding	– Continue/intensify work on implementation of MOCADDEM action files for	– EUR 105 million earmarked for Tunisia in 2023 was contracted by the end of 2024 in the area of border management, anti-smuggling, returns and protection. RDPP

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		signed on 16 July 2023, implementation is progressing under the 5 pillars.	<p>Tunisia, Libya and Egypt. Timeline: Ongoing</p> <p>Tunisia:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> [COM] Continuation of implementation of all pillars of the MoU, including migration and mobility, with focus on border management, anti-smuggling, returns, protection and legal migration. Progress expected on all aspects, including the fundamental values' trajectory in Tunisia. A more regular technical dialogue to be put in place, to discuss projects and compliance with human rights. [REDACTED] 	<p><i>phase 7 started in January 2025 supporting IOM and UNHCR activities.</i></p> <p><i>The first technical MoU mission in January 2024 (NEAR/EEAS/HOME) focusing on all five pillars of the EU Tunisia MoU was followed by a second similar mission that took place on 29/30 October 2024.</i></p>
		Joint Declaration for a Strategic and Comprehensive Partnership (SCP)		

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		<p>with Egypt signed on 17 March 2024, currently under implementation along all six pillars.</p> <p>The 4th Egypt-EU Migration Dialogue at senior officials level was held in Cairo on 16 July 2024.</p> <p>-Mission of Csr Johansson to Cairo in September 24 concluded by Joint Statement of 10 September 2024.</p> <p>[COM] Work is progressing on the migration and mobility pillar of the SCP. A programming workshop was organised in Cairo in December 2024 [back-to-back with a workshop on legal migration and Talent</p>	<p>– Cooperation with EU Agencies: [REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED] Good collaboration with CEPOL; working arrangement in place and country participating in both CEPOL-led regional capacity-building projects CT INFLOW and EUROMED Police (the latter also supported by Europol).</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>– [EEAS] EU-Tunisia Association Council [REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>Egypt:</p> <p>– [COM] Following the programming workshop of December 2024, the Commission will work on the identification of concrete migration-related actions of mutual interest, pending the</p>	<p><i>As per the Strategic and Comprehensive Partnership with Egypt, EUR 200 million are foreseen until 2027 to support priorities in the area of migration, in line with the comprehensive approach and Egypt's needs [REDACTED]</i></p>

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		<p>Partnerships, and on returns, readmission and reintegration] to initiate discussions on the allocation of the foreseen EUR 200 million for migration until 2027.</p> <p>First visit of Commissioner Suica and DG MENA [REDACTED] to Cairo in early March to discuss the state of play of the implementation of the SCP as well as Egypt's participation in the upcoming Pact for the Mediterranean.</p> <p>[COM]-Delivery of 3 Search and Rescue boats for Egypt was finalised by end-</p>	<p>reception of a formal feedback from Egypt on the main priorities for EU support until 2027.</p> <p>– [Frontex] Following a familiarisation visit with the Egyptian MOI, Frontex is following up by proposing joint activities on THB and document fraud. A delegation from the Egyptian MOD visited Frontex in October 2024 on a familiarisation visit.</p> <p><u>Libya:</u></p> <p>– [COM] Ensure effective implementation of border management actions and identification of new support measures – conditions allowing – in Libya, with strong human rights monitoring. Timeline: ongoing,</p>	<p><i>Meeting of Commissioner Brunner with the Libyan minister of labour in the margins of Khartoum Process (10 March 2025)</i></p> <p><i>In parallel to political contacts, four technical missions took place over the course of 2024, three in Libya and two in Brussels, to discuss progress in the area of migration and protection. The missions discussed the various aspects of the human rights-based migration governance and border management with the relevant LY and IO stakeholders active in the country and have directly contributed to enhancing meaningful and</i></p>

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		<p>2024. An official handover ceremony took place during the visit of Commissioner Brunner on 9-10 April. The [EUR 82 million] top-up to the ongoing border management project was signed at the end-2024.</p> <p>Visit of Commissioner Brunner to Egypt on 9/10 April (Khartoum ministerial meeting and several bilateral meetings).</p> <p>Sub-committee on Justice and Security Working Group on Migration, Social and Consular</p>		<p><i>predictable access of UN agencies to disembarkation points and detention centres, as well as to the lifting of the exit visa fees. This latter step is facilitating UN-supported voluntary humanitarian returns from the country.</i></p> <p><i>Assisted voluntary returns and resettlements out of Libya are continuing, supported by the EU. The number of assisted voluntarily returns of migrants to their countries of origin (VHRs) has increased significantly since the issuance of Decree No. 323 in July 2024 exempting VHRs from visa fees as a result of EU advocacy.</i></p>

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		Affairs on 22 May in Cairo.		
4. Develop and implement a new regional programme to fight against the smuggling of migrants and the trafficking of human beings	Commission, MS, relevant EU agencies	Ongoing	<p>[COM] An anti-smuggling programme covering Tunisia was signed in November 2024 (EUR 18 million). Anti-Smuggling Operational Partnership launched in 2023.</p> <p>– [COM] A new [EUR 20 million] anti-smuggling project with Egypt and the [EUR 82 million] top-up to the border management project. were contracted at end-2024</p>	<i>Cooperation with CEPOL, in particular trainings, continues at good pace.</i>
5. Reinforce the EU/AU/UN trilateral task force for Libya (TTF)	EEAS, Commission	<p>In 2024 the TTF reinforced its activities:</p> <p>- On 31 March the TTF delivered a démarche to the Libyan MOI, MFA, MOJ, MOSA and presented the advocacy points agreed by the TTF's Principals</p>	<p>– [COM, EEAS, EUD Tripoli]-Implementation of protection programmes for Libya. Timeline: ongoing.</p> <p>– The TTF currently considers (all TBC)</p> <p>-to organise a joint mission to the Emergency Transit Centre in Rwanda, open to other AU MS with more than 1000 stranded migrants in Libya,</p> <p>-to organize a fact finding</p>	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>

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		- On 9 September 2024 the TTF discussed the next steps by VTC.	mission to Libya -to organise a conference in Addis to share the findings of the missions with all AU MS with more than 1000 nationals stranded in Libya to shed light on the plight of the migrants and to unblock return processes.	
6. Negotiate and swiftly conclude the working arrangement (WA) between Frontex and the EU Border Assistance Mission in Libya (EUBAM)	Frontex, EEAS, Commission	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	– [Frontex/EEAS] Conclude a working arrangement. Timeline: Unclear	<i>In the meantime, EUBAM continues cooperation with Frontex on a needs basis. EUBAM will reinforce cooperation with JHA actors through the participation in EMPACT priorities.</i> <i>EUBAM's renewed mandate refocuses on border management, cross border crime, including human trafficking and migrant smuggling and counter terrorism, and on more technical advice and capacity building/ training.</i> [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
7. Intensify cooperation by Frontex with EUCAP Sahel Niger	Frontex, EEAS, Europol, Commission	Following the military coup of July 2023, EUCAP Sahel Niger stopped operational activities and its mandate		

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		expired on September 30, 2024.		
8. Consolidate cooperation with Niger	Commission, EEAS, Europol, Frontex, EUAA, MS	Projects on hold after the coup d'état.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – [COM] Implement anti-smuggling Operational Partnership. – [EUAA] Implement the EUAA-Niger Pilot Roadmap for Cooperation. – [COM] Continue implementation of the Emergency Transit Mechanism (funded under the forced displacement component of the Regional MIP 2021-2027). Timeline: On hold – [Frontex] [REDACTED] 	<p><i>Cooperation with Niger de facto authorities is on-hold.</i></p> <p><i>The Emergency Transit Mechanism continues to operate even though the MOU for its functioning expired in July 2024. [REDACTED]</i></p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>
9. Step up the implementation of the EUAA-Egypt Roadmap on support in relation to international protection	EUAA, Commission	The EUAA has been implementing a bilateral cooperation roadmap with Egypt from February 2021 to January 2024, aimed at assisting national authorities in establishing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – [EUAA]: Continue strengthening asylum-related institutional capacity in Egypt and access to international protection procedure. Timeline: ongoing – [EUAA] Second Roadmap was formally adopted in 	<p><i>Inception phase is concluded, Implementation of 2nd EUAA- Egypt Roadmap for Cooperation is ongoing.</i></p> <p><i>Since March 2023, the EUAA has a project staff dedicated to the implementation of the Roadmap (and its second phase) on long term</i></p>

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		effective asylum procedures.	October 2024. A workplan was designed to guide the implementation of the second Roadmap (status: ongoing).	<i>mission in Cairo and working from the EU Delegation offices.</i>
10. Coordinate joint diplomatic demarches vis-à-vis third countries	Commission, EEAS, EU-DELS and MS	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – [EEAS/EU-DEL to coordinate with MS] Conduct demarches to main countries of origin of migrants on the Central Med route (Egypt, Tunisia, Bangladesh, Pakistan) with common messages , focusing on preventing irregular movements and achieving better practical cooperation on readmission. Timeline: ongoing – [COM, MS] Continuous dialogue with transit countries, including Egyptian, Emirati and Turkish operators on preventing transit to Libya. Timeline: ongoing – Commission/MS to analyse needs and opportunities for new readmission agreements 	<p><i>Bangladesh: The first meeting of the comprehensive Migration and Mobility Dialogue took place in March 2023 as a follow-up to Commissioner Johansson's visit in November 2022. The second Migration and Mobility Dialogue with Bangladesh took place in March 2024, back-to-back with the Joint Working Group on the implementation of the SOPs on return and reintegration of Bangladesh nationals (and the 2nd Talent Partnership Roundtable). The comprehensive cooperation on migration continues, including with the Bangladeshi interim government. The next Migration and Mobility Dialogue, back-to-back with the Joint Working Group and Talent Partnership Roundtable is planned for July 2025.</i></p> <p><i>After the adoption of the 5th Art25a report in late July 2024, EU Delegations in all countries listed for poor cooperation were instructed to conduct outreach activities in coordination with EUMS representations.</i></p> <div style="background-color: black; height: 15px; width: 100%;"></div> <div style="background-color: black; height: 15px; width: 100%;"></div> <div style="background-color: black; height: 15px; width: 100%;"></div> <div style="background-color: black; height: 15px; width: 100%;"></div> <div style="background-color: black; height: 15px; width: 100%;"></div>

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			committed in December 2024. Plan to mobilise EUR 90 million out of the 2025 envelope of the Rapid Response Pillar-Resilience. Possible further use of the Rapid Response Pillar-Resilience in 2026-2027 as well as the NDICI Emerging Challenges and Priorities Cushion are being explored.	<p><i>returns from EG, 6 885 assisted voluntary returns from TN, 7 844 assisted voluntary returns from Algeria, and 2 195 assisted voluntary returns from Morocco were carried out.</i></p> <p><i>Voluntarily humanitarian returns from Libya continue to increase and accelerate since the issuance of Decree No. 323 exempting VHRs from visa fees.</i></p> <p><i>A workshop on return, readmission and reintegration was organised in Cairo in December 2024.</i></p>
12. Prioritise the implementation of the Regional Development and Protection Programme in North Africa and Niger	Commission, EUAA	Ongoing	– [COM] Continue/intensify work on RDPP in North Africa and Niger. New phase (7) of RDPP started in 2025, implemented by Italy. Timeline: Ongoing	<p><i>Action funded by AMIF Thematic facility. Contracting of next phase ongoing with Italian Ministry of the Interior as contractor and implementation primarily via UNHCR and IOM. Continued support to UNHCR activities in terms of refugee status determination and to IOM's focus on unaccompanied minors.</i></p> <p><i>The implementation of the EUAA Regional Pilot Project on asylum and reception under the framework of the RDPP is ongoing.</i></p>

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13. Accelerate the activation of the Talent Partnerships	Commission, Member States	Ongoing	<p>– After the first round with all priority countries in 2023, the second round of Talent Partnership roundtables were held with Bangladesh (5 March 2024), Pakistan (23 April 2024-), Tunisia (21 June 2024) and Morocco (21 October 2024). [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] The third round of TP roundtables are to take place in Q2/Q3 2025 (June – Tunisia & Pakistan; July – Bangladesh; October – Morocco; all tbc).</p>	<p><i>In total, EU-funded projects (over EUR 58.8 million) are adopted or under implementation in support of the five Talent Partnerships.</i></p> <p><i>For Tunisia, Morocco and Egypt, DG MENA is currently consulting line DGs on the programming 2025-2027, where there is EUR 44 million allocated to legal migration (Multiannual action: “Action document: Supporting a comprehensive approach to legal migration and mobility” for Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt and Algeria and selected Sub-Saharan countries - under the Multi-Annual Indicative Programme for a Multi-Country Migration programme for the Southern Neighbourhood 2021-2027). Additionally, AMIF-funded MPF projects contribute with an amount of around 16.5 million EUR of grants to support labour mobility projects.</i></p> <p><i>For Bangladesh and Pakistan, DG INTPA allocated EUR 3 million per country to launch programmes to support the Talent Partnerships. The contract for Bangladesh was signed in July 2024 and for Pakistan in November 2024. In addition, two MPF projects are currently ongoing and contribute to the Talent Partnership with Pakistan to the tune of EUR 2 million.</i></p>

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				<p><i>Currently, there is no MPF project in Bangladesh.</i></p> <p><i>A workshop on legal migration – including Talent Partnerships – was organised in December 2024 in Cairo, following which THLMM+ activities were officially launched in Egypt in February 2025.</i></p>

ANNEX I - Member States actions

- *Description of the action with the following details (content of the action – indication of the link to the Action file objectives, overall budget, timeframe, key implementors)*

Action	Objective	Budget	Timeframe
<i>Title of the action</i>	<i>Link to the Action file objectives</i>	<i>Indicative budget</i>	<i>Foreseen timetable</i>

ANNEX II – Common messages

The EU and Member States are intensifying their engagement with countries of origin and transit in a coordinated manner, notably through mutually beneficial partnerships or specific dialogues, with the objective of strengthening their capacity for migration governance, border management, preventing irregular flows, breaking the business model of smugglers, increasing efforts on returns and reintegration, providing support on protection as well as on legal migration.

The European Union has stepped up its action to prevent irregular departures and loss of life, to reduce pressure on EU borders and on reception capacities, to fight against migrant smugglers and trafficking in human beings and to increase returns, both in terms of the speed of the procedure and numbers. These are the priorities we share with countries of origin and transit along the Central Mediterranean route.

On the Central Mediterranean route, the cooperation on migration with Tunisia and Egypt is embedded in Strategic and Comprehensive Partnerships, covering joint priorities, and allowing to untap the enormous potential of the relationship across all spheres of mutual interest (Memorandum of Understanding on a Strategic and Global Partnership between the European Union and Tunisia signed on 16 July 2023; EU-Egypt Joint Declaration signed on 17 March 2024). The technical dialogue with Libya is also yielding concrete results.

The EU will be further strengthening cooperation with international organisations, notably the IOM and UNHCR. The EU supports the work of IOM on voluntary returns, [REDACTED], as well as the voluntary humanitarian returns from Libya. The EU recognises the important support provided by UNHCR at different levels, including through registration, identification and support to asylum system/establishment where requested, as well as for the crisis situations like the situation of the Sudanese refugees. Actions should support access of refugees and migrants to basic services.

Operational cooperation should be supported, notably with the participation of the relevant EU Agencies.

Irregular migration, including smuggling of migrants and trafficking of human beings are common challenges, also for the countries of origin. Cooperation is therefore pursued with the objective of addressing the root causes of migration and anti-smuggling measures.

The growing interest in Talent Partnerships demonstrates that the EU is on the right track. The EU is defining a new strategy for the Sahel, which, among other things, plans to restart channels of cooperation to combat smuggling of migrants and trafficking in human beings, prevent irregular migration and continue to promote return and reintegration.

Finally the upcoming new regional frameworks, such as the Pact for the Mediterranean, have the potential of strengthening the comprehensive cooperation with the countries of transit and origin, also on aspects related to migration and security.