



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 18 October 2016
(OR. en)

13453/16
ADD 3

ASIM 137
ACP 138
DEVGEN 225
COAFR 267
RELEX 862
CO EUR-PREP 40
CSDP/PSDC 591
ECOFIN 925
MAMA 217
COASI 206

COVER NOTE

From: Secretary-General of the European Commission,
signed by Mr Jordi AYET PUIGARNAU, Director

date of receipt: 18 October 2016

To: Mr Jeppe TRANHOLM-MIKKELSEN, Secretary-General of the Council of
the European Union

No. Cion doc.: COM(2016) 700 final - ANNEX 3

Subject: ANNEX to the COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL AND THE
COUNCIL
First Progress Report on the Partnership Framework with third countries
under the European Agenda on Migration

Delegations will find attached document COM(2016) 700 final - ANNEX 3.

Encl.: COM(2016) 700 final - ANNEX 3



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Brussels, 18.10.2016
COM(2016) 700 final

ANNEX 3

ANNEX

to the

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

**First Progress Report on the Partnership Framework with third countries under the
European Agenda on Migration**

ANNEX 3 – PROGRESS IN PRIORITY COUNTRIES

Niger	
ACTION AND PROGRESS JUNE-OCTOBER 2016	NEXT STEPS
<p><i>High level engagement</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Joint migration declaration and HR/VP Mogherini meeting with Minister of Foreign Affairs at EU G5 Ministerial (June) – Visit of Commissioner Stylianides (July) – Visit of Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany (August) – United Nations General Assembly (in margins) several EU Member States, HR/VP Mogherini and Commissioner Avramopoulos (September) – Cadre de Concertation co-chaired by the Minister of Interior and the Head of the EU Delegation, with attendance high level officials from the Member States (October) – Visit of Chancellor of Germany (October) <p><i>Key progress by Nigerien authorities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Establishment of a local coordination platform on migration ("Cadre de Concertation"), and first meeting on 6 October 2016, with the participation of senior officials from Member States. – Creation of dedicated agency to combat human trafficking. – Finalisation of Action Plan to fight against smuggling, decrease irregular migration, and provide alternative economic opportunities. – Significant action against migrant smuggling. – Application of stricter measures to control irregular migrants going to Libya or Algeria. Awareness campaigns directed towards potential migrants. – Several hundreds of irregular migrants returned to Agadez. – Significant increase in voluntary returns (from 1,721 returns in 2015 to more than 3,020 in the first 8 months of 2016). <p><i>EU support</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Field office established in Agadez (under CSDP mission to Niger (EUCAP Sahel Niger)), providing training and advice. – Support of border management and action against criminal networks, as well as addressing the root causes of irregular migration, such as through youth job creation. – EU Trust Fund for Africa projects on Migrant Resource and Response Mechanism, capacity building, and support to the economy of Agadez. – The four transit centres for migrants in Niger supported by the EU, with 1,500 places in total, have assisted over 12,000 migrants from November 2015 to July 2016. – Member States' support has included the provision of key equipment to assist the Niger authorities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Establishment of a dedicated office to enhance national risk analysis capacity and regional cooperation and exchange of information. – Continued engagement through the "Cadre de Concertation" and with high level visits. – Full operational capacity for the field office in Agadez and stronger CSDP cooperation. – Deployment of the European Migration Liaison Officer. – Focus of EU support on the dedicated agency to combat human trafficking. – Support to communities and individuals affected by the smuggling and trafficking business by providing alternative livelihood opportunities. – Support to the implementation of the Action Plan against smuggling in the Agadez region. – Stepped up financial assistance for reintegration of returning migrants and host communities. – Continued delivery of training and equipment.

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Nigeria	
Action and progress June-October 2016	Next steps
<p><i>High level engagement</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Visit of Minister of Foreign Affairs of Italy (August) – United Nations General Assembly bilateral meetings, several EU Member States (September) – Visit of Minister of Foreign Affairs of Germany (October) <p><i>Key progress by Nigerian authorities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Appointment of points of contact in areas including readmission and smuggling. – Work to enhance best practices for joint return operations. – Nigerian participation at a European Border and Coast Guard event on return. – Identification missions to Member States have been planned for November. <p><i>EU support</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The EU Trust Fund for Africa has mobilised projects addressing specific migration management issues, as well as the root causes of irregular migration. A project contributing to better migration management and facilitating return and sustainable reintegration is in the pipeline. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Make progress on the Readmission Agreement negotiations with a view to a swift conclusion. – Further improve operational cooperation on return and readmission, including through identification missions. – Strengthen the work on the fight against trafficking and smuggling. – Increase initiatives in the field of business cooperation also with a view to addressing root causes. – Deployment of the European Migration Liaison Officer. – Launch an EU Cooperation Platform on migrant smuggling. – Harness opportunities offered for legal migration channels, ERASMUS opportunities and other policies and tools.

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Senegal	
Action and progress June-October 2016	Next steps
<p><i>High level engagement</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Visit of Commissioner Avramopoulos (July) – Visit of Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany (August) – United Nations General Assembly bilateral meetings, several EU Member States (September) – Visit of Minister of Interior of France (October). <p><i>Key progress by Senegalese authorities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Negotiations between the European Border and Coast Guard and the Senegalese authorities on improved working arrangements on returns are well advanced. – Senegal has agreed to host an international conference on migration in Dakar in October, and the Third International Forum on Peace and Security in Africa in December. <p><i>EU support</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Projects for creating jobs for youth have been adopted under the EU Trust Fund for Africa. – Senegal also benefits from a regional project supporting law enforcement entities. – Projects contributing to better migration management and facilitating return, to support consolidation of civil register systems and creating economic and employment opportunities in regions with a high migration potential are in the pipeline. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Continue the work on operational cooperation along the lines already agreed. – Carry out planned identification missions in Member States. – Cooperation on travel documents – Strengthen bilateral cooperation opportunities within the EU framework. – Deployment of the European Migration Liaison Officer. – Support the further strengthening of civil registries and biometrics. – Conclude the working arrangements with the European Border and Coast Guard. – Harness opportunities offered for legal migration channels, ERASMUS opportunities and other policies and tools.

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Mali	
Action and progress June-October 2016	Next steps
<p><i>High level engagement</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Meeting of HR/VP Mogherini with Minister of Foreign Affairs at EU G5 Ministerial (June) – Senior level mission (European External Action Service/Commission services and The Netherlands, Germany) (July) – Visit of Prime Minister of Estonia (September) – United Nations General Assembly bilateral meetings, several EU Member States, HR/VP Mogherini and Commissioner Avramopoulos (September) – Visit of Commissioner Mimica (September) – Visit of Chancellor of Germany (October) <p><i>Key progress by Malian authorities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Mali has appointed a focal point for migration issues, which will ensure a single contact point – Standard Operating Procedures are currently being finalised to improve cooperation and accelerate the procedures for identification and return. <p><i>EU support</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Six projects have already been approved under the EU Trust Fund for Africa, including on border management. – Further projects contributing to better migration management and facilitating return and sustainable reintegration, to support consolidation of civil registry systems, and creating economic and employment opportunities in regions with a high migration potential are in the pipeline. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Continue the work on operational cooperation along the lines already agreed. – Finalise agreement on Standard Operating Procedures and start implementation. – Carry out planned identification missions in Member States. – Strengthen EU agencies' involvement on the ground (European Border and Coast Guard and EUROPOL). – Deployment of the European Migration Liaison Officer. – Harness opportunities offered for legal migration channels, ERASMUS opportunities and other policies and tools.

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Ethiopia	
Action and progress June-October 2016	Next steps
<p><i>High level engagement</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Meeting of President of Ethiopia with several members of the College, including President Juncker for the signature of the Strategic Engagement/ High level dialogue on migration (June). – United Nations General Assembly bilateral meetings, several Member States, and HR/VP Mogherini with President of Ethiopia (September) – Visit of Minister of Foreign Affairs of Slovakia (October) – Visit of Chancellor of Germany (October) <p><i>Key progress by Ethiopian authorities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – A contact point to cooperate with Member States in identification and return issues was appointed. – The Ethiopian government has identified a majority of the cases submitted for return. – Ethiopia, with support of the EU, is making progress in supporting livelihood opportunities for refugees, notably with its announcement in September 2016 that it would provide 30,000 jobs to refugees through the creation of two industrial parks (aiming at a total of 100,000 jobs). <p><i>EU support</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The <i>EU Trust Fund for Africa</i> approved a number of projects, in addition to regional programmes. – Preparation of projects on biometrics and on reintegration are ongoing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Finalise the procedure for the pending return cases. – Set in place an agreed procedure for agreeing and implementing returns. – Step up assistance for projects improving the livelihood and job opportunities for refugees. – Step up assistance for the strengthening of the civil registry/identity documents. – Deployment of the European Migration Liaison Officer. – Harness opportunities offered for legal migration channels, ERASMUS opportunities and other policies and tools.