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COVER NOTE

From:	Secretary-General of the European Commission, signed by Mr Jordi AYET PUIGARNAU, Director
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To:	Mr Jeppe TRANHOLM-MIKKELSEN, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union
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Subject:	ANNEX to the REPORT FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL AND THE COUNCIL Fourth Progress Report on the Partnership Framework with third countries under the European Agenda on Migration

Delegations will find attached document COM(2017) 350 final - ANNEX 1.

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EUROPEAN
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ANNEX 1

ANNEX

to the

REPORT FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL AND THE COUNCIL

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

Progress in priority countries

Progress in priority countries

Niger	
Action and progress since March 2017	Next steps
<p><i>High level engagement</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – High-level mission from Sweden to Niger (June) – Visit of the High Representative/Vice-President to Mali (bilateral programme and EU-G5 Sahel Ministerial Meeting) (June) <p><i>Key progress by Nigerien authorities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – National Migration Strategy finalised, and, with its Action Plan, pending final approval in July. – Second meeting of the "Cadre de Concertation" agreed specific recommendations and the appointment of the Permanent Secretary. – Specific regional "Cadre de Concertation" on migration launched, involving local and central authorities. – Joint Investigation Team operational since March 2017, with as its first success a network of migrant smugglers operating in Tchín-Tabaraden dismantled. – Action against trafficking in human beings with 18 operations in 2017 so far, leading to the arrest of more than 30 people, around 20 convictions and the vehicles used confiscated. – Joint information platform on alternative routes launched. <p><i>EU support</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Liaison officer from the European Border and Coast Guard Agency to be deployed in July. – Support provided to create viable economic alternatives in the Agadez region. – Action of EUR 15 million contracted in April 2017 on protection and reintegration of returnees. – Assisted Voluntary Returns from Niger have increased, with concerted EU support. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Support the implementation of the National Migration Strategy. – Improve the monitoring of migratory flows; support Niger to put in place adequate response to new migratory routes. – Support Niger's capacity to investigate and prosecute migrant smugglers including by facilitating cooperation with Europol and Eurojust. – Continue fostering Assisted Voluntary Returns. – Deploy the European Border and Coast Guard Agency liaison officer in Niamey. – Implement the approved projects to address the economic needs of communities losing revenues from the smuggling economy.

Nigeria	
Action and progress since March 2017	Next steps
<p><i>High level engagement</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Meeting of the EEAS Director for Africa with the Nigerian Chargé d'Affaires in Brussels (April) – Visit of President of the S&D group in the European Parliament (May) – Sherpa mission (June) <p><i>Key progress by Nigerian authorities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Cooperation on readmission relatively positive, though negotiations for the readmission agreement with the EU have been slow. – Growing cooperation on criminal trafficking of women and girls for sexual exploitation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Step up further bilateral cooperation on readmission. – Resume negotiations on the readmission agreement. – Ensure the involvement of Europol and Eurojust in cross-border cases of trafficking in human beings, including support to financial investigations, by the end of 2017. – Bring together all different work strands on investment, security and migration in view of the EU-Ministerial meeting.

Progress in priority countries

<p><i>EU support</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Six projects which address, inter alia, resilience, return, reintegration and anti-radicalisation have been committed through the EU Trust Fund for Africa. 	
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Senegal	
Action and progress since March 2017	Next steps
<p><i>High level engagement</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Visit of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Senegal to Brussels (April) – High-level mission from Sweden to Senegal (May) – Visit of the President of Senegal to Brussels (June) <p><i>Key progress by Senegalese authorities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Border police service reorganised and measures taken to improve the availability of reliable migration data. – Action plan of the national migration strategy to be adopted in the coming weeks. – Extension of central fingerprints database is progressing with 6.5 million out of 10 million registered citizens. – Senegal plays a significant role in the Steering Committee of the Rabat Process. – Embassy opened in Niger to assist migrants wishing to return to Senegal. <p><i>EU support</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Memoranda of Understanding with some Member States under discussion. – Memorandum of Understanding with the European Border and Coast Guard Agency to be signed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Establish an Africa Frontex Intelligence Community Risk Analysis Cell in Senegal. – Sign as soon as possible the Memorandum of Understanding with the European Border and Coast Guard Agency. – Establish effective cooperation on readmission, based on the respect of best practices, focusing on migrants arrived through the Central Mediterranean Route.

Mali	
Action and progress since March 2017	Next steps
<p><i>High level engagement</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Visit of the Minister for Malians Abroad to Brussels (May) – High-level mission from Sweden to Mali (June) – Visit of the High Representative/Vice-President to Mali (bilateral programme and EU-G5 Sahel Ministerial Meeting) (June) – Visit of German Minister of Defence to Mali (June) <p><i>Key progress by Malian authorities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Malian authorities continued efforts to facilitate the voluntary return of Malian citizens stranded in Niger and in Libya. – National consultation process on migration to take place in June. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Continue engagement to enhance the work on smuggling and trafficking. – Further facilitate Assisted Voluntary Returns from other African countries. – Ensure the effective return of irregular migrants identified through ad hoc missions. – Put in place efficient working methods with Malian authorities on identification and documentation of undocumented irregular migrants.

Progress in priority countries

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – National Strategy on Borders adopted in May, including Action Plan. <p><i>EU support</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – EU Trust Fund projects launched to support the redeployment of Malian internal security forces and reinforce border control in central Mali. – Mali benefits from nine projects supported under the EU Trust Fund for Africa, with an important emphasis on security. Work is ongoing to identify options for new projects on smuggling, reinforcing law enforcement, and control and identification of transit routes. 	
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Ethiopia	
Action and progress since March 2017	Next steps
<p><i>High level engagement</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Visit of EU Special Representative for Human Rights to Ethiopia (April) – Visit of Danish Minister for Immigration and Integration to Ethiopia (April) – Visit of Minister of Foreign Affairs of Luxembourg to Ethiopia (April) – Meeting between the High Representative/Vice-President and the Prime Minister of Ethiopia at the Somalia conference in London (May) <p><i>Key progress by Ethiopian authorities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – First sectoral dialogue on governance and human rights under the EU-Ethiopia Strategic Engagement took place in April 2017. – Ethiopia is chair of the Khartoum Process. <p><i>EU support</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Development, with the EU, of a comprehensive project on improved collection and maintenance of national data on migrants, asylum-seekers and refugees. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ensure a rapid delivery of travel documents by the Ethiopian consulates and effective return of the migrants concerned by the pilot project. – To establish as soon as possible an effective structured cooperation for identification and returns.