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From: General Secretariat of the Council
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Subject: Conclusions of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council on resettling through multilateral and national schemes 20 000 persons in clear need of international protection

Delegations will find attached a document on the above issue as agreed by the JHA Council on 20 July 2015.

Conclusions of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council on resettling through multilateral and national schemes 20 000 persons in clear need of international protection

THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE MEMBER STATES,
HAVING REGARD TO:

- the statement adopted by the European Council, on 23 April 2015, agreeing to set up a first voluntary pilot project on resettlement across the EU, offering places to persons qualifying for protection¹;
- the conclusions adopted by the European Council, on 25-26 June 2015, which, in the light of the current emergency situation and of the EU commitment to reinforce solidarity and responsibility, noted the agreement of all Member States to participate including through multilateral and national schemes in the resettling of 20 000 displaced persons in clear need of international protection, reflecting the specific situations of Member States²;
- the conclusions (*"Taking action to better manage migratory flows"*), adopted at the Justice and Home Affairs Council meeting on 10 October 2014, recognising that all Member States should propose a credible number of resettlement places, on a voluntary basis, in a fair and balanced manner, while taking into account the efforts carried out by Member States affected by migratory flows³;

¹ Doc. EUCO 18/15

² Doc. EUCO 22/15

³ Doc. 14141/14

- The Commission Communication on a European Agenda on Migration, presented on 13 May 2015, that, inter alia, defines a set of immediate measures tailored to respond to the human tragedy in the whole of the Mediterranean, and calling the European Union in particular to step up its resettlement efforts⁴.

NOTE the Commission Recommendation to the Member States, of 8 June 2015, on a European resettlement scheme to resettle 20 000 people in need of international protection over a two-year period⁵,

NOTE the readiness of the Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland to participate in this resettling effort through multilateral and national schemes,

WELCOME the Commission's proposal to increase by EUR 50 million in the years 2015 and 2016 the amounts available under the Union Resettlement Programme, set out in Article 17 of Regulation (EU) No 516/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council,

WELCOME the adoption of the amending budget 5/2015 of the EU for the financial year 2015 “responding to migratory pressures” which foresees an additional amount of EUR 25 million for 2015 under the AMIF Regulation⁶ to implement the European Resettlement Programme,

ACKNOWLEDGE the entitlement of the Member States to receive a financial allocation in proportion of the number of persons resettled in their territory in accordance with Article 17 of Regulation (EU) No 516/2014;

RECOGNISE the importance of the supporting role to be played by EASO in the implementation of this scheme,

⁴ Doc. 8961/15 COR 1

⁵ Doc. 9376/15 ADD 1

⁶ Regulation (EU) No 516/2014, of 16 April 2014, of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, amending Council Decision 2008/381/EC and repealing Decisions No 573/2007/EC and No 575/2007/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Decision 2007/435/EC, O.J. L 150 of 20.05.14.

RECOGNISE the key role of UNHCR and the substantial contributions by IOM in the resettlement process,

AGREE:

- to resettle, as set out in the Annex, persons in clear need of international protection, through multilateral and national schemes, reflecting the specific situations of Member States, on request of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, from a third country to a Member State in agreement with the latter, with the objective of protecting them against refoulement and admitting and granting them the right to stay and any other rights similar to those granted to a beneficiary of international protection or in case of a Member State bound neither by Directive 2011/95⁷ nor by Directive 2004/83⁸, in line with the Geneva Convention on the Status of Refugees;
- to take account of priority regions for resettlement including North Africa, the Middle East and the Horn of Africa, focusing in particular on the countries where the Regional Development and Protection Programmes are implemented;
- that effective measures must be taken to avoid secondary movements of resettled persons, in line with the EU acquis.

WELCOME the readiness of Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland to participate in this resettling effort through multilateral and national schemes, as shown in the Annex.

NOTE that a number of States have made statements, which will be entered in the minutes of the Council.

⁷ Directive 2011/95/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 13 December 2011, on standards for the qualification of third-country nationals or stateless persons as beneficiaries of international protection, for a uniform status for refugees or for persons eligible for subsidiary protection, and for the content of the protection granted, O.J. L 337, of 20.12.2011, p. 9.

⁸ Council Directive 2004/83/EC of 29 April 2004 on minimum standards for the qualification and status of third country nationals or stateless persons as refugees or as persons who otherwise need international protection and the content of the protection granted, O.J. L 304, of 30.09.2004, p. 12.

Austria	1900
Belgium	1100
Bulgaria	50
Croatia	150
Cyprus	69
Czech Republic	400
Denmark	1000
Estonia	20
Finland	293
France	2375
Germany	1600
Greece	354
Hungary	0
Ireland	520
Italy	1989
Latvia	50
Lithuania	70
Luxembourg	30
Malta	14
Netherlands	1000
Poland	900

Portugal	191
Romania	80
Slovakia	100
Slovenia	20
Spain	1449
Sweden	491
United Kingdom	2200

Norway	3500
Iceland	50
Liechtenstein	20
Switzerland	519

It is noted that a number of States have made statements, concerning the modalities of their participation, which will be entered in the minutes of the Council.
