Joint Return Operation by Switzerland to Nigeria, 28-29/05/2009

OPERATIONAL PLAN

The Joint Return Operation (JRO) to Nigeria is organised by Switzerland. It will take place on 28-29/05/2009. Its purpose is to remove, from the territory of the EU Member States and Schengen Associated Countries, relevant third-country nationals who are subject of expulsion orders issued by the participating countries to their country of origin.

Members detailed for duty in this operation will ensure full compliance with the Human Rights obligations ensuring respect and dignity for all persons encountered in the course of this operation.

Fingerprints:
With regard to the practice of the Nigerian officials to take fingerprints of all handed-over returnees, all the participating MS/SAC are requested to provide their respective escort leaders with copies of the fingerprints of all their returnees in order to speed up the hand-over procedure, if allowed by respective national law. The copies will be given to the Nigerian authorities attached to the travel documents of returnees.

Itinerary:

Route / schedule (local times):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Flight Number</th>
<th>From</th>
<th>Local Time</th>
<th>To</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Local Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Carrier: 
Aircraft:
Capacity: (not all seats will be available)

Carrier and capacity: to be communicated with the JRO offer

Available seats for this operation: returnees / escorts

Note: The departure from will be as soon as possible after the handover of returnees has been completed. In past operations this has been after arrival.

Leading state: Switzerland

Participants:
- Ireland, France, Poland

Numbers of returnees, escorts, observers: Annex1

Handling Agents:
Switzerland.
- There will be no handling agent in all the arrangements will be done by the airport police and the airport authority.

Dress code:
The dress code for escorts on this flight will be smart casual without neck ties. Official vests shall be worn while on duty at embarkation airport and onboard until arrival at the airport in the destination country. Full uniform is NOT permitted.

Operational Briefing:
Escort leaders (EL) and observers will attend an operational briefing mainly to update the pax lists, seating plan and discuss boarding process as well as other important procedures on board at the Airport. The briefing point and time will be determined in due time.

A separate briefing will be conducted by the organizer with a cockpit and a cabin crew.

Medical Attention:
1. Medical staff will be available at the Airport before the departure of the joint charter as well as onboard.
2. Participating states are requested to communicate any pre-existing medical conditions or requirements in timely fashion to the organising Member State.
Transport of Returnees:

To Airport:

- MS arriving by commercial flights will be picked up by the Swiss colleagues and directed to the special area. When necessary, the returnees will be provided with catering.
- MS arriving by charter flights, will either be located by the Swiss aircraft, and embarkation will be carried out from plane to plane.

Preparation of transport for Returnees (Airport):

1. Each returnee has to be searched thoroughly before boarding by respective national escorts.
2. National escort leaders are in charge of the coercive measures concerning their deportees. The CH escort leader has the final responsibility.
3. Escorts will have a designated returnee from departure to the destination.
4. Personal belongings shall not be put in the baggage hold of the aircraft. They should be placed in an envelope/plastic bag and marked with a name of a returnee. These items actually will be handled only by a responsible escort and they will hand it back over to the returnee just before disembarkation.
5. Baggage which is transported in the hold of the aircraft will be properly tagged and marked with a name of a returnee so that it may be properly unloaded in the destination country.
6. Maximum weight allowed per passenger is limited to 30 Kg.

Boarding:

1. Boarding will take place in a secure area. Escorts and returnees will be seated as directed by the organiser’s officials. The Seating Plan will be distributed during the operational briefing before the departure.
2. Once on board, all passengers will take their seats and remain seated.
3. The toilet will not be used until the fasten seat belts signs have been switched off after the take off. Only one returnee at the time will be permitted to use the toilet. Escorts are advised to jam the toilet door open and observe a returnee.

Procedures Onboard of Aircraft:

1. All escorts and other officials will remain alert at all times.
2. The escort level on this flight is according with a previous risk assessment carried out by the concerned MS.
3. No member will leave his/her designated returnee unless relieved. At no time there shall be less than the designated number of escorts with any returnee as it has been assessed.
4. Any movement of a returnee from a seat will not take place without the authority of EL. Any such authorised movements will be supervised by an organiser’s escorting officer.
5. Emergency exit rows will not be utilised for seating returnees.
6. A security back-up team will operate in the aircraft. This team will isolate and deal with any trouble makers as well as securing the exit doors.
7. Physical force will only be used as a last resort. Restraint will be used
to the level of resistance faced. To this end appropriate Velcro and
key operated leg and hand restraints will be available. All such restraint is
subject to the authority of the captain of the flight who is in charge of the
aircraft in connection with all safety and security measures.

offensive weapons and coercive measures hindering normal breathing
are prohibited.

8. Toilets for the use of returnees will be clearly indicated.
9. On the outward flight all escorts and officials will be provided with the same
food as returnees.
10. All relevant incidents have to be brought to the attention of the Swiss EL.

Procedure at Destination Airport:
1. Returnees will be presented to the Nigerian authorities at the door of the
aircraft and they will not be invited to board the aircraft.
2. When the aircraft comes to a stop and a complete standstill at the final
parking position any restraint will be removed from the returnees and they
will be brought to the door of the aircraft. At this time they will be handed their
personal belongings which were transported in the cabin.
3. The Swiss escort leader will make the first contact with the third-country
representatives. Afterwards, the EL of each participating state will meet the
third-country immigration officials and hand over travel documents while
presenting returnees.
4. Baggage in the hold will then be unloaded.
5. In case that no overnight in the destination country is planned, the escorts
and other officials will not disembark the aircraft. In the event that members
are required to enter the terminal rather than wait aboard the aircraft during
refuelling they will do so in groups designated by escort leaders.
6. Advanced Party will be present in a few days before the charter’s
arrival and will make all necessary arrangements with the local authorities.

Return from Destination Country:
- A debriefing will be organised during the return flight from the destination
country to with all the escort leaders, team leaders.

All members involved in this JRO will be briefed accordingly.