Joint Return Operation to Nigeria,  
17-20.01.2011

2010/OPS/68

Implementation Plan

The Joint Return Operation (JRO) to Nigeria is organised by Austria and coordinated and co-financed by Frontex. It will take place on 20.01.2011. Its purpose is to remove, from the territory of Austria, Malta and others MS relevant Nigerian nationals who are subject of individual return decision issued by the participating countries to their country of origin.

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

Any incident of a sensitive or public interest nature which occurs during the course of this operation will immediately reported, in writing, by the member concerned, for the Austria as an organizer.

Informing Nigeria about JRO:

Each participating MS/SAC is obliged to inform the relevant Nigerian diplomatic representation about the return of the Nigeria citizens expelled from their national territories.

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 leader 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: [Redacted]
Aircraft: [Redacted]
Capacity: [Redacted] seats
Available seats for this operation: [Redacted] (returnees) [Redacted] (escorts)

**Leading state:** Austria

**Participants:**
Malta
Sweden
Germany
France
Spain
Switzerland
Portugal
Luxembourg
Norway
Finland

**Numbers of returnees, escorts, observers:** Annex 1

**Implementation period:** 17-20.01.2011

An advance party (Austria) will travel to [Redacted] on 17.01.2011. The advance party will return back to [Redacted] with the joint charter flight. The departure time of the JRO from [Redacted] to Malta is [Redacted] on 20.01.2011; the PMS connection flights to reach [Redacted] will be on 19.01.2011. In [Redacted] only the delegation from Malta will board the plane. The PMS have to arrive at the departure airport at least one hour before the departure.
Handling Agents:
Austria
- There will be no handling agent in Austria all the arrangements will be done by the airport police and the airport authority

Malta
- There will be no handling agent in Malta all the arrangements will be done by the airport police and the airport authority

Frontex:
- Frontex Return Operations Officer will assist as a coordinator at airport and during the operation onboard.
  Contact: mobile: and mobile:

  can be contacted as follows:
  office phone: mobile:
e-mail: frontex.europa.eu.

Dress code:
The dress code for escorts on this flight will be smart casual without neck ties. Official vests with “national logo” in clear letters on the rear or front or armbands shall be worn while on duty at embarkation airport and onboard until arrival at the airport in the destination country. They will not be worn if disembarking from aircraft there. 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 and at Airport. The briefing point and time will be determined in due time.

A separate briefing will be conducted by the organizer with cockpit and 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 organizing Member State.

Interpreter:
There will be no interpreter on board!

Human rights observer:
A Human right observer from Austrian NGO will take part in the whole operation.
Transport of Returnees:

To Airport:
➢ MS arrive by commercial or charter flight, they will be picked up by the Austrian colleagues and directed to the special area. When necessary, the returnees will be provided with catering.

To Malta Airport:
➢ At present no other MS has a plan for embarkation at Malta airport on the way to Switzerland. Returning from Switzerland will disembark at Malta airport only.

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 AT escort leader has the final responsibility.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Means of Coercion allowed during a JRO²</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hand Cuffs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[X] yes [ ] no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plastic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[X] yes [ ] no</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Remarks: [ ]

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 and a flag of the destination country so that it may be properly unloaded in the destination countries.

6. Maximum weight allowed per passenger is limited to 20 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 appropriate 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.
   Coercive measure are allowed on board as indicated in the flight offer, offensive **weapons 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 Austrian EL.
11. **Consumption of alcoholic beverages is not allowed.**

**Procedure at Destination Airport:**

1. Returnees will be presented to the Nigerian authorities at the front area of the aircraft therefore immigration representatives will 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 front area of the aircraft. At this time they will be handed their personal belongings which were transported in the cabin.
3. The Austrian escort leader will make the first contact with the Nigerian 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. The escorts and other officials will not disembark the aircraft.
Return from Destination Country:

▷ After the hand-over procedure, the EL of all participating Member States will be respectfully asked to complete “JRO Debriefing Form”, distributed by the Frontex representative onboard, and return it before the debriefing. The feedback provided in the forms will be utilized during the debriefing.

▷ A debriefing will be organised during the return flight from the destination country to Austria with all the escort leaders, team leaders and Frontex representative.

After-operation phase:

▷ Austria as a leading country will provide Frontex with the Final Return Operation Report in a standard form.

It is the escort leader's responsibility and task to inform each member of his/her contingent about the content of the implementation plan and to ensure that each member of his/her contingent complies with it.

Annexes: Annex 1 - Passengers' numbers & Embarkation Airports & Arrival Times
Annex 2 - Escort Leaders & Crisis Focal Points 24/7 & Observers

For Frontex

Done in Warsaw,