Joint Return Operation by AUSTRIA to Georgia and Armenia
2012/ROS/42

Implementation Plan

The Joint Return Operation (JRO) to Georgia and Armenia is organised by AUSTRIA and coordinated and co-financed by Frontex. It will take place on 12.12.2012. 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 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 be reported, in writing, by the member concerned, for the information of Frontex and AUSTRIA as an organizer.

Itinerary:
Route / schedule (local times):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Flight schedule (Local Time)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Departure Airport</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aircraft:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, 2007/C303/01
Available seats for PMS in total: [ ] seats

Organising Member State (OMS): AUSTRIA

Participating Member State / Schengen Associated Country (PMS/SAC): FRANCE, GERMANY, HUNGARY, SPAIN, SWITZERLAND and POLAND.

Numbers of returnees and staff: See Annex 1.
Remark: It is the PMS/SAC Escort Leader’s responsibility and task to report any changes regarding the numbers of returnees and staff in Annex 1 by sending SMS to the Escort Leader of the OMS and the Frontex Project Manager prior to the departure from their respective home countries.

The Frontex representative will travel to [ ] on 11 December 2012. The operation will be carried out during the 12th of December 2012. The delegations will return to their respective countries from [ ] on 13 October 2012.

Handling Agent:

- [ ]
- [ ]
- [ ]
- [ ]
- [ ]

Frontex:
- Frontex Project Manager [ ], mobile [ ] will assist as coordinator at airport and during the operation onboard.
- [ ], mobile: [ ], e-mail: [ ].

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 [ ] They will not be worn if disembarking from aircraft there. Full uniform is NOT permitted.

Operational Briefing:
Before the embarkation all Escort Leaders will attend an operational briefing at [ ] airport mainly to update the pax lists, seating plan and discuss boarding process as well as other important procedures on board. 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.

Interpreter: One interpreter appointed by Austria.
Forced Return monitor: One monitor appointed by Austria.

Transport of Returnees to Airport:
The Spanish delegation will arrive to by charter organised by OMS/Austria. The other PMS/SAC will arrive by their own organised charter. They will either be taken to a special area, or directly to the main charter. The Austrian colleagues will provide the necessary assistance before and during the embarkation.

Preparations at the 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 returnees. The AT escort leader has the final responsibility.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Means of coercion allowed during this JRO²:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hand Cuffs ☑ yes ☐ no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steel ☑ yes ☐ no Plastic ☑ yes ☐ no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Velcro ☑ yes ☐ no Textile Material ☑ yes ☐ no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Body Cuffs ☑ yes ☐ no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Protection ☑ yes ☐ no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Straightjacket ☑ yes ☐ no</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.
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 the 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.

² Council Decision 2004/573/EC, Common Guidelines 3.2.(e): The organising MS and each participating MS shall agree on a list of authorised restraints in advance of the removal operation
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 Airport:

1. 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.
2. The Austrian escort leader will make the first contact with the representatives of Georgia. Afterwards, the EL of each participating state will meet the third-country immigration officials and hand over travel documents while presenting returnees.
3. Returnees will be presented to the Georgian authorities in the pier terminal finger by the escort leaders.
4. Baggage in the hold will then be unloaded.
5. The escorts and other officials will not disembark the aircraft.

Return from

➢ 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 to 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
- Annex 3 - Code of Conduct

For Frontex