

MCG, 26 September 2017, EU Delegation, Khartoum

Minutes

Participants: UK, DE, Sweden, IT, Norway, Netherlands

1. MCG Mandate

It was agreed that the points suggested in July will be added to the MCG mandate (please find a revised ToR with highlighted additions).

- To coordinate programmes in Sudan to ensure that the donor community is providing assistance in the most effective way and thereby ameliorating duplication.
- To ensure that projects are complementary and link to the National Action Plan or other relevant strategy.
- To act as the link between the technical aspects of irregular migration and the political level. Providing a route for informing Heads of Missions of key issues.
- To provide analysis of issues on the ground and feedback findings to Brussels and Heads of Missions.
- To communicate between the Government of Sudan, NGO's, Home Governments and Brussels on the priorities that need attention

2. HoMs meeting agenda for the 31<sup>st</sup> October (10.00-11.30, hosted by the EU). It was concluded that some of the issue may need to be addressed at the political level in order to achieve progress. A brief outline and suggested actions will be shared with the HoMs for discussion and decision.

- a. Update on establishment of the National Coordination Mechanism. Khartoum Process thematic meeting on root causes of migration (22-23 Nov in Khartoum) could offer a chance to advocate for creation of the NCM as a government counterpart, which includes various line ministries. (MCG meeting with IOM was held on 5<sup>th</sup> Oct. IOM requested support on advocacy with the GoS and presented various scenarios for the establishment of NCM).
- b. Migration Policy – linked to the creation of NCM, but a longer-term point.
- c. Law harmonisation (UNHCR is working on the analysis Asylum law).

- d. Respect for non-refoulement and due process for asylum seekers (UNHCR had additional exchanges on deportation with CoR, CoR seems to defend the decision with very legalistic argumentation).
- e. Co-chairs rotation

### 3. Deportations

A summary of EU meeting with UNHCR was shared.

### 4. Matrix

Partially populated new matrix was shared. MCG will strive to complete the matrix for the HoMs meeting. Any additional contribution should be shared with the chairs.

### 5. Co-chairs rotation.

ND and CH expressed interest. UK (current co-chair) confirmed its availability to continue. Decision will be announced during the HoMs meeting.

### 6. Updates

- DE informed about the case of one Eritrean citizen accepted by Eritrea from DE.
- UK: During the dialogue with the GoS in London on 16 October, NCM should be mentioned (UK will share the summary of discussion during the next MCG)
- NL: Informed about the co-funded NL-EU on-going research on migration. Preliminary findings should be available on 5/6 November (NL/EU will organise a meeting with researchers).
- Norway informed about the upcoming seminar (1-2.10) with session on borders and border communities.
- Sweden announced the Ambassador will attend the Khartoum Process meeting, on 22-23 November.
- UK DFID informed about on-going programming exercise which includes IOM (continuation of the DTM and direct assistance through MRC), discussions with IOM/UNHCR/GIZ/UNODC and plans to work on the issue of Modern Slavery/Anti-trafficking.

- EU informed about three Action Documents prepared for the November Operational Committee (Protection along the routes, and two on Value Chain in Darfur and in the East) – documents have been circulated in the Heads of Cooperation Group. In addition EU shared information on recent returns to Sudan, assisted by IOM and the Sudanese business passports.