



**EUNAVFOR MED
Operation HQs**

Via di Centocelle, 301
00175 Roma, (ITALY)

Roma,

13 July 2015

Prot. nr. IT-EU OHQ/A03/2015/CG

To Mr Fabrice Leggeri
Executive Director
Frontex
Plac Europejski 6
00-844 WARSAW
Poland

Subject: Exchange of letters on the operational cooperation between the European Agency for the Management of the Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union (Frontex) and EUNAVFOR MED.

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

I am writing to seek your formal agreement on the proposal set out below

In light of the Council Decision (CFSP) 2015/778 of 18 May 2015 establishing a European Union military operation in the Southern Central Mediterranean (EUNAVFOR MED) and taking into consideration the ongoing joint operation TRITON 2015 (JO TRITON), coordinated by Frontex, it seems of an utmost importance to develop our operational cooperation to maximize the effectiveness of the operational activities in the South Mediterranean Sea and to ensure the consistency of the EU operational activities in the area, as defined in the parties respective Operational Plans (OPLAN),

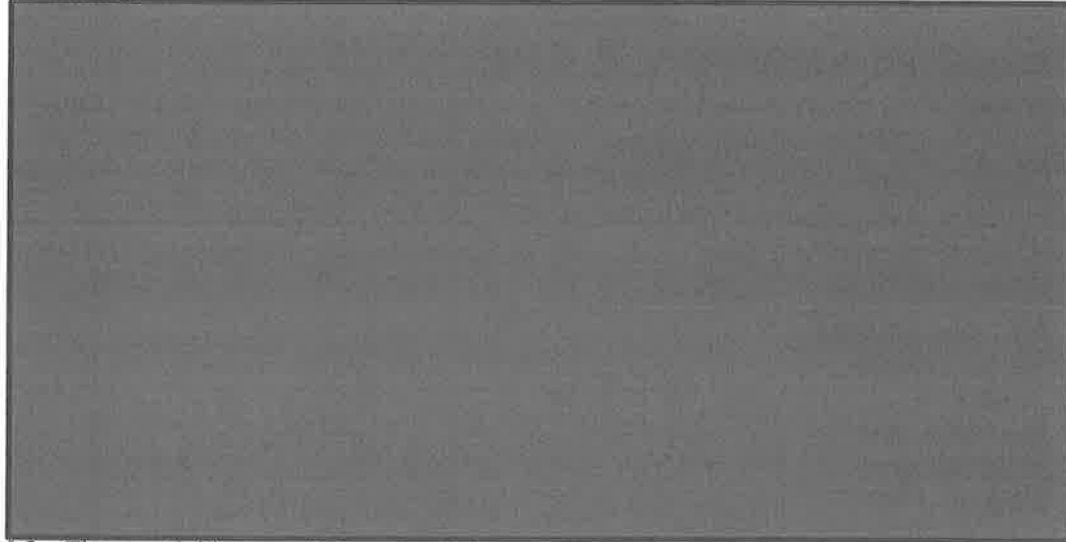
Having regard to the competence set out in Article 8 (3) of the aforementioned Council Decision and recalling the Working Arrangement agreed by exchange of letters between the European External Action Service and Frontex and in particular the conclusion foreseeing the conclusion of specific agreements with a view to implement certain cooperation activities between Frontex and CSDP Missions,

Subject to our respective mandates and competences, I suggest that the following forms the basis and modalities of our future cooperation regarding the military crisis management operation EUNAVFOR MED and Frontex operational activities in South Central Mediterranean sea.

The non-disclosed text contain personal data.

1. Operational coordination

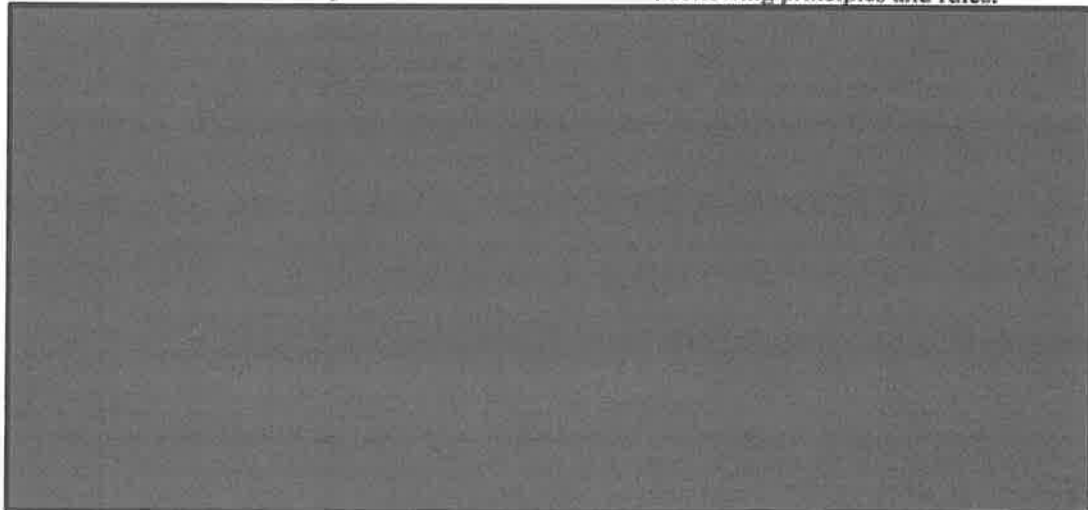
- 1.1 The operational coordination will cover but is not limited to the following fields of activity:



- 1.2 These activities are further detailed as required in respective Standing Operational Procedures (SOPs) and other documents previously consulted and where appropriate agreed among EUNAVFOR MED and Frontex.

2. Information exchange and situation monitoring

- 2.1 EUNAVFOR MED and Frontex will exchange information with a view to effectively achieve the operational objectives in accordance with the following principles and rules:





3. Exchange of Liaison Officers

- 3.1 EUNAVFOR MED will designate and deploy a liaison officer to:
- a) The International Coordination Centre of JO TRITON, in Pratica di Mare;
 - b) The EU Regional Task Force, in Catania.
- 3.2 FRONTEX will designate a Liaison Officer to The EUNAVFOR MED Force Headquarters on board the flagship ITS Cavour.
FRONTEX will consider designating a Liaison Officer to the EUNAVFOR MED Operational Headquarters in Rome.
- 3.3 The Liaison Officers are designated to facilitate the communications between the coordination structures, to maximize the planning of the patrolling activities at sea and to ensure the efficient and smooth exchange of information and intelligence.

If the foregoing is acceptable to you, I wish to propose that this letter with your reply letter confirming that you share this understanding should constitute the basis for the specific agreement of our cooperation, to become effective on the date of your reply.

Yours sincerely,



Rear Admiral, Italian Navy
EUNAVFOR MED Operation Commander

The non-disclosed text contains detailed information regarding:

- *personal data;*
- *EUNAVFOR MED modus operandi (i.e. the disembarkation of persons rescued or apprehended, in accordance with EEAS document 2015/855). Its publicity would expose the working methods applied in those activities which would jeopardize the implementation of ongoing and future operations;*
- *reporting tools and methods used by EUNAVFOR MED to exchange information. Its publicity would expose the working methods applied during border control activities which would jeopardize the implementation of future and ongoing operations.*

Therefore, defence and military matters, will be affected. In light of the above the text should not be disclosed pursuant to the exception laid down in the first indent of Article 4(1)(a) of Regulation No 1049/2001 relating to the protection of the public interest as regards public security.

