

DELEGATION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE IN GENEVA

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Subject: Visit to Geneva of Commissioner Avramopoulos 8-9 December 2014 and participation to the UNHCR Ministerial-level Pledging Conference on Resettlement and other forms of admission for Syrian Refugees

Summary:

The first visit of the new Migration and Home Affairs Commissioner Avramopoulos to Geneva was constructive and successful: the Commissioner met with the heads of the two main UN/global organisations for his area of responsibility, Director General Swing of IOM and High Commissioner Guterres of UNHCR; and delivered a well-received speech to an important UNHCR conference dedicated to the question of resettlement of Syrian refugees, widely covered by the media.

[redacted]

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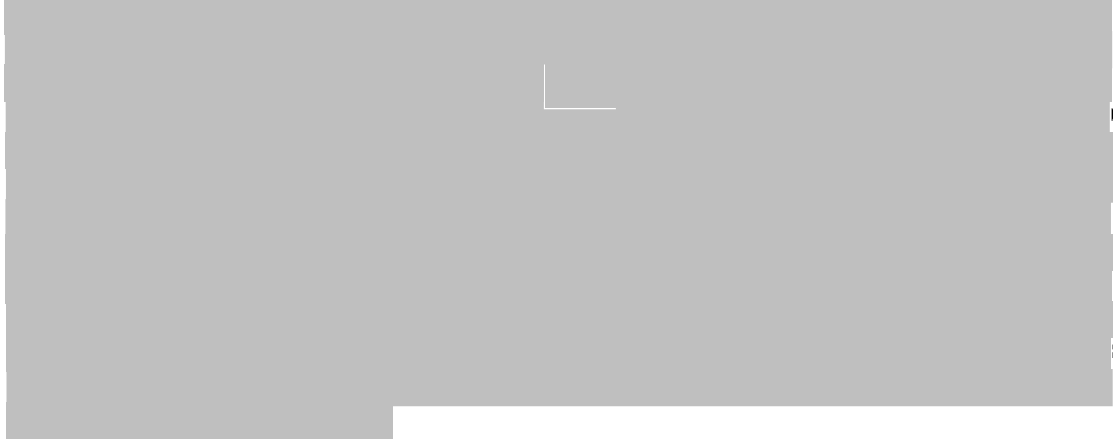
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2. On Monday 8 December in the evening, the Commissioner discussed with IOM Director General Swing (accompanied by [redacted], International Cooperation and Partnerships Director and [redacted], Migration management Director) the state of migration in general and more particularly the current situation in the Mediterranean. He mentioned his plans for future action, such as a comprehensive approach to migration and a greater cooperation with third countries (e.g. Egypt); greater synergies between EU agencies FRONTEX, EASO and EUROPOL on fight against trafficking. He indicated to be all in favour of developing public awareness strategies as IOM is planning as well (World Economic Forum, European Parliament).

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Sign-off:  – Head of Delegation