

Mission report

Workshop for the Handover of Returnees from EU

Name of staff on mission:	1.
Place of mission:	Banjul (The Gambia)
Dates of mission:	12-17 (13-18*) January 2020
Reason for mission:	Organisation and conduct of the Workshop for the Handover of Returnees from EU
Frontex delegation	1
Summary 1	

The Workshop on Handover Procedure of Returnees from the EU was conducted in the period 14 - 16 January 2020.



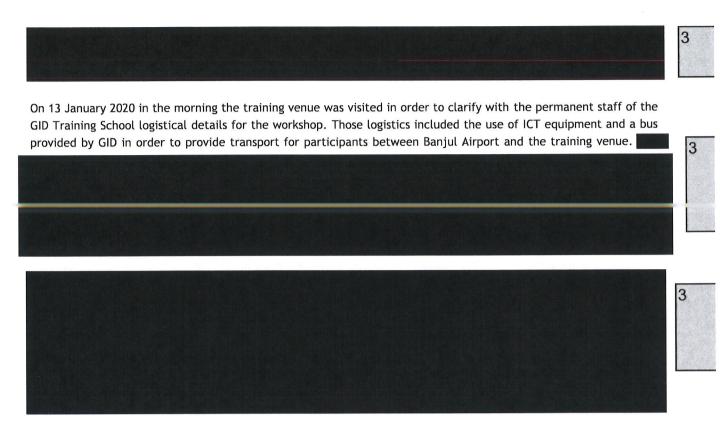
The WS was conducted in a cordial atmosphere. There was strong interest for participation from different entities. The majority was nominated by GID (others were MoI, National Police Force, State Intelligence Service, Aviation Security, Drug Enforcement Agency and Airport Fire and Rescue Service). MFA did not nominate participants.

Participants were very interested to learn about safeguards for maintenance of Fundamental Rights during return operations the functioning of the complaint mechanism, medical care during returns and coercive measures which might be applied as a last resort in justified cases.

The practical part of the WS was done at Banjul International Airport (BJL) where a former presidential plane was made available for our purposes.

Detailed Report:

The Workshop on Handover Procedure of Returnees from the EU was conducted at the GID Training School at Tanji which is located close to Banjul in the period 14 - 16 January 2020. Part of the training school consist of a container installation where infrastructure for presentations is installed. This facility was built up by the German Federal Police and handed over to GID.



The WS was conducted in a cordial atmosphere. There was strong interest for participation. Instead of 24 nominated participants 27 showed up at the first day and the maximum capacity of the presentation room was reached. In the following two days 26 participants from different entities which are in one or the other way linked to migration management took part. The majority was nominated by GID (others were MoI, National Police Force, State Intelligence Service, Aviation Security, Drug Enforcement Agency and Airport Fire and Rescue Service). MFA did not nominate participants for this activity.

Participants were very interested to learn about safeguards for maintenance of Fundamental Rights during return operations and the functioning of the complaint mechanism. Other interesting topics for then were voluntary return/departure, forced return, scheduled flights/non-scheduled flights and chain of command during ROs on non-scheduled flights. It was obvious that the audience had a tendency to always see the return process from the point of the returnee rather than from a law enforcement perspective.

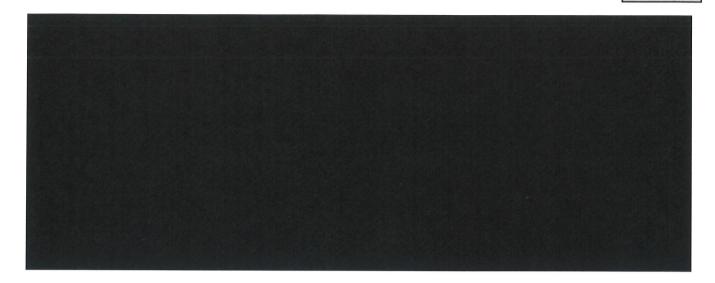


The practical part of the WS was done at BJL international Airport where a former presidential plane was made available for the purpose of simulating a handover procedure.



The feedback provided by the participants in feedback forms shows that they found the WS useful, partly they would like the same activity to be done again and some of them would also propose to extend the number of days for the activity. A presentation done by a medic and practical training on application of coercive measures actively involving the participants was also among the suggestions mentioned.









European Centre for Returns