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Department of Health, Humanitarian  
Affairs and Social Development

HHS

# Newsletter

**Quarterly Newsletter  
on Migration and  
Mobility**

Jan – June 2023

Editor-in-Chief  
Mr Sabelo Mbokazi  
Head: Division of Labour,  
Employment & Migration



# ACTING DIRECTOR'S NOTE



Welcome to the fifth edition of our quarterly newsletter; June 2023. In this edition we share the latest news and insights on Migration and Mobility as well as Labour Migration and its impact on various domains in the Continent. Migration, as complex as it maybe, cannot be overemphasized in its contributions towards human resource, political, socio-cultural and economic development. It's by no means a lesser feat that migration has taken center stage in continental and global discourse in the 21st century.

This edition, covers articles such as Division of Labour, Employment and Migration (LEM) Strategic Planning Retreat, Africa Regional Forum on Child Labour, Launch of the Mid Term Assessment of the Migration Policy Framework for Africa (MPFA), Independent Experts Review Meeting to review the Draft Global Compact for Migration (GCM) Plan of Action, Continent-to-Continent Migration & Mobility Dialogue (C2CMMD) and more.

We also feature the department's broad-based partnership with international organizations and development partners to promote the benefits of regular migration, migrants' health, protection of asylum seekers on the Continent and Global levels, replicated in activities such as the launch of the joint migration project with support from the Italian government, the AU-EU-UN joint taskforce on the situation in Libya and technical cooperation agreement with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) on behalf of Germany offering significant efforts to coordinate with countries of origin, transit and destination. The Division of Labour, Employment and Migration is also working hard to advance migration data and research with strong collaboration with the three (3) Migration Centers in Bamako, Khartoum and Rabat.

We are glad to share with you our recent projects and programmes, activities, interventions and collaborations for the first semester of 2023 that's ensuring safer, regular and dignified migration. You will also get a glimpse of our future projects and activities geared towards strengthening African Migration Governance and implementation of relevant AU policies, frameworks and instruments. Join us and lets' together advance migration for development.

**Ms. Angela Martins**

**Ag. Director for Social Development,  
Culture and Sport  
Department of Health, Humanitarian  
Affairs and Social Development**

## STRENGTHENING LABOUR MARKET AND MIGRATION INFORMATION SYSTEMS WITH REAL-TIME DATA AND NEW METHODOLOGIES



Participants of Strengthening Labour Market and Migration Information Systems with Real-Time Data and New Methodologies meeting . Photo: ©2023 African Union Commission. All Rights Reserved

The African Union Commission organized a parallel session on Strengthening Labour Market and Migration Information Systems with Real - Time Data and New Methodologies during the 3rd International Forum for Migration Statistics held at the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UNECLAC) in Santiago, Chile, from 24 to 26 January 2023. The IFMS 2023) was organized by the United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) [Statistics](#) and [Population](#) Divisions, the [Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development \(OECD\)](#) and the [International Organization for Migration \(IOM\)](#).

The parallel session comprised of 5 panelists' drawn from Africa Union Commission, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the National Migration Institute of Dominican Republic, BPS Statistics Indonesia, and the EMSI burning glass institute.

The session focused on new approaches, methodologies, and innovations for improving the availability

of migration data including sharing of good practices in collecting and disseminating migration-related data thematic area looking at new approaches to data collection, migration data innovations and technology-driven solutions and new concepts and methodologies, including nowcasting and forecasting.

In order to strengthen labour market and labour migration information systems with real-time data and new methodologies in a fast-changing world of work, the panel came to the conclusion that it is critical to foster resilience and adaptability of the labour market and migration to achieve good economic and labour market governance. Also, there is a need to conduct more research on the use of big data and administrative sources for migration statistics as well as improve the coordination, collaboration, and partnership amongst all institutions for improved collection and dissemination of high-quality, reliable and timely migration data.

**Brian Okengo**

# EXPERTS REVIEW MEETING ON THE DRAFT PLAN OF ACTION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GLOBAL COMPACT FOR MIGRATION (GCM) IN AFRICA



Participants of the Experts Review Meeting on The Draft Plan of Action on The Implementation of The GCM In Africa. Photo: ©2023 African Union Commission. All Rights Reserved

The African Union Commission (AUC) in collaboration with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) Special Liaison Office (SLO) to the African Union & UNECA held a 3-day Experts Review Meeting on the Draft Plan of Action (PoA) on the Implementation of the Global Compact for Migration (GCM) in Africa in Cape Town, South Africa, from 3 – 5 April 2023. The Draft Plan of Action considers African migration priorities, policies, Agenda 2063, and Agenda 2030 SDGs, and provides member states and Regional Economic Communities (RECs) with a continental framework that will assist them in the formulation of respective national and regional GCM implementation plans in accordance with their priorities and resources.

The 3-day experts review meeting, brought together over 30 Independents Experts and Senior Officials with extensive experience on migration and mobility issues in the Continent from African Union regions, AU Commission and Departments, AU

Organs and relevant UN Agencies, RECs, Academia, representatives from Civil Societies, Trade Unions/Workers Organisations.

The meeting achieved the following outcomes:

1. Revised the draft Plan of Action incorporating inputs that reflects the continent's migration agenda based on current realities and evolving migration dynamics in the Continent.
2. Revised follow-up and reviewed the framework/mechanism that allows for monitoring and evaluation of the draft Plan of Action which aligns to existing frameworks and its practicality.
3. Provided a platform for future experts' engagement for the GCM-related issues in the Continent.
4. Established a Technical Advisory Group on Migration (TAG-M).

**King David Cartey**

# HEALTH, HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT'S (HHS) LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND MIGRATION DIVISION'S STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING



Members of the AUC – Labour Employment and Migration Division. Photo: ©2023 African Union Commission. All Rights Reserved

As part of strengthening cooperation amongst colleagues and achieving the Division's mandate, the Labour, Employment and Migration Division (LEM) organized a 2-day Strategic Planning workshop for the 2023/2024 calendar year in Sheraton Addis, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on the 01 and 03 March, 2023. The workshop brought together the entire staff of the LEM Division, the Director of the Khartoum Continental Operational Center; Adv. Maemo Peter Machethe including the Ag. Director of the Office of Strategic Planning and Delivery (OSPD) of the Commission; Mr Shumba Tichawona.

The 2023 strategic planning workshop sort to review the workload, staffing, and annual budget of each of the division's streams of work with a view to developing a cluster of programmes from the respective streams of work. It also intended to assess the implementation of the current strategic plan and prioritize key areas for intervention in the medium term as well as to highlight achievements, identify challenges and

calibrate process improvements in order to position the Division as an effective, efficient, leading proponent and advisory hub on the migration, labour and employment policy areas.

The strategic planning workshop resolved to guide operational planning, resource mobilization as well as collaboration with partners toward implementation for the year 2023/2024 in the areas of labour, employment, and migration & mobility activities. And the need to systematize monitoring and evaluation, both for the activities of the Division and the policies on labour, employment and migration, for increased relevance of the interventions of the Division. It will also provide pertinent support to the Annual planning processes of the HHS Department in particular and the Commission in general.

**King David Cartey**

# AFRICA REGIONAL FORUM ON CHILD LABOUR – “HARNESSING CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY INITIATIVES TO ADDRESS CHILD LABOUR”



The African Union Commission (AUC) and the International Labour Organization (ILO) held virtually the Africa Regional Forum on Child Labour under the theme: “Harnessing Corporate Social Responsibility Initiatives to Address Child Labour”, on 26 April 2023.

The forum was held in reference to the African Union’s 10-year Action Plan to Eradicate Child Labour, Forced Labour, Human Trafficking, and Modern Slavery in the light of the urgency to accelerate efforts to eliminate child labour in Africa. The Implementation of the Durban Call to Action on the Elimination of Child Labour in Africa, the Business & Human Rights Agenda, the Elimination of Child Labour and Due Diligence, and Responsible Business Practices to address the root causes of child labour were the main focal policies that led the forum presentations, discussions and Q&A session.

The forum targeted the promotion of multi-stakeholder dialogue on child labour elimination as a continental platform to exchange information,

best practices, as well as innovative mechanisms to advance the respect of children’s rights in the operations of African-based business enterprises. It also took into account both the corporate social responsibility and the state duty to protect human rights through the enforcement of thorough legal frameworks.

As part of the recommendations, the forum agreed to work on establishing an AU-ILO team to strategically work on the development of a proposal for the institutionalization of the Africa Regional Forum on Child Labour, a comprehensive mechanism to track progress and standardize best practices on child labour elimination for their adaptation for local use, replication and scale up across Africa, to be endorsed by the AUC and its partners.

***Eliana Huo***

# LAUNCH OF THE LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT, AND MOBILITY ACTIONS OF THE JOINT PROGRAMME ON LABOUR MIGRATION GOVERNANCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTEGRATION IN AFRICA (JLMP LEAD PROJECT)

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*H.E Minata Samate Cessouma, Commissioner for Health, Humanitarian Affairs and Social Development*



*Participants of the Launch of Labour, Employment and Mobility Actions of The JLMP Lead Project. Photo: ©2023 African Union Commission. All Rights Reserved*

The African Union Commission (AUC), International Labour Organization (ILO), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), Regional Economic Communities (RECs), and Member States launched a new three-year project; “The Joint AU-ILO-IOM-ECA Programme on the Governance of Labour Migration for Development and Integration in Africa (JLMP Lead)” project is to enhance the governance of labour, employment, and mobility on the African continent.

The JLMP Lead project was launched during a three-day, JLMP learning event in Addis Ababa, from 7-9 March 2023 under the theme: “African Labour Migration: Emerging Issues & Policy Response”. The project is set out for implementation between 2022 – 2025 and funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency. The ‘JLMP Lead’ is one of several projects that was launched in 2015 to

implement the 5th Key Priority Area of the Declaration and Plan of Action on Employment, Poverty Eradication and Inclusive Development adopted by the Assembly of Heads of States and Governments in January 2015 (AU/Assembly/AU/20(XXIV)/Annex 3).

The official launch was preceded and followed by panel discussions between co-implementers (AU/ILO/IOM), RECs, member states, and other key actors on experiences, lessons learned, and good practices realized from the JLMP implementation.

The ceremony was also attended by the Embassies of Sweden, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Qatar, representatives from member states, RECs, UN Agencies, AfDB, trade unions and labour organizations.

***Odette Bolly***

## MEETING WITH NEDLAC: EXPERIENCE SHARING AND LEARNING MEETING IN LINE WITH THE AUC FEASIBILITY STUDY ON ESTABLISHING A LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT AUTHORITY

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*Representatives of the AUC – Labour Employment and Migration Division. and NEDLAC Photo: ©2023 African Union Commission. All Rights Reserved*

The African Union Commission (AUC), guided by its vision of “An Integrated, Prosperous and Peaceful Africa, held a one-day meeting on 16th March 2023 with the National Economic Development and Labour Council (NEDLAC) Secretariat in Johannesburg, South Africa. The meeting aimed to exchange information on labor, employment, and migration governance, fostering multi-stakeholder policy consultation and practical coordination.

Commendable progress has been made in labor migration governance within Africa and the collaborative efforts between the AUC and NEDLAC. The JLMP and AUC as a whole hold immense value in collaborative efforts towards labor migration governance in Africa. During the meeting NEDLAC acknowledged the importance of AUC’s contribution to the ongoing Labour Migration Policy development in the Republic of South Africa, and the need to conduct capacity building on migration governance and Labour migration for NEDLAC and other stakeholders in the country including more insights about the JLMP.

Also, among other key outcomes was the request from the Ministry of Employment and Labour to support the government in establishing a well-functioning Labour Market Information System through the ongoing initiatives.

The JLMP firmly acknowledges the significance of multi-stakeholder engagement and, in response, has actively forged partnerships and initiated dialogue with various organizations and platforms. This recognition stems from the understanding that addressing the complex challenges and embracing the opportunities of labor migration requires collective effort and collaboration. No single entity possesses the complete skillset, resources, and experiences necessary to effectively support the governance of labor migration across the continent. By joining forces, pooling expertise, and sharing perspectives, stakeholders can collectively shape and implement comprehensive strategies that promote safe, orderly, and dignified labor migration in Africa.

***Odette Bolly and Amohelang Ntsoho***



# INAUGURATION OF THE AFRICA SOCIAL SECURITY INSTITUTIONS COORDINATION AND COOPERATION FORUM (ASSCCF) AT THE ISSA REGIONAL SOCIAL SECURITY FORUM (RSSF)



*H.E Minata Samate Cessouma, Commissioner, for Health, Humanitarian Affairs and Social Development*



*Representatives of AUC – Health, Humanitarian Affairs and Social Development Department. Photo: ©2023 African Union Commission. All Rights Reserved*

The African Union Commission led by H.E. Amb. Minata Samate Cessouma inaugurated the Africa Social Security Institutions Coordination and Cooperation Forum (ASSCCF) at the ISSA Regional Social Security Forum (RSSF) held on the 19th of May 2023 in Abidjan, Cote D'Ivoire.

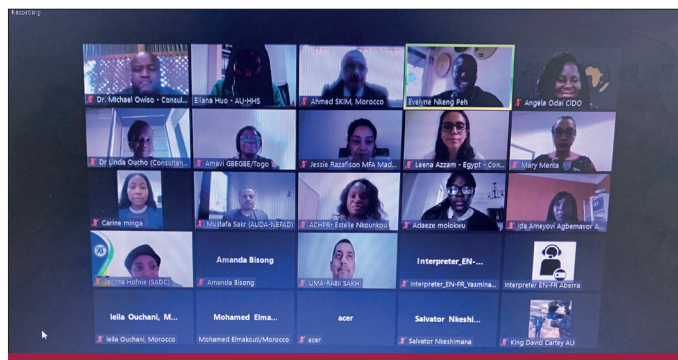
The ASSCCF was launched in pursuant to the decision of the 4th AU Specialized Technical Committee on Social Development, Labour and Employment (STC-SDLE) held in April 2022 – to officially set up an African Social Security Institutions Coordination and Cooperation Forum with the objective to provide a coordination and cooperation platform for informal and non-binding dialogue on issues and opportunities related to the management of social security and their role in the development agenda of member states and the African Union.

With its overall mission to promote sustainable development and all-workers inclusive social security systems in Africa, the ASSCCF aims at promoting safety, health, well-being of workers and members of their families, improving productivity and competitiveness of African economies in accordance with the AU social Agenda 2063.

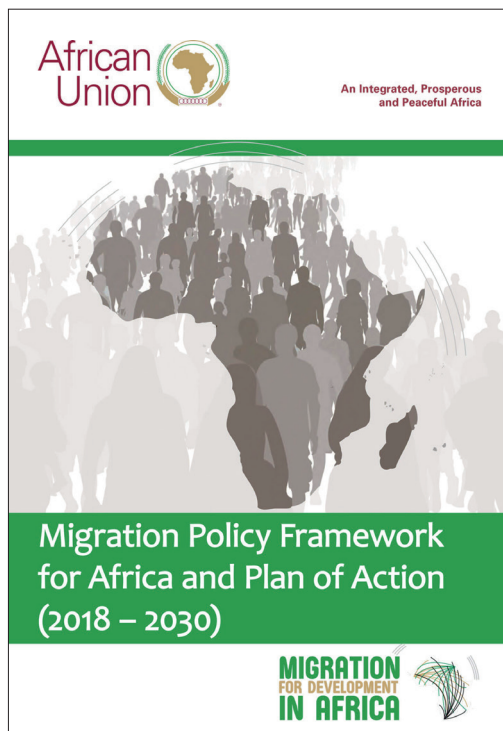
At the inauguration of the ASSCCF, the Commission emphasized that building systems of social protection in Africa is not a choice, a luxury, or an option, it is a human necessity. Social protection is not an expense, it is an important investment with very rich national, regional and continental dividends. This is a door of opportunity that we must walk into and we must do so together as the African Union and as Social Security Institutions.

**Mary Aisha Menta**

# LAUNCH OF THE MID TERM ASSESSMENT OF THE MIGRATION POLICY FRAMEWORK FOR AFRICA (MPFA)



Participants at the Launch of the Mid-Term Assessment of the MPFA. Photo: ©2023 African Union Commission. All Rights Reserved



MPFA Cover page

The 2018 Migration Policy Framework for Africa (2018) and its Plan of Action (2018-2030) was borne from the 2006 Migration Policy Framework for Africa which was evaluated in 2016. The 2018 MPFA and its Plan of Action was adopted by the Executive Council Session in January 2018, which also requested the Commission to conduct a mid-term assessment in 2024 and an end-term evaluation in 2030 of the MPFA implementation.

The Commission initiated the mid-term assessment of the MPFA with the key objectives to (i) monitor and assess the level of uptake of the 2018 MPFA by local government authorities, member states and regional economic communities (RECs) (ii) provide a framework that allows for the strategic and operational evaluation of the MPFA, including to assess the level of internal AUC collaboration on migration and mobility issues and (iii) monitor and assess the level of implementation of activities of the MPFA Plan of Action under the respective thematic areas.

In order to ensure that migration focal points from AU member states and RECs are well informed about the process and their roles for this mid-term assessment, a virtual launch was organized by the AU Commission on 8 June 2023.

The forthcoming steps for the mid-term assessment of the MPFA include: data collection and analysis for the selected indicators, followed by report drafting and review by the AU Coordinating Committee of Migration and Mobility (AUCCM) as well as the focal points. This process will span till March 2024 and it's been supported by the African Union Office of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ AU Office) on behalf of the German government, and the technical expertise from the Centre for Migration Studies of the University of Ghana.

**Evelyn Nkeng Peh**

# LAUNCH OF AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION – UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA JOINT MIGRATION PROJECT



Participants of the Launch of African Union Commission – United Nations Economic Commission for Africa Migration Project. Photo: ©2023 African Union Commission. All Rights Reserved



Dr. Hanan Morsy, the Deputy Executive Secretary for UNECA, H.E Minata Samate Cessouma, Commissioner for Health, Humanitarian Affairs and Social Development, and H.E. Amb. Alberto Bertoni, the Permanent Representative of the Italian Delegation to the AUC and UNECA. Photo: ©2023 African Union Commission. All Rights Reserved

The African Union Commission (AUC) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) launched the Joint AUC/UNECA Migration Project: International Migration in Africa - Shaping a Positive Narrative and Removing Barriers to Mobility on Monday, 29th day of May 2023. The joint project was launched by H.E Amb. Minata Samate Cessouma, the Commissioner for Health, Humanitarian Affairs and Social Development, Dr. Hanan Morsy, the Deputy Executive Secretary for UNECA and H.E Amb. Alberto Bertoni, the Permanent Representative of the Italian Delegation to the AUC and UNECA.

The joint migration project is a 2-year project that was developed jointly by the AUC and the UNECA, and focuses on building the capacity of AU member states to manage migration and mobility, to address pertinent migration issues on the continent. The project is funded by the Italian Government in the amount of Two Million, and Five Hundred Thousand United States Dollars Only (\$2.5 million). The joint project comprises of the following components: Promoting Economic Empowerment of Migrant

Women: Identifying and supporting migrant women's engagement in economic activities; Improving Access to Legal Identity for Migrants in the East and Horn of Africa; Enhancing free movement of persons and pathways for labour mobility and skills portability in Africa Levies, etc; which is to be implemented by ECA; Technical Assistance to member states/ Regional Economic Communities (RECs) on Migration Governance (Capacity Building Technical Experts); Combating Irregular Migration in the Horn of Africa (HoA) and in Countries that Lie Along the 3 Irregular Migration Corridors from the Horn of Africa (HoA) programme (Southern, Northern and Eastern Migratory Routes); Strengthening cross-border infectious disease surveillance; to be implemented by the AUC.

The launch set the tone for the implementation of the joint vision for Migration for Development in Africa.

**King David Cartey**

## CONTINENT-TO-CONTINENT MIGRATION & MOBILITY DIALOGUE (C2CMMD) ORGANIZED A TRAINING OF TRAINERS FOR THE AU MIGRATION GOVERNANCE TRAINING PROGRAMME

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*Participants of C2CMMD Training of Trainers. Photo: ©2023 ICMPD. All Rights Reserved.*

The African Union Commission (AUC) and the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) organised a “Training of Trainers” (ToT) in Nairobi, Kenya, from 3-7 July 2023 with participants from across the African continent to be certified as trainers for the AU Migration Governance Training Programme.

Fourteen (!4) participants with expertise in migration took part in the training representing 12 institutions, including academia, government departments, and research institutes. The participants were trained to deliver the 5-day course on Migration Governance developed by the AUC and supported by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) on behalf of Germany.

They benefitted from expert inputs from the AUC, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the University of the Western Cape in South Africa (UWC). A training expert facilitated the training and adopted a hands-on and learning-by-doing approach to instill various teaching & learning, and training methods to equip participants with the skillset to adapt and deliver the training course to different

targeted audiences. The AUC is expected to call upon the, now certified pool of trainers to provide training upon request from AU member states. September 2023, is anticipated to be the date for the first training. Its worthy of note that, ICMPD is supporting the AUC under the C2CMMD, with the accreditation of the 5-day training course through the UWC that recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the AUC. More so, a 3-day training course, “Making Migration Work for Africa”, is currently being developed for policy-makers at national and regional governments, local authorities and international organizations. Also, another 3-day training course, “Migration in Africa – Myths and Reality”, targeted at media practitioners and civil society organisations, will be developed at a later stage.

The training was organised within the Continent-to-Continent Migration and Mobility Dialogue (C2CMMD) framework, implemented as part of the wider EU-funded Migration and Mobility Dialogue Support Programme to the African Union.

***Peter Mudungwe***

## AU, EU AND UN PUSH FOR URGENT ACTION TO ADDRESS THE PRESSING NEEDS OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES IN LIBYA

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*UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi, the EU Commissioner for Home Affairs, Ylva Johansson and Commissioner for Health, Humanitarian Affairs and Social Development of the African Union Commission, Minata Samate Cessouma Photo: ©2023 AUC. All Rights Reserved.*

The AU–EU–UN Tripartite Taskforce on the Situation of Migrants and Refugees in Libya met in Brussels. The international community and Libyan authorities must work together to improve the plight of migrants and refugees in Libya.

The meeting was attended by the Commissioner for Health, Humanitarian Affairs and Social Development of the African Union Commission, Minata Samate Cessouma, the EU Commissioner for Home Affairs, Ylva Johansson, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi and the IOM Director General, António Vitorino, to discuss and advance the priorities of the Taskforce.

The Tripartite Taskforce Members reaffirmed their commitment to supporting the Libyan authorities' efforts for tackling the urgent needs on the ground. While working alongside other actors, they will step up their efforts to further support the developments of non-discriminatory legal and policy frameworks for migrants and refugees, based on international and AU standards and human rights, with the aim of protecting and saving lives along the migratory routes and particularly in Libya.

They further urged the Libyan authorities to end arbitrary detention of migrants and refugees starting with the women and children as well as other individuals with specific needs or disabilities. The Taskforce is ready to assist the Libyan authorities to ensure practical alternatives such as release into the community or accommodation in Migrant Response Centers (MRCs), where they can receive psychosocial support and health assistance.

The Taskforce called on the international community to support the Libyan authorities to combat human trafficking and smuggling of migrants, notably by facilitating effective prosecution efforts and prevent the risks of re-trafficking and disappearance. The Task Force also agreed to support awareness raising on the dangers of the journeys along the migratory routes and to seek durable solutions for migrants and refugees.

The Taskforce committed to support the Libyan Government's efforts to ensure improved migration governance and border management whilst fostering full respect for the human rights of refugees and migrants and access to protection. The Taskforce

further called on the Libyan authorities to issue documentation for labor migrants in the country and recognize documentation provided to refugees, pending the establishment of a comprehensive national migration management system.

The Taskforce Members committed to support stepping up voluntary humanitarian returns from Libya, notably by facilitating the Voluntary Humanitarian Return (VHR) and Reintegration Programme for individuals in Libya who wish to return home voluntarily and are assessed not to be in need of international protection. They called for the abolishing administrative exit fees for those departing from Libya.

The Taskforce called on the enhanced use of Emergency Transit Mechanisms in Niger and Rwanda, and emphasized the need for the international community, including the AU and EU to offer tangible support, notably by considering expanding legal, safe and regular pathways for migrants and refugees. This includes humanitarian corridors and enhanced resettlement places for refugees and voluntary returns and reintegration.

The meeting contributes to delivering on the Joint Vision for 2030 set out at the 6th EU-AU Summit held in Brussels in February 2022, where both continents' leaders committed to revitalize the work of the joint AU-EU-UN Tripartite Task Force.

***Beatram Okanally***

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## AUGUST

- Regional Capacity Building Workshop on Trafficking in Persons and Labour Migration Statistics for ECCAS and SADC member states (2-4 August 2023)
- Commemoration of the International Day of the Disappeared, 30th August 2023, Addis Ababa



## SEPTEMBER

- Africa Climate Summit ACS – 4-8 September
- The African Climate Mobility Initiative (ACMI) High-Level Event on the margins of the Africa Climate Summit
- Continental Advocacy and Training Workshop on The African Union Treaty on Social Protection and Related Policies 13-15 September, Lome, Togo

## OCTOBER

- The 8TH Pan-African Forum On Migration (Pafom-8)
- African Diplomatic Indaba (ADi)
- Regional quick-off sessions (virtual) for data collection
- Commemoration of World Day Against Trafficking in Persons





**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,  
HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS AND  
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**



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