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### **PROGRESS** PAPER

## **Domain 3 of the Marrakesh Action Plan** "Protection and Asylum"



**Reference countries: Chad and Switzerland with UNHCR support** 

### **APPROACH**

### to Domain 3

The reference countries focused on 3 kev themes:

- 1 Unaccompanied minors (UAMs) and their protection along migration routes
- 2 Family separation and missing migrants
- 3 Local integration as a durable solution

The protection of UAMs and their vulnerability is a crosscutting theme of the Marrakesh Action Plan and the discussions on the key themes addressed under Domain 3.

"Particular attention will be paid to the issues of gender and the protection of migrants in vulnerable situations including, in particular, women and children..." - Cross cutting priority 2, Marrakesh Action Plan

"Particular attention will be paid to take into account the most vulnerable people, the best interests of children and the needs of unaccompanied minors." - Action 11, Marrakesh Action Plan

Protection and assistance measures to address the risks faced by UAMs were analysed and discussed. A holistic approach was adopted, looking at the different

stages of the migratory journey: along the road, arrival and reception, and durable solutions, in particular local integration.



## THE REFERENCE **COUNTRY SYSTEM**

- Increases partners' participation in the Rabat Process/ Marrakesh **Action Plan implementation**
- $\rightarrow$  Opportunities for European and African partners to collaborate closely
- → Strengthens Rabat Process' sustainability as a migration dialogue and cooperation platform
  - $\rightarrow$  Leads to concrete results

### RESULTS

#### Short-term

- ✓ 34 participants at Geneva roundtable: 7 European countries, 6 African countries, the EU and technical experts.
  - ✓ 37 participants at online roundtable: 7 European countries, 6 African countries, the EU and technical experts.
  - Family separation and the issue of missing migrants were discussed for the first time in the context of protection and asylum.

#### Medium-term

Twinning projects: Switzerland and Chad agreed to pilot a project to build capacity and exchange knowledge on refugee reception. Other countries are invited to propose similar bilateral projects.

Specific roundtables on the three key themes and study visits will be suggested, in order to deepen knowledge exchange and expertise in these areas.

### Long-term

✓ Three key themes to be further developed and **detailed** in a future update of the Action Plan, or in the development of a new Action Plan for the Dialogue.

# ACTIVITIES

#### carried out in 2021

Co-chaired by Switzerland and Chad with support from ICMPD and

the UNHCR

#### Virtual roundtable, 7th July 2021

"Asylum procedure for unaccompanied minors" Geneva roundtable, 13th October 2021

"Protection and asylum: risks, support and durable solutions, in particular for unaccompanied minors"

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