Rabat Process
Senior Officials’ Meeting
Accra – 24 & 25 Octobre 2017

Programme 2018-2020

Drafting Process
June 2017-Octobre 2017
New Programme 2018-2020
Drafting Process Calendar: 3 Steps

1) STEP 1: First drafting exercise – 5 Drafting Committees
   - JUNE: Outcome: **DRAFT 1**
   - JULY: **1st Round** of comments on draft 1 presented at Steering Committee: 04/07/2017

2) STEP 2: Consultations & Second drafting exercise
   - JULY: Civil Society Consultation (19/07 - Dakar)
   - AUGUST: Restructuring: **DRAFT 2** → Steering Committee and Drafting Committees
   - SEPTEMBRE: **2nd Round** of comments on DRAFT 2 (22/09)

3) STEP 3: Finalisation
   - **DRAFT 3** presented at the Steering Committee in Rabat (October 03&04)
   - **3rd Round** of comments on DRAFT 3 (Rabat) and finalisation
   - **FINAL DRAFT** validated by the Steering Committee and sent on **Oct 13th** to all MS
STEP 1: First Drafting exercise

Main Reference Documents:

- Recommendations of the Thematic Round Tables with external actors/civil society (April 2017)
- Brussels SOM Conclusions (May 2017)
- Valetta Declaration and Plan of Action and main political documents adopted since 2015 (New York Declaration 2016, etc.)
STEP 1: First Drafting exercise
Five Drafting Committees – Brussels – June 2017

Committee 1: Benefits and root causes
Participants: Belgium, Burkina Faso, France, EU

Committee 2: Legal migration and mobility
Participants: Belgium, Burkina Faso, Spain, Guinea, EU

Committee 3: Protection and asylum
Participants: Belgium, Gabon, Central African Republic, Senegal, Switzerland, EU

Committee 4: Irregular Migration
Participants: Belgium, Spain, Ghana, Italy, Portugal, Senegal, EU

Committee 5: Return, Readmission, Reintegration
Participants: Austria, Belgium, Ghana, Portugal, Sierra Leone, EU
STEP 1: First Drafting exercise
Outcome: DRAFT 1

DRAFT 1 presented to the Steering Committee in Brussels (04/07)
1st Round of Comments:

- Many questions remaining: risks of duplication with other existing instruments, in particular with the Joint Valetta Action Plan; scope of actions; added value of the Rabat Process?
- Certain proposals were far too detailed/ too ambitious (ex: Domain 4)
- Certain proposals were not focused enough (ex: Domains 1 and 3)
- Similar actions in different domains (ex: Actions to promote socio-economic opportunities for youth included in Domain 1 and 2)
- Some mainstreaming themes not enough taken into account into the domains
- How to ensure linkages between the domains?
STEP 2: Consultations
Civil Society Consultation in Africa (Dakar -19/07)

17 participants: organisations of civil society, IO and academics

Objective: offer space for debate between Rabat process and «field actors»; receive operational recommendations to feed the drafting process of the new programme

Results (report); similar conclusions as the Round Tables (April 2017)

Several specific elements:
• Fundamental role of research and data collection to ensure that political decisions based on facts and figures/data
• The local dimension and the role of local communities in the migration governance. The dialogue should associate more local communities and municipalities
• The role of the media to inform the population: journalists contribute to create and influence public opinion on migration. The dialogue should promote awareness raising activities.
Main Conclusions for a restructuring exercise:

- The Rabat Process received the mandate to ensure the follow-up of the implementation of the Joint Valetta Action Plan; its new programme should contribute to **guide and complete** the Valetta framework; we should **NOT duplicate** it.
- Need of **more coherence and complementarity** of the new programme and the Valetta Action Plan
- Need to better put forward the **added value** of the Rabat Process and to better capitalise on its experience, expertise and specificities as a **forum of political dialogue** and political engagement between African and European States (**regional and sub-regional approach, networking capability, experiences and best practices sharing**)
- Need to develop a **realistic** action plan (operational approach) that will lead to **concrete results** in 3 years.
- Need to focus on a limited number of **key priorities**
**STEP 2: Second Drafting Exercise**

**Outcome:** **DRAFT 2**

- On the basis of these conclusions: restructuring exercise made by the **Secretariat (ICMPD)** and the **BE Presidency**

- **Output:** **DRAFT 2** sent beginning of September to the Steering Committee with copy to MS of the Drafting Committees

- **Second Round** of Comments on **DRAFT 2** (22/09)
STEP 3: FINALISATION (Octobre 2017)

- **DRAFT 3** presented at the Steering Committee in RABAT (03-04 October 2017)

- Final Drafting exercise by the Steering Committee in RABAT

- Outcome: **FINAL DRAFT** validated by the Steering Committee and sent to all MS on October 13th.
STEP 3: FINAL DRAFT

Political Declaration:
- Aligned on Valetta and new engagements (NY Declaration, Sept. 2016)
- Will need to be completed (EU-AU Summit, Valetta SOM)

Plan of Action:
- Coherent, realistic, operational (limited number of objectives)
- Type of actions:
  - Rabat Process added value
  - Scope: Targeted, concrete **versus** broad enough for flexibility and evolving context
On behalf of BE Presidency: Thank you for your contributions and active involvement during these last months!