



# Valletta Summit: Dialogue with Civil Society

**Date:** 5 November 2015

**Time:** 9.00hrs – 18.15hrs

**Venue:** Hotel Renaissance, rue du Parnasse, 19, 1050 Brussels

## I. Background

The Valletta Summit on Migration will take place on 11 and 12 November 2015. The conference will build on existing cooperation processes between Europe and Africa, particularly the Rabat and Khartoum processes on migration, and the EU-Africa Dialogue on Migration and Mobility. The Valletta Summit will result in a political declaration and an action plan.

In order to provide a joint civil society contribution for the Valletta Summit, the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), the International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC) Europe, and the Migration and Development (MADE) civil society network in Africa have conducted consultations among African and European civil society platforms and organisations, which resulted in the **attached civil society joint statement**.

In line with this initiative, this one-day event in Brussels will give civil society an opportunity to have a **dialogue with African and European leaders about key migration challenges and potential short and longer term solutions**.

The event will bring in the views of African and European civil society representatives including migrants and diaspora organisations, policy-makers, international organisations and academics and will focus on areas that have emerged as common priorities during the consultations, namely:

- ❖ The root causes that force people to migrate;
- ❖ The access to safe and regular migration routes to Europe;
- ❖ International protection;
- ❖ Migration and asylum governance in Africa;
- ❖ The positive role and critical contributions of migrants and diaspora.

This event will be the occasion for African and European civil society to share their knowledge and experience and remind the need for meaningful civil society engagement prior, during and after the Summit.



*This event is co-funded by the European Union*

*The European Union support for this event does not constitute endorsement of the contents and outputs which reflect the views only of the CSO organisers*

## II. The Agenda

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**8.30 – 9.00**                      **Registration**

**9.00 – 9.15**                      **Words of welcome**

- Edouard Rodier, *Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) Europe*
- John Bingham, *International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC)*
- Alphonse Seck, *Caritas Senegal/Migration and Development (MADE) civil society network in Africa*

**9.15 – 10.45hrs**                **Tackling the root causes that force people to migrate**

**Chair:** *Jean de Lestrang, Action Contre la Faim*

- Issues preventing development – *Sara Tesorieri, Oxfam EU Office*
  
- Better and more development aid – *Céline Mias, Care International*
  
- Insecurity and humanitarian crisis challenges – *Llanos Ortiz, MSF Spain*

Respondent: *Mr. Stefano Signore, Head of Unit, DEVCO - Migration, Employment, Inequalities*

**10.45 – 11.00hrs**              **Coffee break**

**11.00 – 12.15hrs**              **What do we expect from the Valletta Summit?**

**Chair:** *Nadine Feyder, Luxembourg presidency*

- Institutional Perspectives  
*Mr. Pierre Vimont, Personal Representative of the EU Council President for Preparation of the Valletta Summit*  
*Ambassador Ajay K. Bramdeo, Permanent Representative of the African Union to the EU and ACP Group*  
*Mr. Filippo Colombo, First Counsellor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Representation of Italy to the EU*
  
- Civil Society and migrant perspectives  
*Khady Sakho Niang, President, Forum des Organisations de Solidarité Internationale issues des Migrations (FORIM);*  
*Edouard Rodier, Director, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) Europe*

**12.15– 13.00hrs**              **Lunch**

**13.00 – 14.15hrs**              **Strengthening international protection**

**Chair:** *John Bingham, International Catholic Migration Commission*

- Enabling the transition for forcibly displaced people from dependency towards increased resilience, self-reliance and development - *Wairimu Munyinyi-Wahome, NRC Horn of Africa, South Sudan, Uganda and Yemen*
  
- Climate Change and Displacement – *Aurélie Sgro, International Centre for Migration Policy Development*
  
- Vulnerable Groups: the Case of Children– *Anita Bay Bundegaard, Save the Children*

Respondents: *Ms. Beatrice Mieke, European Commission, DG ECHO Team Leader Horn of Africa and Co-Chair of Migration Working Group*  
*Alison Gatt, Schengen and Asylum Attaché, Malta Permanent Representation Rabat Process (tbc)*

**14.15 – 15.15hrs Shedding the light on the positive role of migrants and migration**

**Chair:** *Gibril Faal, Africa-Europe Development Platform / GK Partners*

- *Impact of remittances on development : the case of West Africa - Fatou Cisse, Université Cheikh Anta Diop, Senegal*
- *Celebrating migrants' contribution to societies: the example of the "I am migrant" campaign Ryan Schroeder, International Organization for Migration*
- *Supporting citizen mobilization to change perceptions and perspectives on migrants and refugees in host countries –Olivier Lebel, Médecins du Monde France*

Respondent: European Parliament (tbc)

**15.15 – 15.30hrs Coffee break**

**15.30 – 15.45hrs From Somalia to Libya. From Libya to Malta. Why the EU migration policy has to do with my search for freedom as a teenager?**

*Farah Abdi Abdullahi, former child migrant and advocate*

**15.45 – 17.00hrs Safe and regular migration routes to Europe**

**Chair:** *Daphné Bouteillet-Paquet, European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE)*

- *Alternatives to dangerous routes: legal access and protection along the migratory routes – Petra Hueck, International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC) Europe*
- *Dangers of the externalisation of border and asylum process – Iverna McGowan, Amnesty International EU*
- *Regular migration and mobility to Europe – Kadri Soova, Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM)*

Respondents: *Mr. Amr Elsherbini, Minister Plenipotentiary, Deputy Chief of Mission of Egypt, Chair of the Khartoum process*  
*European Commission, DG HOME (tbc)*

**17.00 – 18.00hrs Improving migration and asylum governance in Africa**

**Chair:** *Odile Faye, MADE Africa/Association des Femmes Africaines pour la Recherche et le Développement (AFARD)*

- *Enhancing intra-African mobility – Abdelfattah Ezzine, Réseau Marocain Transnational Migration et Développement (RMTMD)*
- *Asylum policies in Africa – Ann Encontre, Africa Bureau, UNHCR*

Respondent: *Mr. Paul-Benoît Sarr, First Counsellor, Embassy of Senegal (Chair of ECOWAS) in Brussels*

**18.00 – 18.15hrs Closing remarks**

### III. About the organisers

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The **International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC)** is an international non-governmental organisation serving and protecting uprooted people, refugees, internally displaced persons and migrants, regardless of faith, race, ethnicity or nationality. ICMC Europe supports ICMC Headquarters in advancing the rights of refugees and migrants. ICMC implements the EU-funded **Migration and Development Civil Society Network (MADE) Programme** which aims to strengthen civil society's role in advocacy and work with governments to promote policies for the well-being of all migrants and communities.

[www.icmc.net](http://www.icmc.net); [www.madenetwork.org](http://www.madenetwork.org)

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The **Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)** is an independent, humanitarian, non-profit, non-governmental organisation. We provide assistance, protection and durable solutions to refugees and internally displaced persons worldwide. NRC promotes and protects the rights of refugees and people who have been displaced within their own country and take action during situations of armed conflict, and engage in other contexts where their competences will add value. [www.nrc.no](http://www.nrc.no)

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**MADE Africa** is the Migration and Development (MADE) Civil Society Platform in Africa and currently comprises 373 members, including diaspora organisations. The platform is coordinated by **Caritas Senegal**, with the support of a steering committee consisting in 6 sub-regional leads for Central Africa, North Africa, West Africa, South Africa, East Africa and the diaspora. MADE Africa forms part of the global Migration and Development (MADE) civil society network.

[www.caritas.sn](http://www.caritas.sn); [www.madenetwork.org/made-africa](http://www.madenetwork.org/made-africa)

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