Ministers gather in Rome for 4th Euro-African Conference on Migration and Development of the Rabat Process

Towards increased operationalisation and a decade of dialogue

VIENNA, 26 November 2014 – Ministers and senior officials from more than 60 European and African partner states and observer organisations will gather in Rome on 27 November to continue the dialogue on migration and development. At the invitation of the Republic of Italy, this event takes place in the framework of the Euro-African Dialogue on Migration and Development (Rabat Process) and the Italian presidency of the Council of the European Union (EU). The Rabat Process is supported by ICMPD and the International and Ibero-American Foundation of Public Administration and Policies (FIIAPP).

The goal of the conference is to define the future strategic framework of the Rabat Process in order to contribute to better migration. This is created by addressing coherently the various drivers of international migration. In adopting the Rome Declaration and the ambitious work programme, which will define common objectives and priorities for each of the four strategic pillars, including the new pillar of international protection, the participating states demonstrate that migration issues can best be tackled jointly. Dialogue is and will continue to be crucial in the future for fostering practical cooperation. Since its inception in 2006, the Rabat Process with its regional approach has successfully worked to promote cooperation between EU and African countries – this conference and the expected outcomes are a demonstration of the Process’s achievements in this regard.

The Rabat Process was launched at the first Euro-African Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development, held in Rabat in 2006. With a strong political momentum in place, a continuous development towards increased operationalisation of the Rabat Process is ensured.

The Support Project, which is being implemented by ICMPD and FIIAPP and funded by the EU, contributes significantly to this operationalisation, as it provides short-term technical assistance,
facilitates information sharing and assists in the development of national guides on migration data in interested Rabat Process countries.

For more information on the Rabat Process, visit: http://www.processusderabat.net.

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The International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), established in 1993 by Austria and Switzerland, is an international organisation that works in migration-related fields. Although ICMPD has a European basis, it carries out its activities throughout the world, including in Europe, Africa, Central Asia, the Middle East and Latin America. Through its six Competence Centres, ICMPD provides its 15 Member States and numerous partners with in-depth knowledge and expertise in dealing with the phenomena of migration. It does so through using a holistic 3-pillar approach: research, capacity building and migration dialogues.

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