



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 30 September 1999

11426/99

LIMITE

**JAI 75
AG 30**

Action plan
for
MOROCCO

INDEX

	Page No.
A. GENERAL INTRODUCTION	3
Political situation	3
Economic situation	4
Human rights	5
B. STATISTICAL BASES AND INITIAL SITUATION	6
I. Statistics	6
I.1 Nationals of Morocco in the EU Member States	6
I.2 Third country nationals transiting through Morocco	6
II. Analysis of the causes of migration and flight	7
II.1 Morocco as country of origin	7
II.2 Morocco as a transit country	8
C. EXISTING MEASURES AND ACTIONS	9
I. Rundown of existing Member State measures and actions	9
II. Rundown of existing Community/Union measures and actions	9
Politics	9
Economics	10
Development cooperation	11
Humanitarian aid	11
Justice and Home Affairs measures	11
III. Measures and actions by UNHCR, IOM, ICRC and other inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations	12
International Organisation for Migration (IOM)	12
D. ASSESSMENT OF THE STATE OF PLAY	12
E. ACTION REQUIRED BY THE COMMUNITY/UNION	13
I. Morocco as origin and transit migration country	13
Foreign policy	13
Migration	14
II. Morocco as origin migration country	17
Development and economic cooperation	17
Migration	19

ANNEX I : Statistics on Morocco

ANNEX II: Rundown of existing Member States measures and actions

ANNEX III: Community measures and actions: tableau MEDA 1996-1999

A. GENERAL INTRODUCTION

Political situation

(1) The Kingdom of Morocco is a Constitutional Monarchy. The Head of State and Spiritual Leader of the Nation is King Mohamed VI who, on 23 July 1999, succeeded King Hassan II, who had ascended the throne on the death of his father in February 1961. In the nineties, Morocco is experiencing a process of opening-up to ensure the continuity of the political regime by placing it on broader and institutionalised foundations.

(2) A constitutional reform was adopted by referendum in September 1996. The reform introduced a two-House system, the House of Representatives, elected by universal direct suffrage and the House of Councillors, elected by indirect vote (municipal, labour and professional electoral college). The reform also established a decentralised State, especially through the region as an administrative body. The Region Act April 1997 divided the country into sixteen regions.

(3) General elections in November 1997 brought a coalition of left-wing and centre parties into power, replacing the previous coalition of conservative powers. In February 1998, Prime Minister Abderraman Yussufi, socialist, submitted to the King the new Cabinet, composed of members of seven political parties and independents appointed by the King. The new government of alternation is committed to promoting economic development, modernisation of public administration, justice and health and promotion of human rights.

(4) The attempts by the Prime Minister to fulfil the objectives proclaimed in the electoral programme and his statement to Parliament have come up against multiple difficulties which, more than a year after he came to office, prevent him from presenting concrete results to public opinion in many areas. This explains the symptoms of discouragement which are beginning to see the light in precisely those segments of Moroccan society in which Yussufi's rise to power aroused the greatest expectations of change, and for whom alternation seemed to open up the possibility of new solutions to the country's serious social and economic problems.

(5) This statement can be qualified for two reasons. Firstly, the situation has been adversely affected by the problems of information policy that have beset government management, often preventing news about the Executive's work from reaching the people. This has happened in connection with matters requiring a solution (reform of the education system, tax treatment for companies, reform of the justice system, alleviation of unemployment, the introduction of ethics into public life). Secondly, the alternation Government has, in fact, achieved results in some fields. The Budget Law for 1999-2000 is being prepared. Improvements have also been made in the human rights field.

(6) Morocco, which claims sovereignty over Western Sahara, considers that this issue is one of its foreign policy priorities, with strong internal implications. Implementation of the Settlement Plan (the UN-designed framework within which both Morocco and the Polisario Front are requested to put an end to their dispute) has been stalled due to differences between the parties over identification and the list of eligible voters. Following the recent proposals put forward by the United Nations Secretary General (UNSG), there is a hope that the implementation of the Plan may be resumed shortly with a view, as stated in the last UNSG report of 28 April 99, to holding a referendum by July 2000.

Economic situation

(7) The estimated population of Morocco is about 29 million. Morocco belongs to the group of developing countries with a “low average income”. With a per capita income of Euro 1 140, economic growth has, over the last 22 years, been lower than the average for this group of countries.

(8) Per capita income grew by only 1,8% per annum from 1956 to 1998 while the average for this group of countries was 2,2%. On the basis of its Human Development Index (HDI) Morocco was ranked 125 for 1998 according to the UNDP Human Development Report.

(9) The Moroccan economy is relatively diversified (the services sector represents almost 50% of GDP), although there is still a major farming sector that continues to employ 50% of the working population, albeit its proportion of GDP has been reduced to 14%.

(10) Morocco, which is a member of the WTO, has in recent years undertaken a policy of adjustment and liberalisation. Following the signing of the Association Agreement with the EU (26-2-1996), Morocco is facing the challenge of proceeding further along this path with the objective of successfully becoming a member of the Euro-Mediterranean free-trade area planned for the year 2010.

(11) Morocco’s economic growth depends on some key sectors, namely agriculture and fishing (20% GDP), industry (17% GDP) and services, especially trade and tourism (+30% GDP). The GDP growth rate varies depending on rainfall.

(12) The Moroccan economy has, over the past few years, followed a zigzagging course of ups and downs. Thus, in 1996 it grew by 11% in real terms and in 1997 it dropped by 2,5%, mainly on account of the sparse rainfall that reduced the grain harvest to a third of that obtained during the previous year. In 1998, GDP rose by 7%.

(13) One of the greatest weaknesses of the Moroccan economy is its foreign trade, as shown by its trade and current account deficits, and the weight of its foreign debt (more than 50% of GDP); debt repayment accounts for about 33% of the budget. In order to improve its negative balance, Rabat has promoted direct foreign investment (very much related to the privatisation of public enterprises) and in 1996 signed debt for equity agreements with Spain and France.

(14) Economic policy has been successful in combating inflation (2,8% in 1998, 1,9% predicted for 1999). Control of public expenditure, however, has continued to be a problem for both structural (the need to combat under-development and the social crisis) and other reasons (the 1996 drought, the 1997 electoral process, the arrival of a socialist government to power in 1998). Nevertheless, a degree of budget growth has been maintained, especially by the parties concerned with social and development policies. An attempt has been made to counter-balance the increase in this expenditure by taking measures such as increasing the rate of privatisation of state enterprises, decreasing public investment not directly related to social policy, and stepping up the fight against tax fraud.

(15) Morocco's social situation needs to be improved. The World Bank in 1996 recommended a programme of social development through reforms of the educational, health and social security systems and rural development.

(16) According to official statistics, 13% of its citizens live under the poverty threshold, and 55% are illiterate. Unemployment is specially high in the segment of the population which is more prone to emigrate (official rate: 18% in 1997), 29,9% unemployed among population included within 15 to 24 years and 24,1% within 25 to 35 years. Unemployment affects not only unqualified youngsters but also an estimated 200 000 graduates and high-school leavers.

(17) Morocco's education system suffers from serious ineffectiveness, its health structures are plagued by a lack of resources, and a large part of its population has difficult access to essentials such as drinking water or electricity.

(18) Migration of Moroccan workers to foreign countries and in particular to the EU countries has a deep impact on the economy and society due to the important transfers coming from migrants' savings.

Human rights

(19) Since the arrival of a new Government headed by Mr. Yussufi a new approach regarding these issues is under way which deserves support. Moroccan authorities have taken several measures to improve the legal system in human rights matters. There is a political commitment by the government to improve the human rights situation including establishing links with international human rights organisations. In mid-October 1998, the adoption of a number of measures was announced by the Chairman of the Advisory Council on Human Rights, including the freeing of 28 political detainees and recognition of the death of 50 persons until then merely known to have disappeared. To this is added King Hassan's wish to see the human rights' dossier dealt with in a definitive way within six months. The Advisory Council for Human Rights published a communiqué on 8 April 1999 on the situation of disappeared persons and has set up a commission to set the corresponding compensations. Improvements in this field must still be accomplished however, especially in those areas concerning individual rights together with the respect for social and political freedoms.

B. STATISTICAL BASES AND INITIAL SITUATION

I. Statistics

(20) The statistics set out in Annex I show that Morocco is primarily a country of origin of economic migrants and has not in the recent past been a country of origin of asylum seekers. It is, however, a major country of transit of migrants, mostly asylum seekers, from Algeria and the Subsaharian region.

I.1. Nationals of Morocco in the EU Member States

(21) The total number of Moroccans residing abroad is estimated at around 2 million of whom 80% live in Europe, 15% in Arab countries and 4% in America. A small number (roughly 1%) reside in other countries.

(22) Statistical data presented in Annex I show the following conclusions:

a) At present some 1,6 million Moroccans are legally resident in Europe, mainly in France (459 788), Spain, which has registered a remarkable increase in the last three years (140 896), Belgium (137 520), the Netherlands (135 721), Italy (120 531) and Germany (72 147).

b) Morocco has not been a country of origin of asylum seekers in the last three years within the EU.

c) Family reunification is increasingly invoked by Moroccan nationals migrating to the EU.

d) Repatriations of Moroccan nationals are significant for Spain, as a neighbouring country. The figures for France are also important.

e) The number of visas issued in the last three years reflect an increasing demand of Moroccan nationals wishing to emigrate to the EU.

f) Figures for refused entry of Moroccan citizens are high for Spain where 760 836 cases were recorded in 1998.

g) The numbers of Moroccan students in the EU have increased in recent years, particularly in Germany, Belgium, Spain and France.

I.2. Third country nationals transiting through Morocco

(23) Difficulties have arisen in trying to establish the real nationality and country of origin of many of the African nationals.

(24) Statistical data included in Annex I show the following conclusions:

- a) The numbers of third country nationals, mainly Algerians and Subsaharians, transiting through Morocco to the EU have considerably increased in recent years and this trend is likely to continue.
- b) A high percentage of these nationals are asylum-seekers. In general, they are not granted refugee status.
- c) A considerable number of rejected asylum-seekers have been granted a residence permit on humanitarian grounds.

II. Analysis of the causes of migration and flight

II. 1. Morocco as country of origin

(25) Moroccan emigration to Europe, which dates back to the colonial period, was, at that time, relatively limited in number and almost exclusively directed towards France.

(26) A fundamental change took place, however, starting in the second half of the 1960s. Whereas Moroccan emigrants numbered fewer than 1 000 per year before 1961, the beginning of the 1970s saw those numbers increase to tens of thousands annually. France remained the primary country of destination followed by Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany.

(27) At the end of the 1980s Spain and Italy became targets for further waves of migrants often carried by illegal immigration networks.

(28) Despite the restrictions imposed by European countries, migration flows have not been stemmed and the stream of migrants of Moroccan origin to EU countries has steadily increased.

(29) Moroccan migration has become a complex, multi-faceted issue. The reasons for the increasing migratory flows from Morocco towards Europe, which have reached high proportions, are not political but primarily socio-economic in nature. Young Moroccans dream of a better life in Europe due in part to the lack of clear prospects for individual advancement at home.

(30) Although this can be attributed to several causes, the following five cumulative factors are particularly important :

- a) **Demography** is a major contributory factor to migratory pressure. Morocco's population is increasing at a relatively fast rate and is expected to reach over 34 million by 2010. Even though the Moroccan Government's demographic policies are beginning to bear fruit and the fertility rate is falling, the population will continue to grow over the coming years resulting in increased pressure on the national labour market.

b) **Unemployment** has doubled during the period 1970 to 1997. Furthermore in 1997 in urban areas almost one third of the population was uneducated or unemployed. It is estimated that the active population of Morocco will have reached 15,6 million by the year 2020 with an extra 400 000 persons per year entering the labour market.

c) **The economic growth rate** remains low and therefore remittances from Moroccan nationals abroad are an important factor. Since the beginning of the 1970s such remittances have constituted a major source of foreign currency earnings exceeding those generated by tourism and the phosphate industry (other important contributors to the external financial balance of Morocco).

Total remittances of Moroccan nationals abroad have increased from Euro 960 million in 1980 to Euro 1 833 million in 1995. Remittances from Moroccan citizens abroad are equivalent to 40% of total export value.

The Northern Region is one of the most underdeveloped areas, showing a very high emigration rate. The Agency for the Promotion and the Social and Economic Development of Northern Prefectures and Provinces carries out positive initiatives with European Union assistance.

d) **Social and cultural reasons.** Moroccan society suffers from lacunae in the social and cultural area especially vis-à-vis the image of Europe which is considered as a haven of prosperity where even the poorest enjoy elementary social rights which are non-existent in third world societies. This image is depicted on the one hand by television and on the other by Moroccan nationals overseas on their return to Morocco where only 20% of the population benefit from social security.

e) **The Moroccan Community in Europe.** Moroccan immigrants in Europe continue to maintain close ties with their families in Morocco on the one hand by affording them subsistence and on the other by endeavouring to help family members or friends to migrate to Europe, including by illegal means. There are in any case a lack of information and misperceptions on the part of Moroccan citizens with regard to the reality of the living conditions of migrant workers in Europe.

The Hassan II Foundation, which has the full backing of the Moroccan authorities, carries out activities in favour of the Moroccan community in Europe.

II.2. Morocco as a transit country

(31) Given the proximity of the European mainland, Morocco remains a transit country for migrants from other African countries. Several factors can be identified:

a) Poverty, famine, armed conflicts and the lack of work expectations in underdeveloped societies have, over recent years, been the driving force behind an intense transit of West African migration to Europe. Nationals from Nigeria, Mali and the Democratic Republic of Congo, among others, have been recorded as illegally transiting through Morocco.

b) Easy access to Morocco stems from the fact that the Moroccan authorities grant a visa waiver to African nationals transiting Morocco.

c) A number of traffickers managing illegal migration networks take advantage of the ignorance and credulity of potential candidates. Crossing the Straits of Gibraltar by small boats, even with associated risks, has become a lucrative business.

Abetting illegal immigration and trafficking in human beings are criminal offences in Morocco. However, police interventions against traffickers are rarely effective and do not often give rise to court proceedings.

d) Finally, Morocco has been very tentative in implementing the bilateral re-admission agreements it has signed with some Member States and has, not only for economic but also for internal political reasons, been shy to respond to Member States' offers of cooperation with a view to controlling migration flows and returns.

C. EXISTING MEASURES AND ACTIONS

I. Rundown of existing Member State measures and actions

(32) Relationships between Member States and Morocco are, in general terms, good. A summary of bilateral measures and actions in the area of politics, economics, development cooperation and Justice and Home Affairs is set out in Annex II.

II. Rundown of existing Community/EU measures and actions (see also Annex III)

Politics

(33) The Commission has a Delegation in Morocco, located in Rabat. All Member States except Ireland and Luxembourg have a diplomatic mission in Morocco. Regular diplomatic contact is maintained with Morocco through Heads of Mission and through periodic diplomatic "démarches" with regard to specific questions on the part of the Troika.

(34) Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreement (mixed agreement) was signed on 26 February 1996 and is awaiting ratification. The EU-Morocco Association Agreement includes a suspensive clause relating to Human Rights.

(35) Morocco participates in the Euro-Mediterranean partnership which was launched on 27 and 28 November 1995 in Barcelona. In a Joint Declaration the EU and its Mediterranean partners expressed their will to give their future relations a new dimension, based on comprehensive cooperation and solidarity, in keeping with the privileged nature of the links forged by neighbourhood and history.

(36) The Barcelona process includes many elements of the EU relationship with Morocco. It is used as a framework for establishing and promoting a common area of peace and stability, for an economic and financial partnership and for developing human resources and promoting understanding between cultures and exchanges between civil societies.

(37) The importance of migration in EU- Moroccan relationships is acknowledged in the Barcelona process. Partners agreed to strengthen their cooperation to reduce migratory pressures, through, among other things, vocational training and programmes for job creation. In the area of illegal migration it was decided to establish closer cooperation.

(38) Within the framework of the Barcelona process many meetings at ministerial, senior official and expert level are held. Special mention is made of the expert meeting on Migration and Human exchanges, held in the Netherlands on 1-2 March 1999. On this occasion experts on migration identified and discussed the main causes for migration and the possibilities for co-development, integration and return.

Economics

(39) Morocco has concluded classic trade agreements with a certain number of developed and developing countries. These agreements provide for most-favoured-nation treatment and do not afford tariff preferences. Such agreements have been signed with forty countries (12 European, 11 African, 8 Asian, 5 American and 5 Arab countries).

(40) The EU-Morocco Association Agreement signed on 26 February 1996 falls within the framework of strengthening the EU's Mediterranean policy and replaces the Cooperation Agreement of 1 November 1978. It differs from previous agreements in its innovative character in providing for the progressive establishment of a free trade area in accordance with WTO rules, for reciprocal preferential trade treatment, for the introduction of trade in services (right of establishment and provision of services) and for the introduction of a political dialogue through the establishment of an Association Council at ministerial level as well as of an Association Committee of high ranking officials responsible for the management of the Agreement.

(41) With regard to the industrial sector, the Agreement provides for the progressive elimination, over a period of twelve years, of all customs duties and charges having equivalent effect for all products originating in the EU.

(42) In the agricultural sector, EC-Morocco trade liberalisation will be implemented progressively up to 1 January 2001. The Agreement provides for improved preferences for a certain number of Moroccan agricultural products including tomatoes, citrus fruits, new potatoes and cut flowers. Further mutual concessions will be negotiated after 2001.

(43) With regard to fisheries, the Agreement provides for free access to the Community market, from 1999, for Moroccan canned sardines (other fisheries products have enjoyed free access already since 1976).

(44) The Association Agreement also calls for broad cooperation in the economic, financial technical, social and cultural fields. It further provides for political dialogue on all subjects of common interest to both sides, social cooperation covering the movement and integration of workers coming from the territory of one Party on the territory of the other Party.

(45) Morocco-EFTA (European Free Trade Association) trade relations are governed by the Morocco-Norway Trade Agreement of 2 December 1996 and the Morocco-Switzerland Protocol of 29 August 1957 on the MFN clause regarding customs duties and formalities. Other agreements relating in particular to investments, taxation and transport complete the legal framework.

(46) In this new context the legal framework for relations between Morocco and the EFTA countries will be redefined following the signature in December 1995 in Zermatt of a cooperation declaration with as its objective the conclusion of a free trade agreement.

Development cooperation

(47) The MEDA Programme is the EU's main financial instrument for the implementation of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership. Adopted by the Council in June 1995 in Cannes, the MEDA budget line for cooperation between the EU and its Mediterranean partners represented, for the period 1995 – 1999, Euro 4 685 million.

(48) The MEDA system provides for financial resources to be programmed: for bilateral measures indicative national programmes covering three year periods are drawn up in concert with the Government. An indicative regional programme covers multilateral activities.

(49) The main features of the MEDA programme for Morocco have resulted in a significant shift in the volume and allocation of cooperation funds. An indicative estimate of Euro 450 million for the period 1996 – 1998 is allocated as follows :

- support for the economic transition process (61% of the programmed funds); these funds are used principally for upgrading the Moroccan economy, for professional training and for supporting the structural adjustment programme;
- support for a better socio-economic balance (39% of the programmed funds) through actions relating to water, integrated rural development, education, health and assistance to the civil society.

Humanitarian aid

(50) No humanitarian aid actions were recorded in 1998.

Justice and Home Affairs measures

(51) The Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreement contains a joint declaration on re-admission. In addition, a reference to illegal immigration is included in the chapter on social dialogue (Article 69). The Parties agreed to adopt provisions and appropriate measures for the re-admission of their own nationals bilaterally.

(52) Morocco is on the list of third countries whose nationals must be in possession of a visa when crossing the external borders of the EU Member States (Council Regulation 574/1999)

III. Measures and actions by UNHCR, IOM, ICRC and other inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations

International Organisation for Migration (IOM)

(53) Morocco has just come on board as the first Maghreb State to hold membership status in IOM. In joining, the Government of Morocco made it clear that it wanted IOM assistance in a more serious and concerted approach to managing migration. The Government of Morocco approved recently two IOM projects on cooperation: Migrants Information Campaign (MIC) and Migration Information Management System (MIMS).

(54) MIC aims at raising the awareness of potential migrants from Morocco with regard to the risks and consequences of undocumented migration. Objective information will be provided on migration options. The campaign will consist of weekly radio broadcasts, TV documentaries, printed matter and informal discussion tours adapted to local environments. MIC is encouraged and financially supported by the Government of Spain.

(55) MIMS aims to strengthen through capacity building the institutional and technical capabilities of the Government of Morocco in order to address the orderly aspects of its migration management regime by establishing effective data gathering and information dissemination mechanisms. This will result in contributions to both establishing an integrated management information system and strengthening the national operational capacities on migration. The project will target the dissemination of information to migrants and potential emigrants, to policy and decision-makers and to agencies and entities dealing with migration.

(56) Other projects of interest to the Government of Morocco concern the return of ex-students from Eastern Europe, the regularisation of temporary work in Europe, the return of Moroccans with professional and technical qualifications, return programmes which provide economic opportunities (for example through micro-credits) and sustainable measures to channel remittances.

D. ASSESSMENT OF THE STATE OF PLAY

(57) Political links between the EU and Morocco have been reinforced in recent years by the launch of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership in November 1995 and the signing of an Association Agreement between the EU and Morocco on 26 February 1996. The entry into force of this agreement, expected in 1999, will create possibilities for deepening the relationship further.

(58) Morocco can be considered as an origin and transit country of economic migrants towards European countries in a continuous flow that began in the sixties. Its emigration figures are currently the highest among Maghreb countries. Morocco has also the strongest migration potential because of five essential, and mutually enhancing factors: the rate of growth of its active population; the slow growth rate and economic stagnation; the prevalence of high levels of unemployment and underemployment among its active population; weaknesses in the social and cultural aspects of the society; the ties of nationals with the Moroccan community in Europe.

(59) As stated in the Barcelona Declaration of November 1995 migration plays a major role in the relationships between the EU and Morocco. Migration can be considered a positive phenomenon as it can be a source of development and social progress, both in the receiving country and in the country of origin.

(60) At the same time, it is necessary to combat illegal migration, organised by mafias, which poses serious problems to migrants who risk their lives and are exposed to repatriation because of their clandestine stay. Countries of origin lose out, in an uncontrolled manner, on the human resources necessary for their development. Receiving countries face the need to reinforce police services, mafia-run organised crime increases and the risk of xenophobia arises.

(61) The clandestine immigration of Moroccan nationals has increased in recent years as shown in statistics, although figures are incomplete for some countries. Arrivals by maritime routes with the aid of criminal organisations to southern EU countries are a matter of concern. The arrival and stay of growing numbers of illegal Moroccan migrants may negatively influence the process of integration of legal Moroccan migrants.

(62) Moroccan asylum seekers represent a very low proportion in EU Member States and recognition rates are not significant compared to other Maghreb countries.

(63) Clandestine migrants transiting through Morocco to Europe, mainly from the West African region, without an entry visa to Morocco or without any documents at all, pose a new challenge. The serious political situation in Algeria has opened a page of uncertainty which may increase emigration pressures. In most cases, re-admission demands are denied by Moroccan authorities which argue that there was no proof that these people had transited through Morocco.

E. ACTION REQUIRED BY THE COMMUNITY/UNION

I. Morocco as origin and transit migration country

64. Foreign policy

Establishment of an EU-Morocco permanent dialogue, with the competent Moroccan authorities and institutions, on the overall migration issue, as provided for by the articles on social issues in the EU-Morocco Association Agreement, building on the useful contacts established on the occasion of the EU mission to Rabat from 2 to 4 June 1999.

Target date: 2000

Responsible: Council/Commission

Financial implications: no

65. Migration

- a) Production and dissemination of comparable statistical data both in European countries as well as in Morocco itself in order to gain a better understanding of the importance and development of migration from and through Morocco.

Target date: beginning of 2000

Responsible: Commission

Financial implications: yes

Possible Community budget line: MEDA II (Measures to accompany the reform to the economic and social structures in the Mediterranean non-member countries)
(B7 – 4 1)

- b) Promotion of comprehensive studies and holding of seminars on trends and causes of Moroccan migration dynamics.

Target date: beginning of 2000

Responsible: Commission

Financial implications: yes

Possible Community budget line: MEDA II (Measures to accompany the reform to the economic and social structures in the Mediterranean non-member countries)
(B7 – 4 1)

Member States:

Experts Member States needed: yes

- c) Organisation of an information campaign to advise on migration options and to warn against the consequences of illegally entering Member States, of unlawful employment and of using facilitators to gain entry to the EU.

Target date: mid 2000

Responsible: Commission

Financial implications: yes

Possible Community budget line: no

Member States:

Experts Member States needed: yes

- d) Strategies to combat illegal trafficking including the early detection of false documents.

Target date: mid of 2000

Responsible: Council/Commission/Member States

Financial implications: yes

Possible Community budget line: no

Member States:

Experts Member States needed: yes

- e) Promotion of measures aimed at assuring the effective implementation of existing readmission agreements.

Target date: beginning of 2000

Responsible: Council/Commission/Member States

Financial implications: yes

Possible Community budget line: no

Member States:

Experts Member States needed: yes

- f) Fight against criminal trafficking networks, including their links with drug-trafficking, by enforcing measures to improve police cooperation on the identification and detection of networks and confiscation of their proceeds and by technical and financial support to Morocco.

Target date: beginning of 2000

Responsible: Council/Commission/Member States/EUROPOL

Financial implications: yes

Possible Community budget line: MEDA II (Measures to accompany the reform to the economic and social structures in the Mediterranean non-member countries) (B7 – 4 1)

Member States:

Experts Member States needed: yes

- g) Measures for combating unsafe practices associated with the trafficking or transport of illegal migrants by sea, as recommended by the International Maritime Organisation.

Target date: mid 2000

Responsible: Council

Financial implications: yes

Possible Community budget line: no

Member States:

Experts Member States needed: yes

- h) Concluding readmission agreements for the following categories of persons who do not fulfil the conditions in force for entry or residence on the territory of the Member States : (a) Moroccan nationals, (b) Third country nationals and stateless persons who, after arriving from Morocco, have entered or remained on the territory of the Member States illegally.

Target date: end 2000

Responsible: Council/Commission/Member States

Financial implications: no

- i) Support the adoption of visa requirements by Morocco for third country nationals, especially those of the West African region (Nigeria, Senegal, Mali, and Democratic Republic of Congo...), and effective measures to be adopted by the Moroccan authorities, to prevent the illegal migration of aliens transiting through Morocco without prejudice to State obligations to respect the right to seek asylum.

Target date: end 2000

Responsible: Council/Commission

Financial implications: yes

Possible Community budget line: no

Member States:

Experts Member States needed: yes

- j) Complement the effectiveness of Airline Liaison Officers through a detailed analysis of migratory movements and by sending liaison officers to the main airports in order to improve gate checks.

Target date: 2000

Responsible: Council/Member States

Financial implications: yes

Possible Community budget line: no

Member States:

Experts Member States needed: yes

- k) CIREA/CIREFI should be given the task of compiling a report concerning the numbers, nationalities, destinations and “modus operandi” of third country nationals transiting through Morocco to Europe. The report should also describe and evaluate the measures taken by Morocco to prevent this traffic.

Target date: beginning 2000

Responsible: Council

Financial implications: no

II. Morocco as origin migration country

66. Development and economic cooperation

- a) Continued attention to be paid to the negative effects in the short-term of trade liberalisation and free trade areas on the employment market and how to promote foreign direct investments and the relocation of European enterprises to Morocco, in order to foster economic growth.

Target date: beginning 2000

Responsible: Council/Commission

Financial implications: yes

Possible Community budget line: MEDA II (Measures to accompany the reform to the economic and social structures in the Mediterranean non-member countries)
(B7 – 4 1)

b) Initiatives within the framework of the existing cooperation, aimed at economic development, taking into account the needs of the poorest and which could help to reduce migration pressure in the medium and long term such as:

- Training, especially vocational training and retraining, as well as facilitating self-employment should remain priorities in employment policies. Within these policies women, the youth and newcomers on the labour market should get special attention;

Target date: mid 2000

Responsible: Commission/Member States

Financial implications: yes

Possible Community budget line: MEDA II (Measures to accompany the reform to the economic and social structures in the Mediterranean non-member countries)
(B7 – 4 1)

Member States:

- Promotion of local development e.g. promotion of small-scale enterprises in regions with high migration pressure to be part of economic strategies geared at employment creation. Migrants including returnees interested in setting up businesses in their country of origin to be part of the target group of such programmes.

In this context, special attention to be paid to initiatives carried out by the Agency for the Promotion and the Social and Economic Development of Northern Prefectures and Provinces.

Target date: mid 2000

Responsible: Commission/Member States

Financial implications: yes

Possible Community budget line: MEDA II (Measures to accompany the reform to the economic and social structures in the Mediterranean non-member countries)
(B7 – 4 1)

Member States:

67. Migration

- a) Strengthening EU cooperation with Morocco, in line with the Barcelona Declaration, with a view to improving the management of migratory movements. In this framework, the EU should promote, with the involvement of migrant communities in the EU, voluntary return, reintegration programmes and financial schemes in order to give a real incentive to return voluntarily and to assist such persons to reintegrate, in a lasting way, in economic and social respects.

Target date: mid 2000

Responsible: Commission

Financial implications: yes

Possible Community budget line: no

Member States:

Experts Member States needed: yes

- b) Encouragement of EU/EC cooperation with Morocco to deal with the return of Moroccan nationals who have entered the territory of the European Union illegally.

Target date: end 2000

Responsible: Council/Commission

Financial implications: yes

Possible Community budget line: no

Member States:

Experts Member States needed: yes

- c) Assist the integration into society of Moroccan nationals legally residing in the Member States. In this respect emphasis should be placed on involving organisations of Moroccans living in the Member States. Moreover, the role of the Hassan II Foundation should be considered in this respect.

Target date: ongoing

Responsible: Council/Commission/Member States

Financial implications: yes

Possible Community budget line: no

Member States:

- d) Explore the possibilities of the conclusion and strengthening of agreements between Member States and Morocco on temporary work for Moroccan nationals.

Target date: end 2000

Responsible: Council/Commission/Member States

Financial implications: no

STATISTICS**MOROCCO⁽¹⁾**

(Kingdom of Morocco)

Capital: Rabat**Location⁽²⁾:** Northern Africa, bordering the North Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea, between Algeria and Mauritania**Border countries⁽²⁾:** Algeria, Mauritania, Spain (Ceuta and Melilla)**Area:** 710 650 km² (446.550 km² excluding Western Sahara)**KEY FIGURES ON POPULATION⁽³⁾****Population:** 29 114 500**Age structure:** 0-14 years 36%, 15-64 years 59%, 65 years and over 5%**Density:** 42.0 hab./km² (65.2 hab./km² excluding Western Sahara)**Urban population:** 48.4% (1995 est.)**Total population increase:** 18.9 per 1000 population**Net migration rate:** -1.3 per 1000 population**Infant mortality rate:** 53 infant deaths per 1000 live births**Life expectancy at birth:** 68.5 years**Total fertility rate:** 3.4 children per woman**Ethnic groups:** Arab-Berber 99.1%, other 0.7%, Jewish 0.2%**Religions:** Muslim 98.7%, Christian 1.1%, Jewish 0.2%**Languages:** Arabic (official), Berber dialects, French often the language of business, government and diplomacy**Literacy:** 43.7% of population aged 15 years and over**OTHER KEY FIGURES ⁽³⁾****GDP:** purchasing power parity—\$107 billion (1997 est.)**GDP—real growth rate:** 3.80 (1996-Eurostat)**GDP—per capita:** purchasing power parity—\$1 395 (1996-United Nations)**GDP—composition by sector:** agriculture 15.3%, industry 33.2%, services 51.5% (1997 World Bank)**Inflation rate—consumer price index:** 0.9% (1997 Eurostat)**Labour force:** 9.4 million (1998-Estimated with the percentage of 1995 year: 33.6% by the total population and 56.3% by the population aged 15-64 years).**Unemployment rate:** 17% (only for urban areas, 1996-United Nations)

(1) The sources of data for this national portrait are mentioned at the bottom of each table/figure

(2) This description includes Western Sahara, a contested territory of unresolved sovereignty located between the North Atlantic Ocean and Mauritania; it represents 33% of the total area of the country but includes only about 234 000 population

(3) Data within this current summary (above) are mainly from the United Nations, the U.S. Bureau of the Census, World Bank and Eurostat. When not indicated data/estimates refer to 1998. Figures on population are mainly from the U.S. Bureau of the Census, International Data Base: further information is provided in Table 1 and Figure 1

Trade between Morocco and the EU

Table A – Imports from Morocco into the EU: Principal goods ('000 EURO)⁽¹⁾



	1995	1996	1997	1998
TOTAL	4 017 095	4 232 032	4 749 896	5 322 904
Of which:				
WOMEN'S OR GIRLS' SUITS	337 593	351 304	434 986	512 265
MEN'S OR BOYS' SUITS	382 455	406 887	438 360	443 871
POWERED AIRCRAFT	80 628	102 110	164 125	440 539
DIODES, TRANSISTORS ETC	181 439	201 809	256 579	280 693
NATURAL CALCIUM PHOSPHATES ETC	106 480	124 749	164 007	180 727
JERSEYS, PULLOVERS, CARDIGANS ETC	114 035	135 878	158 031	177 699
MOLLUSCS, WHETHER IN SHELL OR NOT	113 994	106 803	126 481	154 139
CITRUS FRUIT, FRESH OR DRIED	150 411	249 476	188 559	143 822
MEN'S OR BOYS' SHIRTS	137 293	120 826	124 066	131 563
WOMEN'S OR GIRLS' BLOUSES	95 722	95 264	115 839	123 982
Other	2 317 044	2 336 926	2 578 862	2 733 604

(1) Goods listed in descending order of 1998 value in euro

Source: EUROSTAT (Comext2)

Table B – Exports to Morocco from the EU: Principal goods ('000 EURO)⁽¹⁾



	1995	1996	1997	1998
TOTAL	4 727 727	4 696 154	5 329 139	6 548 237
Of which:				
POWERED AIRCRAFT	95 670	104 065	204 729	771 861
MADE UP CLOTHING, ACCESSORIES	86 331	132 107	205 144	247 879
DIODES, TRANSISTORS ETC	143 008	148 173	192 181	235 593
WOVEN COTTON FABRICS (A)	131 891	151 116	173 778	187 595
WHEAT AND MESLIN	177 043	119 957	107 118	139 675
TRACTOR PARTS/ACCESSORIES ETC	55 674	57 753	75 498	113 938
MOTOR CARS VEHICLES	80 466	129 202	116 920	113 246
KNITTED OR CROCHETED FABRICS	64 827	68 679	90 189	111 780
WOVEN COTTON FABRICS (B)	87 031	76 589	98 246	96 266
WOVEN SYNTHETIC FABRICS	63 278	76 469	80 077	89 288
Other	3 472 507	3 632 044	3 985 261	4 441 117

(1) Goods listed in descending order of 1998 value in euro

Source: EUROSTAT (Comext2)

Trade between Morocco and the rest of the World (as declared by Morocco)

Table C – Imports to Morocco: Principal goods ('000 EURO)⁽¹⁾



	1994	1995	1996	1997	1994	1995	1996	1997	1994	1995	1996	1997
	Total				From the EU				% share of imports from the EU			
TOTAL	6 047 555	6 529 378	6 500 061	6 946 445	3 415 911	3 466 649	3 367 003	3 462 412	56.5	53.1	51.8	49.8
Of which:												
PETROLEUM OILS AND OILS OBTAINED FROM BITUMINOUS MINERALS, CRUDE	632 781	602 346	668 161	776 974	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
WHEAT AND MESLIN	136 675	358 212	373 640	322 822	54 613	202 706	148 583	112 202	40.0	56.6	39.8	34.8
MOTOR CARS AND OTHER MOTOR VEHICLES)	70 542	68 712	144 235	156 936	61 219	52 974	114 526	91 613	86.8	77.1	79.4	58.4
PETROLEUM GAS AND OTHER GASEOUS HYDROCARBONS	91 873	118 309	128 615	156 081	40 661	59 408	66 142	88 109	44.3	50.2	51.4	56.5
CANE OR BEET SUGAR AND CHEMICALLY PURE SUCROSE, IN SOLID FORM	106 762	118 270	121 833	140 843	53	226	195	183	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.1
SULPHUR OF ALL KINDS	103 438	142 408	111 646	133 544	4 988	5 168	9 133	9 522	4.8	3.6	8.2	7.1
SEMI-FINISHED PRODUCTS OF IRON OR NON-ALLOY STEEL	86 751	107 455	102 928	127 745	41 988	16 856	51 738	68 658	48.4	15.7	50.3	53.7
WOOD SAWN OR CUT LENGTHWISE, SLICED OR BARKED	106 990	124 417	98 764	120 529	59 359	17 854	18 043	18 828	55.5	14.3	18.3	15.6
MOTOR VEHICLES FOR THE TRANSPORT OF GOODS	77 113	67 672	74 804	114 443	39 499	27 935	34 062	52 470	51.2	41.3	45.5	45.8
WOVEN FABRICS OF COTTON	62 790	65 533	82 299	89 909	53 504	57 904	71 708	82 038	85.2	88.4	87.1	91.2
Other	4 571 838	4 756 045	4 593 135	4 806 619	3 060 028	3 025 618	2 852 873	2 938 791	66.9	63.6	62.1	61.1

(1) Goods listed in descending order of 1997 value in euro
Source: EUROSTAT (Comext2)

Trade between Morocco and the rest of the World (as declared by Morocco)

Table D – Exports from Morocco: Principal goods ('000 EURO)⁽¹⁾



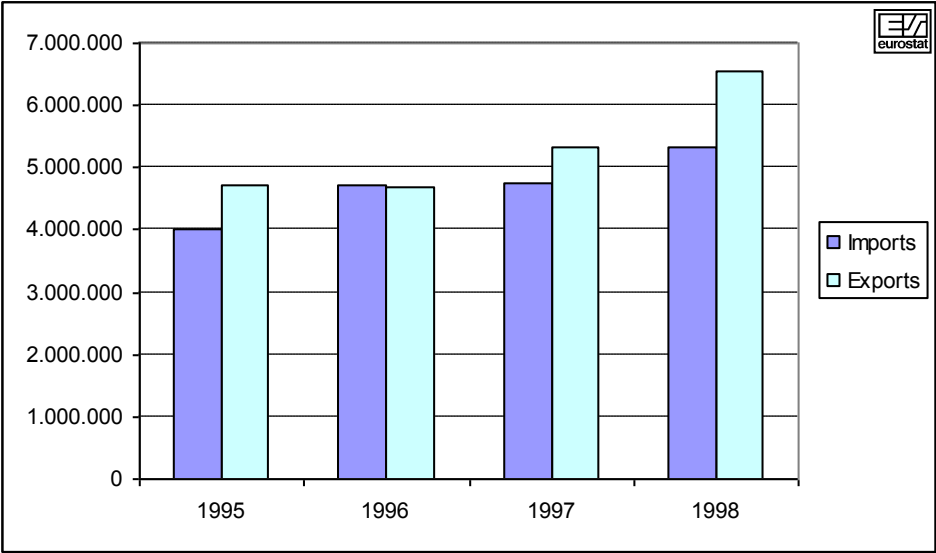
	1994	1995	1996	1997	1994	1995	1996	1997	1994	1995	1996	1997
	Total				To the EU				% share of exports to the EU			
TOTAL	3 391 767	3 607 664	3 734 562	4 121 656	2 169 298	2 210 313	2 265 744	2 467 401	64.0	61.3	60.7	59.9
Of which:												
DIPHOSPHORUS PENTAOXIDE; PHOSPHORIC ACID AND POLYPHOSPHORIC ACIDS	396 505	421 313	415 249	511 941	121 974	121 689	130 221	136 868	30.8	28.9	31.4	26.7
NATURAL CALCIUM PHOSPHATES, NATURAL ALUMINIUM CALCIUM PHOSPHATES AND PHOSPHATIC CHALK	236 835	217 538	273 633	383 113	85 914	71 364	96 339	127 655	36.3	32.8	35.2	33.3
MOLLUSCS, AND OTHER AQUATIC INVERTEBRATES (EXCL. CRUSTACEANS)	298 889	356 408	343 116	323 082	91 925	100 969	99 762	118 776	30.8	28.3	29.1	36.8
CITRUS FRUIT, FRESH OR DRIED	126 782	153 802	243 841	219 941	96 582	100 972	168 562	138 188	76.2	65.7	69.1	62.8
MINERAL OR CHEMICAL PHOSPHATIC FERTILIZERS	221 312	271 800	276 440	190 939	149 173	186 034	136 650	112 694	67.4	68.4	49.4	59.0
MEN'S OR BOYS' SUITS, ENSEMBLES, JACKETS, BLAZERS, TROUSERS, BIB AND BRACE OVERALLS, BREECHES AND SHORTS	153 142	161 016	171 096	176 151	146 619	151 769	160 265	156 269	95.7	94.3	93.7	88.7
PREPARED OR PRESERVED FISH; CAVIAR AND CAVIAR SUBSTITUTES PREPARED FROM FISH EGGS	131 947	138 226	138 620	153 919	84 226	72 217	77 578	85 071	63.8	52.2	56.0	55.3
JERSEYS, PULLOVERS, CARDIGANS, WAISTCOATS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES, KNITTED OR	91 819	95 454	109 514	134 956	89 021	92 051	106 349	131 801	97.0	96.4	97.1	97.7
MINERAL OR CHEMICAL FERTILIZERS	7 353	3 942	23 470	119 204	5 028	1 656	21 169	65 312	68.4	42.0	90.2	54.8
OTHER VEGETABLES PREPARED OR PRESERVED OTHERWISE THAN BY VINEGAR OR ACETIC	65 575	86 307	89 579	87 615	54 329	64 598	67 383	60 713	82.9	74.8	75.2	69.3
Other	1 661 606	1 701 859	1 650 003	1 820 796	1 244 506	1 246 994	1 201 466	1 334 053	74.9	73.3	72.8	73.3

(1) Goods listed in descending order of 1997 value in euro

Source: EUROSTAT (Comext2)

Figure A - Trade between Morocco and the EU

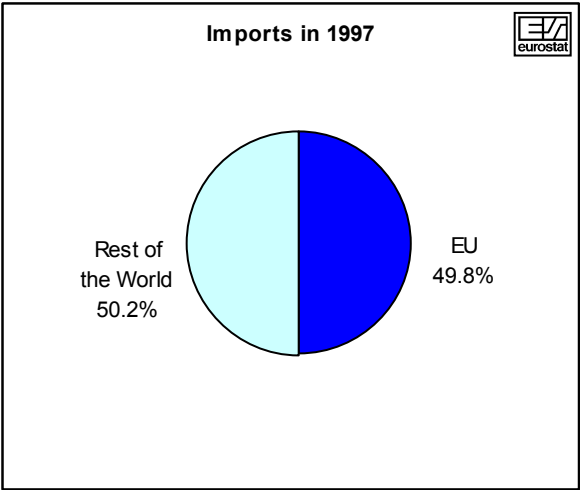
(' 000 Euro)



Source: EUROSTAT (Comext2)

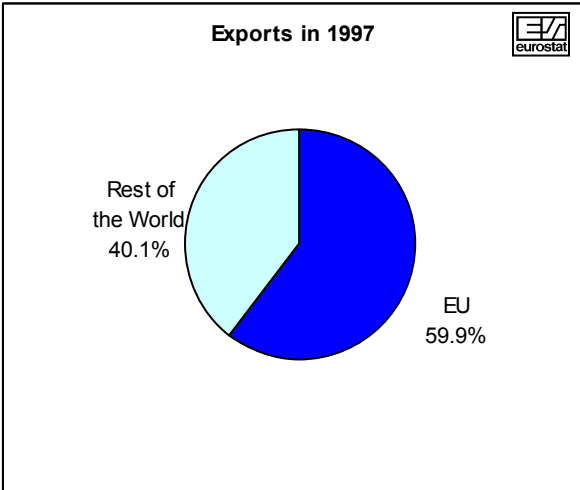
Figure B - Trade between Morocco and the rest of the World (as declared by Morocco)

%



Source: EUROSTAT (Comext2)

%



Source: EUROSTAT (Comext2)

Table 1 – Main demographic indicators for Morocco



	Mid-year population	Live births	Deaths	Natural increase	Net migration	Total increase	Total fertility rate ⁽¹⁾	Life expect. at birth	Infant mortality rate ⁽²⁾	Age depend. ratio ⁽³⁾
	(1 000)	(per 1 000 population)								(%)
1950	9 343.4	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
1960	12 423.4	55.3	22.3	33.0	-1.1	31.9	:	:	:	95.3
1972	16 660.7	44.0	15.2	28.8	-4.0	24.8	6.89	54.2	161.8	102.3
1982	20 198.7	39.1	10.7	28.5	-2.1	26.3	5.60	59.2	93.7	87.0
1990	24 685.1	31.3	7.4	23.9	-1.2	22.7	4.38	65.7	69.8	80.1
1995	27 460.8	28.0	6.6	21.4	-1.3	20.1	3.69	67.5	59.0	73.5
1996	28 013.0	27.5	6.5	21.0	-1.3	19.7	3.58	67.8	57.0	72.2
1997	28 564.6	26.9	6.4	20.6	-1.3	19.3	3.47	68.2	55.0	70.9
1998	29 114.5	26.4	6.2	20.1	-1.3	18.9	3.35	68.5	53.0	69.2

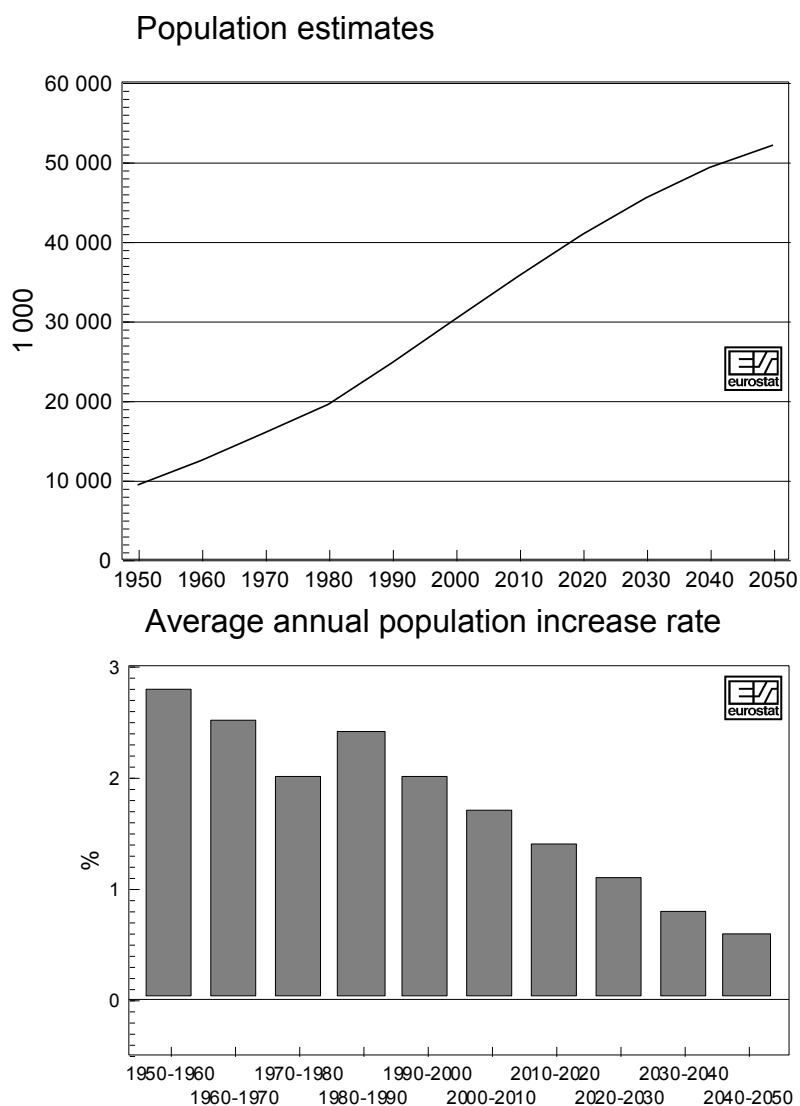
(1) Children per woman

(2) Infant deaths (under one year of age) per 1 000 live births

(3) Proportion of population aged 0-14 and 65 and over on the population aged 15-64

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, International Data Base

Figure 1 – Evolution of the population of Morocco



Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, International Data Base

**Table 2a - Resident population of Moroccan citizens in EU Member States
(population on 1st January of each year)⁽¹⁾**

11426/99

SE/cm

EN

ANNEX I

DG H I

6



	1990 ⁽²⁾	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	1997 or Census as % of	
								non-EU pop.	all non-nat. pop.
B	138 417	145 363	143 969	140 303	138 252	132 831	:	41.80	15.53
DK	2 703	3 180	3 227	3 268	3 383	3 557	:	1.79	1.51
D	61 848	82 803	82 412	81 922	82 927	83 904	82 748	1.51	1.13
EL	245	333	369	411	428	:	:	0.37	0.27
E	31 384	61 303	63 939	74 886	77 189	111 100	140 896	25.84	14.02
F	572 652	:	:	446 911	459 788	:	:	20.21	12.78
IRL⁽³⁾	41	49	19	43	68	128	:	0.21	0.06
I	26 752	77 180	85 000	92 905	117 487	:	:	15.64	13.28
L	120	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	147 975	164 567	158 653	149 841	138 677	135 721	:	28.21	20.40
A	238	111	296	:	:	:	:	0.05	0.05
P	54	162	221	249	277	289	:	0.21	0.16
FIN	190	560	597	618	613	592	:	1.03	0.84
S	1 172	1 533	1 513	1 430	1 413	1 353	:	0.41	0.27
UK⁽⁴⁾	:	+	+	10 000	10 000	10 000	:	0.76	0.47

(1) The population is that on 1st January of each reference year. For some Member States, 31st December of the previous year is taken as the equivalent

(2) 1990/91 Census round results for some countries

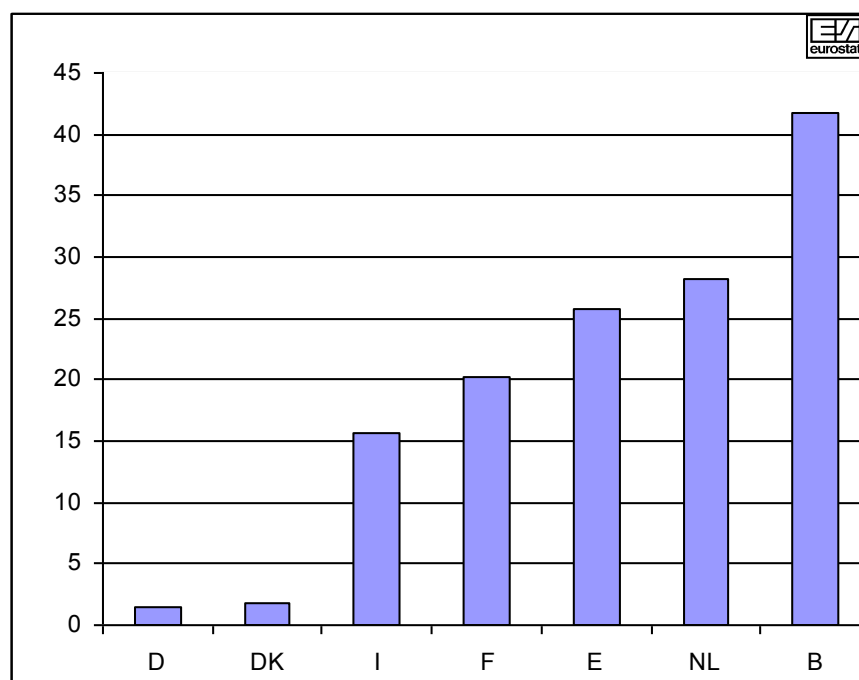
(3) Number of legal residents over age 16 plus number of asylum applicants

(4) Labour Force Survey, Spring data, figures rounded to the nearest thousand

Data in italics are estimated

Source: EUROSTAT

Figure 2 - Resident population of Moroccan citizens in EU Member States as a percentage of total non-EU population in 1997⁽¹⁾
(main countries of residence of those Member States for which data are available)



1990 Census results for France
Source: EUROSTAT

Table 2b – Valid residence permits held by Moroccan citizens in EU Member States by type of permit⁽¹⁾



	1996			1997			1998		
	Total	Long	Short	Total	Long	Short	Total	Long	Short
B	149 238	148 416	822	:	:	40	138 349	137 520	829
DK	3 268	3 268	:	3 383	3 383	:	3 557	3 557	:
D	54 286	32 709	21 577	68 553	33 763	34 790	72 147	33 889	38 255
EL	79	79	:	68	68	:	61	61	:
E	77 189	77 189	:	111 110	111 110	:	140 896	140 896	:
F⁽²⁾	446 911	418 424	28 487	459 788	421 005	38 783	:	:	:
IRL⁽³⁾	40	40	:	58	58	:	124	124	:
I	105 715	105 715	:	115 673	115 673	:	120 531	120 531	:
L	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	149 841	149 841	:	138 677	138 677	:	135 721	135 721	:
A	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
P	249	249	:	277	277	:	289	289	:
FIN	618	618	:	613	613	:	774	774	:
S	1 430	1 430	:	1 413	1 413	:	1 353	1 353	:
UK	7 000	7 000	:	8 000	8 000	:	10 000	10 000	:

(1) Some figures were provided by Spain for other Member States

(2) Long term residence permits are for a duration of more than 1 year; short term and provisional permits are for a maximum of 1 year. Figures refer to valid residence permits held at the end of the year

(3) Number of Moroccan citizens, over the age of 16, registered with the police and with permission to remain, excluding asylum seekers

Source: EUROSTAT, Ministries of the Member States

Table 2c - Residence permits issued to Moroccan citizens in EU Member States by type of permit⁽¹⁾



	1996			1997			1998		
	Total	Long	Short	Total	Long	Short	Total	Long	Short
B	2 085	1 508	577	1 199	1 052	147	1 478	856	622
DK⁽²⁾	341	:	:	304	:	:	413^P	:	:
D	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
E	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
F⁽³⁾	13 188	:	:	17 249	:	:	:	:	:
IRL⁽⁴⁾	40	:	:	58	:	:	124	:	:
I	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
L	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL⁽⁵⁾	6	5	1	1	1	0	2	2	0
A	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN⁽⁶⁾	39	38	1	48	48	0	34	32	2
S	244	:	:	200	:	:	225	:	:
UK	460	:	:	410	:	:	430	:	:

(1) This table shows how many permits have been issued during each year

(2) Number of residence permits issued to first time applicants. Includes asylum or other status in an asylum case, family reunification and other immigration residence permits including E.C. residence certificates

(3) Number of first residence permits issued to Moroccan born outside France

(4) Number of Moroccan citizens, over the age of 16, registered with the police and with permission to remain, excluding asylum seekers

(5) Permanent residence permits for Long, temporary residence (including refugee status) permits for Short

(6) First issue residence permits. 127 first permits were also issued from Finnish missions during the period 1996-1998

Source: EUROSTAT, Ministries of the Member States

Table 3a – Legal immigration of Moroccan citizens into EU Member States⁽¹⁾



	1990	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1997 ⁽²⁾ as % of	
							non-EU imm.	all imm.
B	2 645	4 768	3 596	4 007	2 227	:	10.33	3.78
DK	425	154	145	279	222	253	1.12	0.44
D	5 617	4 014	3 790	4 302	4 132	:	0.89	0.49
EL	67	73	64	53	32	:	0.18	:
E	1 242	3 725	3 846	3 650	4 206	:	19.39	7.27
F	17 651	7 883	6 286	6 072	8 811	:	14.84	:
IRL⁽³⁾	:	1	:	3	10	4	0.15	0.02
I	23 127	4 599	4 937	22 289	:	:	16.64	12.96
L	:	42	49	51	36	:	3.36	0.35
NL	9 761	3 152	3 100	4 477	4 750	:	11.08	4.32
A	:	:	:	118	111	:	0.35	0.16
P	:	20	8	12	11	:	0.81	:
FIN	114	69	46	35	47	:	0.70	0.35
S	232	251	155	171	151	:	0.58	0.34
UK⁽⁴⁾	18 900	20 600	19 300	19 000	20 300	:	16.24	7.12

(1) Asylum seekers are included in the figures for Portugal and partially included in the figures for all other Member States, according to national asylum procedures and recording systems

(2) 1996 for Italy

(3) Statistics on legal migration are not available. These figures are for asylum seekers only

(4) Figures rounded to the nearest hundred

Source: EUROSTAT

Table 3b – Moroccan citizens granted permission to stay in EU Member States for reasons of family reunion

	1996	1997	1998
B	1 707	1 906	1 985
DK⁽¹⁾	280	205	277 ^P
D⁽²⁾	1 477	1 644	925
EL	:	:	:
E	785	11 132	12 100
F	6 612	7 017	:
IRL⁽³⁾	0	0	0
I	17 228	22 254	29 381
L	:	:	:
NL⁽⁴⁾	1 219	1 074	1 192
A	:	:	:
P	:	:	:
FIN	0	0	0
S	181	170	200
UK⁽⁵⁾	210	310	360



(1) Number of residence permits issued to first time applicants

(2) Visas issued for family reunion

(3) Figures are for family reunion with Convention refugees only. Statistics for other family reunions are not available

(4) Long term visas for family reunion issued in 1998 until 26.11.98

(5) Persons admitted as fiancé(e)s or spouses or dependants of work permit holders

Sources: EUROSTAT, Ministries of the Member States

Table 4 – Moroccan citizens repatriated from EU Member States

	1996			1997			1998		
	Repatriations ⁽¹⁾		Expulsions	Repatriations ⁽¹⁾		Expulsions	Repatriations ⁽¹⁾		Expulsions
	Vol.	Invol.		Vol.	Invol.		Vol.	Invol.	
B	:	114	:	:	141	:	:	117	:
DK⁽²⁾	0	7	:	0	6	:	0	3	:
D	:	:	422	:	:	397	:	:	451
EL	:	94	:	:	106	:	:	23	:
E⁽³⁾	:	24 120	:	:	26 680	:	:	18 408	:
F	:	:	1 584	:	:	1 499	:	:	1 201
IRL	0	0	0	0	0	0	:	1	0
I⁽⁴⁾	:	:	326	:	:	232	:	:	83
L	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	:	:	54	:	:	35	:	:	39
A⁽⁵⁾	28			49			30		
P	:	:	39	:	:	8	:	:	29
FIN	:	5	:	:	0	:	:	5	:
S	:	0	43	:	1	25	:	0	24
UK⁽⁶⁾	:	:	55	:	:	35	:	:	50

(1) Voluntary / Involuntary. Repatriations are back to the country of citizenship. Expulsions are forced removals to other countries

(2) Including monitored departures and removals of asylum seekers and refugees

(3) Included are the cities of Ceuta and Melilla. 1998 figure is recorded expulsions from 1 January – 26 March

(4) Notified / recorded (established, since 27.03.1998) expulsions

(5) Repatriations and expulsions

(6) UK Immigration enforcement removals. Includes voluntary departures following enforcement action. Removals may relate to action initiated in earlier years

Sources: EUROSTAT, CIREFI, Ministries of the Member States

Table 5 – Applications for short and long stay visas from Moroccan citizens and numbers issued by EU Member States

	1996		1997		1998	
	Applications (S/L)	Visas issued (S/L)	Applications (S/L)	Visas issued (S/L)	Applications (S/L)	Visas issued (S/L)
B	7 000/:	5 062/2 077	13 679/:	4 898/2 590	:	:/2 735
DK	:	:	:	:	:	:
D	:	8 613	:	16 946	:	15 389
EL⁽¹⁾	863	733	958	799	484	280
E	78 657/12 391	61 678/11 083	71 579/16 363	55 762/9 782	71 108/25 756	55 267/22 301
F	133 441	48 201/9 837	137 690	59 418/9 113	180 378	88 851/12 318
IRL	:	:	:	:	:	:
I	:	:	:	:	:	:
L	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	:/4 356	7 781/2 526	:/4 665	:/2 607	1 691/4 575	822/2 701 ⁽²⁾
A	:	:	:	:	:	:
P	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN⁽³⁾	:	:	:	:	:	:
S	712	711	729	720	741	713
UK	:	6 910/170	:	5 930/340	:	5 800/290

(1) Source: Greek Embassy in Rabat

(2) Long-term visas issued in 1998 until 26.11.98

(3) Finland received 900 visa applications from Moroccan citizens during the period 1996-1998

Sources: EUROSTAT, CIREFI, Ministries of the Member States

Table 6 – Moroccan citizens refused entry at the borders of EU Member States



	1996	1997	1998
B	31	34	27
DK⁽¹⁾	23	22	:
D⁽²⁾	:	:	106
EL	65	32	17
E⁽³⁾	698	1 048	700
F	3 187	3 909	2 229
IRL	0	0	0
I	2 591	1 529	2 120
L	:	:	:
NL⁽⁴⁾	139	103	154
A	401	289	20
P	1	6	12
FIN	5	16	9
S	10	6	3
UK	204	180	200

(1) Covers refusals of entry into Denmark by an administrative decision.

Source: National Commissioner of the Danish Police

(2) Total number of refusals of entry

(3) Moroccan citizens refused entry in Ceuta and Melilla are not included. Refusals in these two cities are very high (139 553 in 1996, 398 421 in 1997 and 760 136 in 1998). Aliens residents in both cities are checked in a second border control when they circulate to other parts of the Spanish national territory

(4) Refusals of entry at Schipol airport

Sources: EUROSTAT, CIREFI, Ministries of the Member States

Table 7 – Asylum seekers and refugees from Morocco**Table 7a – Asylum applications**

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
B	118	288	106	81	37	26	22	21	14
DK	17	15	1	7	14	11	24	17	6 ^P
D	827	2 099	2 565	1 416	651	510	452	494	361
EL	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	10	0
E	:	:	18	109	136	:	44	129	248
F	83	229	53	83	62	38	25	32	31
IRL	:	:	4	:	1	:	3	10	4
I	2	5	0	3	2	:	0	1	1
L	0	:	:	0	:	:	0	1	0
NL	56	94	70	41	68	61	71	36	48
A	2	5	11	13	4	5	3	6	10
P	1	0	1	0	:	:	1	:	1
FIN	7	12	1	7	3	3	3	6	5
S	:	:	93	:	:	10	17	16	10
UK	:	:	:	:	:	:	15	25	25
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:	:	680	804	764^P

Table 7b – Total numbers granted Geneva Convention refugee status



	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
B	3	6	4	1	:	:	3	:	:
DK⁽¹⁾	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0 ^P
D	2	9	:	7	:	:	4	1	0
EL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
E	:	:	:	:	:	:	0	3	0
F	:	:	:	:	:	:	4	1	2
IRL	:	0	:	:	1	:	1	0	0
I	:	:	:	0	0	:	:	1	:
L	:	:	0	0	:	:	0	0	0
NL	0	1	0	0	0	:	1	0	0
A	0	0	0	0	:	:	:	:	:
P	0	0	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	:	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	:
S	:	:	:	:	:	:	0	0	0
UK	:	:	:	:	:	:	5	+	+
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:	:	18	:	:

Table 7c – Total numbers granted humanitarian/de facto refugee status



	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
B	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
DK⁽¹⁾	1	0	1	0	2	0	0	1	0 ^P
D⁽²⁾	:	:	:	:	:	:	1	1	0
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	0	0
E	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
F	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
IRL	:	:	:	:	:	0	0	0	0
I	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
L	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	4	3	0	3	1	5	5	1	2
A	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
S	9	14	12	14	10	2	:	1	4
UK	:	:	:	:	:	:	+	0	+

(1) First instance decisions only

(2) Recognition under Article 53 of the 1996 Constitution

Sources: EUROSTAT, CIREA, Ministries of the Member States, IGC

Table 7d – Number of grants of refugee status as a percentage of the total number of asylum applications from Moroccan citizens



	1996		1997		1998	
	Granted refugee status a/b	%(1)	Granted refugee status a/b	%(1)	Granted refugee status a/b	%(1)
B	:	:	:	:	:	:
DK⁽²⁾	0	0.0	1	8.0	0 ^P	0.0 ^P
D⁽³⁾	4	0.4	0	0.1	0	0.0
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:
E	:	:	:	:	:	:
F	:	12.5	:	3.8	:	7.1
IRL	1	33.3	0	0.0	0	0.0
I	0	0.0	1	:	1	:
L	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	1	1.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
A	:	:	:	:	:	:
P	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	:	:	:	:	:	:
S	:	0.0	:	0.0	:	0.0
UK	5	:	+	:	+	:

(1) The percentages shown in this table are indicators only. Note that grants of Geneva Convention Status for each year often do not relate to applications made within that year. Also figures on applications usually include family members, whereas grants of Geneva Convention status may include only adult applicants

(2) Recognition rate includes Geneva Convention and de facto status refugees. First instance decisions only

(3) Recognition: 1996: Geneva Convention 1997, 1998: Article 53 of the 1996 Constitution

Sources: EUROSTAT, CIREA, Ministries of the Member States

Table 7e – Rejected asylum applications

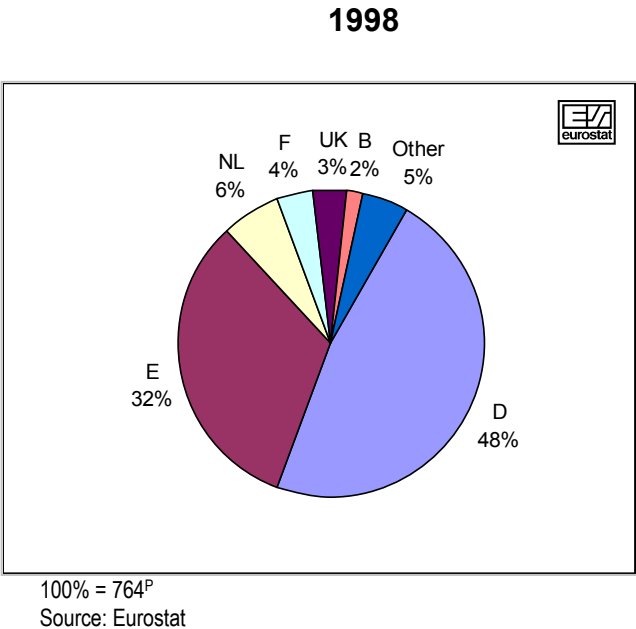
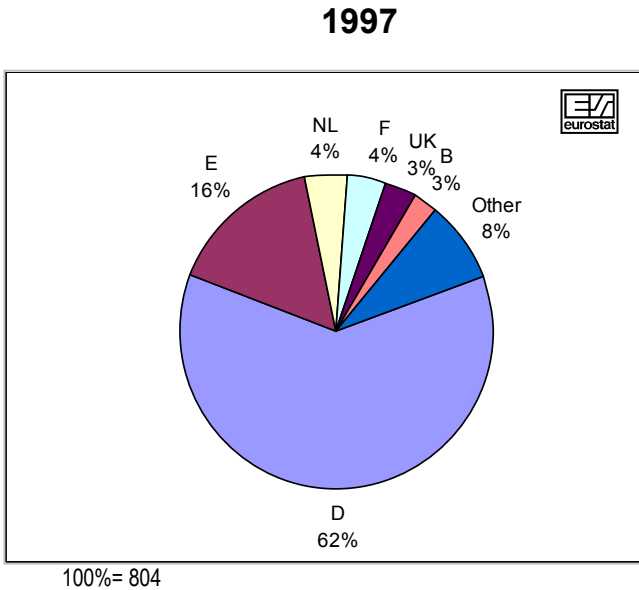
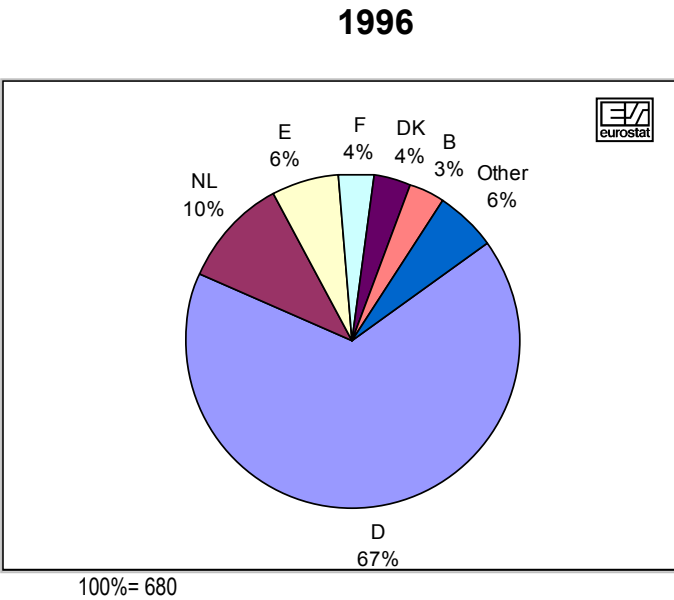


	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
B	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
DK⁽¹⁾	8	20	2	1	9	10	15	11	8 ^P
D	:	:	:	:	:	:	88	437	371
EL	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	10	0
E	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
F	:	:	:	:	:	:	28	25	26
IRL	:	:	4	:	:	:	2	:	:
I	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
L	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	37	53	116	40	48	71	95	35	49
A	1	1	7	12	3	3	5	4	2
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
S	:	134	153	70	22	13	9	5	9
UK	:	:	:	:	:	:	35	15	5

(1) First instance decisions only

Sources: CIREA, Ministries of the Member States

Figure 3 - Asylum applications of Moroccan citizens in EU Member States



Algerian and Subsaharian Asylum seekers in Spain who have transitted through Morocco

	1996	1997	1998
Algeria	6	152	1352
Angola	1		1
Benin	1	1	
Burkina Faso	3		
Cameroon	20	37	12
Central Africa R.	1		2
Congo	6	1	2
D.R.Congo	25	51	137
Chad	1	1	
Guinea Equat.		2	
Gabon	1		
Gambia	3	2	
Ghana	7	5	
Guinea	6	9	
Guinea Bissau	1	6	1
Ivory Coast	1	1	
Liberia	37	31	
Mali	74	99	
Mauritania		3	10
Niger	3	1	1
Nigeria	56	78	
Rwanda	8	8	1
Senegal	6	46	3
Sierra Leone	4	6	3
Somalia	5	50	32
Togo	2	2	
TOTAL	278	592	1 577

Source: Country report from Spain

**Algerians and Subsaharians who have transitted through Morocco
granted Refugee status (RS) or Temporary Protection (TP) 1996 –
1998**

	1996		1997		1998	
	RS	TP	RS	TP	RS	TP
Algeria	1	0	0	0	5	409
Subsahara	1*	0	0	10**	4***	27****
TOTAL	2	0	0	10	9	436

* D.R.Congo

** Congo (4) Liberia (1) D.R.Congo (4) Sierra Leone (1)

*** Somalia

**** Cameroon (2) Congo (1) Liberia (1) D.R.Congo (3) Somalia (19) Senegal (1)

Source: Country report from Spain

Algerians and Subsaharians who have transitted through Morocco, granted residence permits for humanitarian reasons 1996 – 1998

	1996	1997	1998
Algeria		2	115
Angola		2	1
Bangladesh		1	
Benin		2	1
Bhutan	1		
Burkina Faso	2	13	19
Burundi		5	
Cameroon	5	66	44
Congo		3	5
D.R.Congo	17	94	98
Chad		3	
Guinea Equat.		2	
Ethiopia		1	
Gabon		1	
Gambia	1	29	72
Ghana	3	20	77
Guinea	4	44	53
Guinea Bissau		26	57
Ivory Coast		8	16
Irak			1
Liberia	48	154	59
Mali	28	314	263
Mauritania	6	30	79
Morocco			6
Niger		3	14
Nigeria	12	298	267
Rwanda	10	56	24
Senegal		94	52
Sierra Leone	14	48	55
Somalia	22	57	49
South africa			1
Sri Lanka		1	
Stateless			2
Sudan	3		1
Togo		3	6
Uganda	3		
TOTAL	179	1 380	1 438

Source: Country report from Spain

Table 8 – Number of Moroccan tertiary⁽¹⁾ education students in the EU Member States



	B	DK	D	EL ⁽²⁾	E ⁽³⁾	F ⁽³⁾	IRL ⁽³⁾	I	L	NL ⁽³⁾	A	P	FIN	S	UK ⁽³⁾
School-year															
1995/96	:	29	4 176	29	717	17 084	0	189	:	83	46	:	35	10	830
1996/97	:	31	4 794	25	1 116	16 064	2	269	10	94	55	:	40	16	570

(1) Tertiary education includes: higher education non-university (ISCED 5); university second stage (ISCED 7); university first stage (ISCED 6)

In Ireland and the UK, students are considered to be non-nationals if they have permanent residence in another country, while for the other Member States non-national students are those holding passports from another country

The data presented do not provide a precise measure of student mobility. On the one hand, the number of students enrolled in an EU Member State other than their own, is underestimated, partly because, in some countries, it is not possible to identify the citizenship of students in certain types of higher education, e.g., ISCED 5 in France. On the other hand, the data may overstate the degree of student mobility, as children of migrants are included

(2) Number of residence permits issued to students in 1996 and 1997

(3) Source: Spanish contribution to this report

Source: Eurostat

Conventional Signs:

- P Provisional
- : No data available
- + Indicates «below lowest level of recording»

**RUNDOWN OF
EXISTING MEMBER STATE MEASURES AND ACTIONS
FOR MOROCCO**

1. Politics

Austria

Embassy in Rabat, Austrian consulate (honorary) in Casablanca; Moroccan embassy in Vienna.

Belgium

Embassy in Rabat, Consulate General in Casablanca, Consulate in Tanger, Honorary Consulate in Agadir.

Economic Attachés of the Région wallonne and the Région Bruxelloise in Casablanca, Economic Secretary for Flanders, Agriculture Counsellor based in Madrid, Cultural attaché of the French speaking Community based in Tunis, AGCD section in Rabat, one External Trade Counsellor, Sabena office, some fifteen Belgian companies on the spot.

Denmark

Denmark has an Embassy in Rabat and a Consulate General in Casablanca. Morocco has an embassy in Copenhagen. Denmark has pledged 110 soldiers to MINURSO, the UN peacekeeping force in Western Sahara.

Finland

Finland has an Embassy in Rabat and Morocco has an Embassy in Helsinki. Both are lead by chargé d'affaires.

France

Franco-Moroccan relations are excellent and may be qualified as a “reference partnership”. Morocco is one of France’s most important partners.

France has an Embassy in Rabat and six Consulates General (Rabat, Casablanca, Tanger, Fès, Marrakech, Agadir). There are 800 000 Moroccans (of whom 350 000 hold dual nationality) in France and 30 000 French nationals in Morocco. Morocco has an Embassy in Paris, thirteen Consulates General and Consulates in the French provinces. Political relations are particularly close.

As a permanent member of the UN Security Council, France follows closely developments in the Western Sahara issue. France supports the UNSG efforts in the implementation of the UN Settlement Plan. France offers financial assistance to MINURSO (UN Mission for a Referendum for Western Sahara) and has provided 25 military observers.

Political dialogue between France and Morocco is particularly intense as testified by visits of Heads of State (Mr. Chirac in 1995, King Hassan II in 1996), of Prime Ministers (Mr. Jospin in 1997, Mr. Youssoufi in October 1998) and of Ministers (several visits per year).

Promoting Human Rights is the centrepiece of France's relations with Morocco, i.e. it is an important aspect of France's cooperation since it features in cooperation in the fields of education, justice and home affairs (legal training of police officers), in matters concerning young people and sports, in institutional exchanges between the French National Human Rights Advisory Commission and the Moroccan Human Rights Advisory Council, in support from the French Embassy for the Moroccan Human Rights Organisation (OMDH), as well as in aid to Moroccan associations, in particular those for women and abandoned children.

Germany

Moroccan-German relations are good. Germany's political stance with regard to the Western Sahara question - non-interference and strict neutrality - is respected. Germany supports the Moroccan government's efforts on the road to greater democratisation and welcomes the progress achieved in the field of human rights.

Political foundations are particularly active in the human rights field. The Friedrich-Ebert Foundation is involved in several projects in the area of social dialogue, the Konrad-Adenauer Foundation supports young scientists and the Friedrich-Neumann Foundation organises advanced training seminars for journalists.

The German embassy in Rabat actively cooperates with various Moroccan NGOs which militate in favour of the respect of human rights and also with the Moroccan Ministry for Human Rights.

Netherlands

The Netherlands has an Embassy in Rabat and consular offices in Rabat, Casablanca and Tanger. In Rabat, Casablanca and Agadir there are also Benelux visa offices.

Portugal

General Agreement on Cooperation between the Government of the Portuguese Republic and the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco, signed at Rabat on 23 March 1984.

Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Notes between the Government of the Portuguese Republic and the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco for the Abolition of Visas in Diplomatic, Service and Special Passports, signed at Rabat on 3 November 1988.

Agreement on Cooperation in Defence Matters between the Government of the Portuguese Republic and the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco, signed at Lisbon on 23 September 1993.

Spain

1991 Treaty on Friendship, Good Neighbourliness and Co-operation, which establishes the system of annual high-level meetings between Heads of Government. Five meetings have been held to date, the last one taking place in Madrid in April 1999.

The Averroes Committee set up on the occasion of the February 1996 high-level meeting. It is chaired by the respective Ministers of Foreign Affairs and is aimed at abolishing old prejudices and improving the reciprocal perception of our societies. The members are representatives of civil society. With regard to the issue of immigration, a study on the situation of Moroccan students in Spain will be submitted at the next meeting of the Committee.

The Joint Parliamentary Hispano-Moroccan Friendship Group which is pending the start of work, the Moroccan side having already submitted its list of members during the respective visits of the Speaker of the Spanish Senate to Morocco and the Speaker of the Moroccan House of Representatives to Madrid in 1998.

2. Economics

Austria

Total Austrian exports 1998: Euro 21,9 million.

Total Austrian imports 1998: Euro 19,3 million.

Belgium

Bilateral trade between Morocco and the Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union (BLEU) account for only slightly over 0,1% of BLEU exports. Since 1995 Morocco has become the second most important trading partner of the Maghreb, behind Tunisia but ahead of Algeria. BLEU is Morocco's 9th supplier and Morocco is BLEU's 9th purchaser.

The main BLEU exports in 1997 were: textiles (28,5%), machinery (19%), metal products (16%), chemical products (12%). The main imports of products originating in Morocco in 1997 were: textile materials (38,6%), products of the chemical industry (28.4%), mineral products (12,3%).

For the first time the trade balance was negative (almost Euro 24,79 million) despite BLEU exports being maintained at the 1996 level.

Statistics for 1997 show Moroccan imports into BLEU increasing substantially (30%) especially in the textiles and clothing sectors as well as in the chemical industry products sector. A large share of bilateral trade in the textiles sector consists of the reexportation to Belgium of textile products made up in Morocco. The trend in the chemical industry products sector can be explained by the share of OCP in the Belgian company Parayon. During the first seven months of 1998 Belgian exports to Morocco grew by 35% whereas imports from Morocco grew by 21%.

BLEU investments in Morocco amounted to Euro 7,43 million in 1997, which made BLEU the 11th foreign investor in Morocco (6th in 1996 but 13th in 1995). During the period 1987-1997, total Belgian investment amounted to Euro 793,25 million.

Finland

The total value of Finnish exports to Morocco in 1998 was Euro 28,2 million and imports from Morocco Euro 22,1 million. Wood products and machines were the most important export items (39% and 37% respectively) and imports were mainly fruit and vegetables (58% of the total).

In 1979, Finland concluded agreements on Economic, Industrial and Technical Cooperation and also on International Road Transport.

France

Several agreements exist between Morocco and France on economic cooperation : labour convention, social security convention, taxation convention, agreement on stay and employment, agreement on mutual encouraging and protecting investments; cooperation agreement in the field of tourism, cooperation agreement in the field of the environment.

With regard to credit-insurance, Morocco is one of the main countries where Coface intervenes in short term payment trade flows. Coface's outstandings are Euro 1,87 million.

Trade: France is Morocco's first trading partner, being its top supplier (1/4 Moroccan imports - Euro 2,16 million), its top customer (1/3 Moroccan exports – Euro 2,18 million), its top stock investor (Euro 320 142 since 1990). 450 subsidiaries of French companies are active in Morocco.

Germany

German exports 1998 : Euro 547,03 million (mainly semi-finished textiles products, machines, chemicals, motor vehicles)

German imports 1998 : Euro 478,67 million (mainly finished textiles products)

Germany is creditor for some 6% of Morocco's external debt (Euro 715,81 million). About 80 German companies are established in Morocco, mainly in the textiles sector. Since 1997 there is a German Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Morocco. German total investments in Morocco amounted to about Euro 306,77 million in 1998.

Greece

Trade links between Greece and Morocco are limited, with a deficit on the Greek side. In 1997, the value of Greek exports to Morocco amounted to Euro 12,4 million (0,20% of total exports) whilst Moroccan exports to Greece amounted to Euro 15,26 million (0,45% of total Moroccan exports).

Moroccan imports from Greece mainly comprise cereals, textiles, chemical products, plastics, dyes, cement, various items of machinery, medicinal products, etc. Moroccan exports to Greece mainly comprise fisheries products (fresh and preserved), phosphates, fertilisers, paper pulp, etc.

There are favorable prospects for cooperation in the defence industry sector. During a recent visit to Morocco by a delegation from the Greek aerospace factory the considerable scope for the Greek industry to take on repair and maintenance work in respect of Moroccan military aircraft was explored. A visit by the head of Moroccan air force to Greece is planned.

At the same time, three Moroccan already hold Greek General National Defence Staff scholarships to study at the Greek Air Force Engineering College and two senior Moroccan Air Force officers are following Greek language courses in Athens to enable them to take part in the next training course at the College.

As regard tourism, the Greek Tourist Office offers Morocco annual free training courses at its establishments lasting two to three weeks for 20 management staff in the relevant professions (in September). A large number of Greek tourists visit Morocco.

Netherlands

- Economic Cooperation Agreement(ESO) (1971)
- Agreement to prevent double taxes (1977)
- Agreement concerning air transport (1959)
- Agreement concerning recruitment and employment of Moroccan employees in the Netherlands (1969)
- Agreement concerning international road transport of persons and goods

Spain

- Agreement on Economic and Financial Cooperation: signed in February 1996, which provided for credit facilities in an amount of Euro 901,55 million between 1996 and 2001.
- Concessionary Credit Lines for Small and Medium-Sized Businesses: agreed in October 1996 in an amount of Euro 36,06 million.
- Debt for Equity Agreement: signed on 3 December 1996, of which two instalments have been committed in an amount of Euro 37,56 million and Euro 28,99 million, respectively.
- Agreement on the Promotion and Reciprocal Protection of Investments, signed on 21 November 1997.
- Credit line in support of the bilateral partnership: agreed in October 1998, in an amount of Euro 18 031 million.
- Joint CEOE-CGEM Committee.
- Spain-Morocco Club: set up at the beginning of 1998 by major Spanish (Telefónica, Argentaria, BBV, Repsol, etc.) and Moroccan companies to stimulate economic and trade relations between both countries.
- Large-scale infrastructure projects: Euro-Maghreb gas pipeline, which has been in operation since November 1996; electric power exchanges in operation since September 1997; Fixed-Link project.
- Joint Committee for preparing the "Operación Paso del Estrecho" (Crossing the Strait): it meets annually, with the participation of the private shipping companies and the authorities of both countries.
- Joint Land Transport Committee: it meets annually.

3. Development cooperation

Austria

Austria has two rural developments projects in the Atlas and the Rif Mountains.

Belgium

Cooperation agreements:

- General Development Cooperation Convention, signed on 8 November 1994
- Special specific arrangements for each project
- Minutes of joint commissions

The consultation bodies set up between Belgium and Morocco by the General Convention are:

- joint commissions, which meet every three years
- bilateral preparatory commissions, which meet six months before each joint commission
- joint technical meetings, convened as and when necessary.

The joint commission of November 1994 set at Euro 22,31 million the triennial programme for 1995-1997. Targeted sectors for the use of the funds were infrastructures, agriculture and rural development, professional training, health and a multisectoral project. A follow-up committee met in Rabat in January 1998.

At the beginning of the 1990s, water was the main area of Belgian activity in Morocco. The decision to focus on certain preselected sectors went hand in glove with the aim of concentrating the cooperation projects in the South of Morocco. The choice of this region reflects the will of the Belgian authorities to reduce Moroccan migratory pressure towards Belgium.

Denmark

At present Denmark does not have any bilateral development co-operation with Morocco.

Finland

In 1998, Finnish development cooperation consisted of a forestry project in Midar and arranging seminars, mainly on education and training for women. The total value of these projects amounted to Euro 62 230.

France

France signed a cultural, scientific and technical cooperation agreement with Morocco in 1984.

French aid constitutes 1% of Morocco's GDP per year. France is the leading lending country to Morocco with fifty percent of the credit of the Club de Paris and over 18% of Morocco's total outstanding debt.

Scientific, university and research, technical, cultural and linguistic cooperation with Morocco is France's biggest foreign cooperation project (Euro 23,47 million in 1999). There are 29 French educational establishments, 7 cultural institutes, 2 "Alliances françaises", 2 lay mission educational establishments in Morocco.

Support for the modernisation of the administration, the police (national security and protection of the civilian population) and the judiciary consists in particular in the training of senior officials and magistrates (training sessions organised both in France and in Morocco). Among the most recent activities are the computerisation of the registry of police records and of the trade registry due to start in 1999 and the training, over a period of three years, of all magistrates recruited up to the year 2000 for the operation of the newly created regional courts of auditors.

Germany

German bilateral development cooperation in Morocco focuses around four main sectors aimed at improving the standard of living and contributing thereby indirectly to reducing emigration towards Europe. The sectors concerned are water supply and purification, protection of the environment and natural resources, rural development and professional training. One project is aimed at the creation of wells with a view to guaranteeing that people living in even the remotest parts of Morocco have sufficient water supplies. In the field of the protection of the environment and natural resources projects have been set up to encourage businesses to make investments which contribute to reducing pollution. The professional training project promotes the use of the dual system which exists in Germany aimed at improving the qualification of skilled workers and thus increasing their chances on the labour market. The Moroccan authorities have withdrawn a project on reintegration assistance which had been broadened in scope by the Hassan II Foundation which deals with problems facing Moroccans abroad.

Financial cooperation amounts to Euro 20,45 million for 1999. Technical cooperation amounts to Euro 6,65 million.

Italy

Current cooperation programmes:

- (1) Credit-funded projects: the Electricity Laboratory project (in the region of Euro 4,21 million) and the Marrakesh slaughterhouse project (Euro 59 787 as grant and Euro 7,17 million as aid credit).
- (2) Grant-funded projects: a number of agricultural schemes (Settat agricultural water programme Euro 4,97 million), water projects (recharging of the aquifers of the Pre-Atlas Mountains, Euro 1,14 million), health projects (Biology Centre in the Pasteur Institute in Tangiers, Euro 1,62 million) and vocational training schemes (training of teachers and directors of training institutes, Euro 597 628).

Future cooperation programme:

A visit to Rabat was organised in April 1998 for the purpose of devising a consistent and well-constructed programme of activities to assist Morocco.

Of the schemes that had already been identified (focusing on private enterprise and infrastructure development as twin areas for support), Morocco confirmed as its priorities the Al Hoceima-Nador stretch of the coastal bypass (the Mediterranean bypass), (totalling approximately Euro 87,79 million in aid credit) and the integrated support programme for small and medium-sized businesses (comprising a line of credit for Euro 15,49 million, plus an institutional support component in the form of a grant of approximately Euro 1,5 million). In line with its requests, the Moroccan Government will be granted this line of credit on extremely favourable financial terms, i.e. at 1% over 30 years, including a 12 years' grace period.

Italy also contributes, alongside various other donors, to the PAGER programme, a top priority for the Moroccan Government; Italy's contribution to this ambitious programme for supplying water to rural areas and purifying drinking water in such areas, is made in the form of a small, symbolic grant (Euro 1,05 million) to fund one of the components of the programme and will be concentrated in some of the home provinces of Moroccans working in Italy.

On the institutional level there is an Italy-Morocco Joint Committee.

Netherlands

- Support (Euro 45 454) of a Dutch NGO which assists remigrated Moroccans. ICCO, a Dutch NGO also supports this NGO with Euro 54 545.
- A few Dutch NGO's support Moroccans who want to start a business in Morocco with small financial assistance and advice.
- The Project "Sending Out Managers"; retired managers train Moroccan colleagues in managing a company.
- The Netherlands embassy finances different small developing projects.
- The Netherlands has no structural bilateral development cooperation relationship with Morocco. Development assistance is provided via multilateral (EU/Barcelona process and MEDA) and ngo-channels.

Spain

- Hispano-Moroccan Scientific and Technical Cooperation Convention (8 November 1979) and implementation protocol (2 July 1990) that provide for the multi-annual meeting of a joint committee.
- Convention on Cultural and Educational Cooperation (14 July 1980) that provides for the multi-annual meeting of a joint committee.
- Technical Cooperation Office: set up in 1991, it manages the funds for scientific and technical cooperation. In 1998 projects were financed to an amount of Euro 10,77 million.
- Framework Agreement for Cooperation between the AECI and the Regional Community of Andalusia (22 July 1993), which defines joint cooperation through the drawing up of additional annual protocols.
- Schools: there are 10 primary and secondary teaching centres in Morocco, which provide education for 3 600 pupils of whom 2 700 are of Moroccan nationality. The budget for the centres amounts to Euro 16,22 million annually.
- Cervantes Institute: there are five Cervantes Institutes in Morocco, constituting our largest network abroad, and four lectorates in the cities of Tangier, Tetuan, Fez and Agadir.

United Kingdom

Morocco as a Low Middle Income Country, is not a high aid priority for the UK. UK has small projects scheme for Morocco, totalling approximately Euro 163 650 per year. Projects are usually community based and cover a broad range of developmental objectives. Recent projects include improvements to water and sanitation, basic education projects, including womens' education, agriculture productivity projects targeting olive and almond farmers and the livestock sector, rural development, English language teaching, and womens' health.

4. Humanitarian aid

Denmark

Denmark has not in the three past years provided humanitarian assistance on a regular basis to Morocco. An amount of Euro 31 000 was channelled through the Danish embassy in Rabat in 1996.

5. Justice and Home Affairs measures

Belgium

Bilateral judiciary cooperation: 3 conventions on civil matters, including marriage and dissolution have not been ratified, due to incompatibilities between the Belgian and Moroccan legal systems.

Extradition and judicial cooperation convention between the Kingdom of Belgium and the Kingdom of Morocco, and its additional protocol, signed in Rabat on 27 February 1959.

A convention between the Kingdom of Belgium and the Kingdom of Morocco on assistance to detained persons and on the handover of sentenced persons was signed in Brussels on 7 July 1997 and is still under discussion in the Parliament.

Convention between the Kingdom of Belgium and the Kingdom of Morocco on judicial cooperation in civil, commercial and administrative matters and in the field of legal information was signed in Rabat on 30 April 1981.

Cooperation between Ministries of Interior: regular contacts since 1997 on police-level and practical arrangements on readmission, the latter not working very satisfactorily.

Denmark

Moroccan must have visa in order to enter Denmark. Denmark does not have an admission agreement with Morocco. Danish legislation permits DNA-tests and medical determination of age in connection with family reunion cases.

France

A re-admission protocol entered into force on 10 January 1993.

Germany

A protocol on identification and on the establishment of repatriation documentation has been concluded between the German and Moroccan governments. The implementation of the protocol should lead to a marked improvement in the return of Moroccan nationals forced to leave German territory. Although a readmission agreement exists, difficulties arose at the beginning of 1999 in a case involving the collective return of 30 Moroccan nationals by charter flight. In principle Morocco is prepared to take back its own nationals as long as they are returned individually or in small groups and on regular flights.

For 1999-2001 no bilateral assistance has been foreseen for police training and equipment. Liaison officers of the Bundeskriminalamt have special equipment such as endoscopes, documentary control devices, night detection devices, photographic equipment, which the Moroccan authorities may borrow. For 1999 further devices for the liaison officers have been foreseen to the tune of Euro 15340.

From 1993 to 1996 German Federal border guard liaison officers took part in the United Nations referendum mission in Western Sahara. Depending on the political situation in the region further police liaison officers could be sent in the course of 1999.

Italy

The Moroccan community in Italy numbers over 130 000.

The fact that there are over 130 000 Moroccan nationals living legally in Italy (this is the largest foreign community in our country) makes bilateral cooperation on consular matters and on issues relating to migrant labour especially important.

The ground rules for organised cooperation in these areas were laid in 1994 with the signing of a *Consular Convention* and a *Social Security Agreement* (which has not yet entered into force owing to non-ratification by Italy). The agreements were supplemented by two *administrative understandings*; one covering residence and employment requirements for the two communities, the other the identification of presumed Moroccan nationals against whom Italy has taken expulsion measures.

It has become increasingly clear in recent years that the understanding reached in 1994 on readmission, which has proved ineffective in practice, needs to be strengthened. With the swelling numbers of Moroccan migrants entering Italy and the growth of illegal immigration (Rabat openly admits that more than 80 000 Moroccans are living illegally in Italy), it has become increasingly apparent that the current understandings urgently need extending, applying the principle of close linkage between efforts to ensure that Moroccans already living in Italy are more fully integrated, containment of migrant pressures, and more effective cooperation in combating and preventing illegal immigration.

Re-admission agreement

The inability of the 1994 administrative understanding to check illegal immigration effectively (a failure repeatedly highlighted by the Interior Ministry) has resulted, since the meetings on social and consular matters in June 1997, in efforts being made to obtain the Moroccan authorities' agreement in principle to the replacement of that understanding by a proper agreement, but one limited to the readmission of the Contracting Parties' nationals. It was felt that a formal, binding bilateral agreement of this type would speed up the task of verifying illegal immigrants' particulars and hasten their repatriation. With these goals in mind an *Agreement on deportation and on transit for the purposes of expulsion* (Accordo sul riaccompagnamento al confine e sul transito in vista dell'allontanamento) was drawn up after several rounds of negotiation. The wording of the title was designed to meet Morocco's request not to use the term "re-admission", which it regarded as inappropriate when referring to a country's own nationals. The Agreement was concluded a few weeks ago.

Judicial cooperation

A Convention on mutual judicial assistance, the enforcement of sentences and extradition, signed in Rome on 12 February 1971, has been in force between Italy and Morocco since May 1975. Preliminary consultations on revising the Convention were held in 1992. Given the thirty or so Italian citizens in custody in Morocco and the substantial number of Moroccan citizens detained in Italy, Italy recommended that the Convention should also regulate the transfer of sentenced persons. Nevertheless, there continue to be some misgivings on this point, as it is possible that the Moroccan side may subsequently seek to use the extradition process for political purposes.

Netherlands

- Agreement concerning Social Security(1996).
- Moroccan-Dutch Official Commission; this commission negotiates about the recognition in Morocco of in the Netherlands closed marriages and of Dutch divorce procedure.
- A Memorandum of Understanding concerning the return of illegal Moroccan residents has been concluded.
- An Attaché for Social Affairs, representative from Social Insurance Bank, is working at the Netherlands embassy.
- The Netherlands took, within the scope of the Barcelona process, the initiative to organise a seminar on migration and human exchange in The Hague (1 and 2 March 1999). A Moroccan speaker elaborated on “the relationship between wconomic and development policies and the policies concerning admission and immigration”.
- Negotiations about an agreement which enables Dutch prisoners in Morocco to serve the rest of their time in a Dutch prison and vice versa for Moroccan prisoners.
- Negotiations about a “Preserve Protocol” which is related to the enforcement of the law “Restrictment Export Allowances”. Yearly Euro 85,45 million Dutch allowances are transmitted to entitled persons living in Morocco. With the law “Restrictment Export Allowances” the lend of these allowances should stop.
Yearly Euro 105,45 million are transmitted to Morocco by Moroccans who live in the Netherlands.
- In 1983, a Cultural Agreement between The Netherlands (Ministry of Education) and Morocco came into force. A part of this Agreement is the “Education Commission”. The aim of this Commission is the transition of education-related knowledge to Morocco and the cooperation concerning “Education in own Language and Culture” which is given to Moroccan studentes at Dutch schools.

Portugal

- Agreement between the Government of the Portuguese Republic and the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco on Cooperation in Combating Terrorism and Organised Crime, signed at Lisbon on 28 April 1992.
- Agreement between the Government of the Portuguese Republic and the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco on Cooperation in Drug Control, signed at Rabat in October 1988.
- Agreement between the Government of the Portuguese Republic and the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco on Cooperation in Civil Protection Matters, signed at Lisbon on 28 April 1992.

Spain

- Spanish and Moroccan Ministers of Interior meets regularly twice a year since 1996. Migrations issues are included in the agenda: Policies on Moroccan residents in Spain, transit of Moroccan residents in European countries crossing Spain during seasonal holidays and co-operation to prevent illegal migration are discussed. A technical joint Group serves as preparatory body and makes the follow-up of Ministerial agreements. An operative coordination system was established in 1998 to exchange quick information on illegal migration smuggling through the Gibraltar Strait. Ministers have recently agreed to launch an information programme in Morocco to supply accurate information on migration possibilities for nationals coming to European Union and to prevent aliens' trafficking. The programme will be developed with the assistance of IOM.
- A re-admission agreement on movements of persons, transit and readmission of illegally entered aliens was signed between Spain and Morocco on 13 February 1992. The agreement mainly deals with the readmission of third countries' aliens illegally entered in both countries. Provisions concerned with transit of deported aliens are included. A joint Committee, under the supervision of Ministers of Interior is set up.

Some statistical figures are shown on the agreement's implementation on demands for re-admission of third nationals submitted by Spain to Morocco:

	1996	1997	1998
Demands	428	804	1543
Admitted	45	23	1
Denied	383	341	-

Morocco has not submitted re-admission demands to Spain the three years aforementioned.

- Illegal trafficking by maritime routes between Morocco and Spain

Figures are presented for the last three years on apprehended boats, namely "pateras", and arrested aliens smuggled through Moroccan and Spanish coasts.

Aliens trafficking by maritime routes between Spain and Morocco 1996-1998

	1996	1997	1998
Apprehended boats	339	399	557
Arrested trafficked aliens	1573	887	2995

- In 1997, five judicial cooperation projects were signed:
 - . Convention on Judicial Assistance in Criminal Matters.
 - . Convention on Assistance for Detainees and the Transfer of Convicted Persons; this works well with the cooperation of the Moroccan authorities (40 prisoners were transferred in 1998 from a total prison population of about 110 persons).
 - . Convention on Judicial Cooperation in Civil, Commercial and Administrative Matters.
 - . Convention on Judicial Assistance, Recognition and Execution of Sentences Concerning the Right to Custody, Visiting Rights and the Return of Minors.
 - . Extradition Convention.

- Cooperation in prison matters: Dialogue has existed between the respective directors of penitentiary institutions since 1997. This has included the visit by Moroccan officials to Malaga and Algeciras. The arranging of a second visit at the request of Morocco is now pending. It can be mentioned that in October 1998 there were 1584 Moroccan men and 52 women in Spanish prisons, and that the yearly cost for each prisoner - excluding the amortisation of buildings and infrastructure and police surveillance costs - amounted to 2 million pesetas, according to information from the prison institutions.
- Cooperation between the Moroccan Supreme Court and the "Consejo General del Poder Judicial" (Spanish Judiciary) has included visits, the organisation of a future Hispano-Moroccan legal seminar, and Spanish-language clases for Moroccan magistrates.

Sweden

As the inflow of migrants from Morocco to Sweden is very low, Morocco is not given special priority concerning measures to combat illegal migration.

The Swedish authorities do not generally find any obstacles to returning people to Morocco.

Sweden has not entered into any return agreements with Morocco.

COMMUNITY MEASURES AND ACTIONS

Tableau MEDA 1996-99

Titres des projets programmés et financés	Millions d'écus	Millions de Dhs
MEDA 1996-1998		
Facilité à l'Ajustement Structurel	120,0	1304,1
Capitaux à risques	45,0	489,0
Bonification d'intérêts (BEI)	22,0	239,1
Eau et assainissement en milieu rural	40,0	434,7
Appui à la Formation Professionnelle	38,0	413,0
Routes et Pistes Rurales (Nord)	30,0	326,0
Développement rural intégré	28,4	308,6
Appui à la Santé de base	20,0	217,3
Appui aux jeunes et sports	6,0	65,2
Appui à l'Education de base	40,0	434,7
Appui au programme pour la promotion de la qualité	15,5	168,4
Appui à la Privatisation	5,0	54,3
Appui aux institutions financières de Garantie aux PME	30,0	326,0
Appui à l'Agence de Réglementation des Télécommunications	5,0	54,3
Appui aux ONGs développement	4,0	43,5
Projet pilote de micro-crédits	1,0	10,9
Etudes (impact de la Zone de libre-échange, rocade, justice	2,6	28,3
Fonds de développement social, habitat social et autres..)		0
Développement participatif des zones forestières et Périforestières de la province de Chefchaouen	24,0	260,8
TOTAL PROGRAMMATION 1996-98	476,5	5178,2
MEDA 1999		
Participation à la construction de la Rcade méditerranéenne	80,0	869,4
Appui à la pêche côtière artisanale méditerranéenne	12,0	130,4
Appui au plan national de cartographie géologique	5,0	54,3
Appui au secteur social (Secrétariat d'Etat à la Protection Social, Famille et Enfance et Secrétariat d'Etat aux Handicapés	2,0	21,7
Divers/autres (Emploi, Culture, Plan, études...)	4,5	48,9
Sous-total:	103,5	1124,8
TOTAL PROGRAMMATION 1996-99	580,0	6303,0
Taux de change utilisé: 1 Euro = 10,8672 Dhs		

