



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 18 April 2024
(OR. en)

**Interinstitutional File:
2023/0344(NLE)**

**8628/24
ADD 1**

**VISA 49
MIGR 160
RELEX 484
COAFR 136
COMIX 168**

'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 2)/Council
Subject: Council Implementing Decision on the suspension of certain provisions of Regulation (EC) 810/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council with respect to Ethiopia

- Adoption
- Statement by Malta

STATEMENT BY MALTA

Malta remains committed towards the use of incentives and leverages to manage irregular migration, including through the use of visa policy to improve cooperation on returns and readmission. The objective of Article 25a of the Visa Code remains to increase cooperation with third countries on returns, therefore in view of the recent developments in the engagement by the Ethiopian authorities, Malta is of the view that the decision should be postponed to assess the concrete outcomes of the outreach with Ethiopia.

In this regard, Malta will abstain on the Council Implementing Decision on the suspension of certain provisions of Regulation (EC) 810/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council with respect to Ethiopia.