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WORKING DOCUMENT

From:	Presidency
To:	Working Party on External Aspects of Asylum and Migration (EMWP)
Subject:	State of play in the field of financing of external migration-related activities

Delegations will find enclosed the Presidency background document for the EMWP on 14 June, item 2 on agenda - CM 2812/23.

**State of play in the field of financing of external migration-related activities
(Presidency background document for EMWP 14 June – WK 6273/2023)**

The European Council has on several occasions, including at the special meeting on 9 February 2023 underlined the importance of making best possible use of migration-related funding of the NDICI Global Europe and other relevant instruments, such as the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA III) and the Home Affairs funds, for increased external action. Funding, including through the Team Europe Initiatives, is also an essential part of the implementation of both the priority country Action plans and the Commission's regional Action plans for the main migration routes.

Financing of external migration-related activities is regularly discussed in EMWP. The latest discussion was held on 30 November 2022, based on a non-paper provided by the Commission (WK 15779/2022). A useful background document describing the modalities and governance of migration financing was also presented to EMWP in February 2022 (5744/22).

Migration financing update

By the end of each year, the Commission publishes an annual report on the implementation of the EU's External Action Instruments with financial data from the previous year. As indicated in the annual report on the implementation of the NDICI-GE issued in November 2022, 14% of all funds under this instrument in 2021 were committed to support actions contributing to the spending target in the area of migration. The selection of the actions accounted in that respect was made by the Commission services on the basis of the "migration marker" elaborated by them and which has been communicated to the EU Member States in December 2021.

The 14% level reached in 2021 is substantially higher than the 10% indicative spending target set in the regulation establishing the NDICI-GE instrument. Official figures for the year 2022 have not yet been established. It is to be noticed that the 10% target is to be respected over the 7 years of duration of the Multi-annual financial framework of duration of the NDICI-GE and taking into account its overall implementation; there is no specific obligation to respect the 10% in a single region or year.

Every action under the NDICI-GE instrument is also presented, at an initial stage, to the Coordination Group on Migration under the NDICI-Global Europe and the Member States bilateral cooperation instrument.

At the EMWP, the Commission and the EEAS will provide an update on external financing, including for the Home funds (AMIF, BMVI, ISF). The presentation will cover the latest information available and new initiatives.

Team Europe Initiatives

The Team Europe Initiatives (TEI) are frameworks put in place to ensure that the EU and its Member States develop cooperation in and with third countries jointly, by coordinating their respective bilateral actions so as to ensure synergies and avoid overlapping. It is also important to ensure that everyone's effort aim towards the same direction and the same objective. TEIs have been launched in all areas of thematic cooperation, including in the field of migration and forced displacement.

The three main regional TEIs related to migration are the two initiatives for the Atlantic/Western Mediterranean and the Central Mediterranean migration routes, which were both launched on 12 December 2022, and the TEI on the Afghan Displacement situation. Based on a balanced financial participation between the Member States and the Commission, the EU contribution to TEIs comes mainly from the NDICI Global Europe instrument, complemented by Home Affairs funds.

At the Joint management meeting on 10 May with the Team Europe members of the TEIs on Migration for the Atlantic/Western Mediterranean and Central Mediterranean Routes, the strengthening of TEI coordination was among the issues discussed. The Commission and the EEAS also presented a gap's assessment for the operationalisation of the TEIs. Minutes with next steps were shared with the TEI members.

Based on the background paper, the Presidency invites delegates to consider the following questions.

- How do you assess current funding needs and priorities, given expectations expressed in recent European Council conclusions?
- What could be done at this stage to give further impetus to the work of the regional migration TEIs?