



Migration, Mobility and Employment Partnership Newsletter

Issue n° 7 - March 2013

[Events](#) [Features](#) [Project Snapshot](#) [Related News](#) [Useful Links/Publications](#)

MME Newsletter

The Official Newsletter of the Africa-EU Migration, Mobility and Employment Partnership

Dear MME friends,

I keenly share with you the seventh issue of the Migration, Mobility, Employment and Higher Education Partnership (MME) Newsletter.

As preparations for the 2014 Africa-EU Summit are underway, we kick off this issue with a look at the road ahead for the Partnership. The conference "Building the Africa-Europe Partnership: What Next?" tackled this topic in Lisbon late last year. To update you on the near future of the MME Partnership, we "link" you to the report of the last Africa-EU Joint Task Force meeting, our activity roadmap for 2013.

At the global level, we delve into the migration governance debate, and what the MME Partnership can bring to this discussion. At the Africa-EU level, we focus on the latest major event of the Diaspora Platform for African Diaspora Organisations in Europe.

In Africa we highlight the launching of the much celebrated Kampala Convention – the AU-driven instrument which caters for the plight of internally displaced persons. From West Africa we bring you an article on the recently adopted General Convention on Social Security. We also investigate how this agenda can pragmatically move forward, by featuring the social protection efforts of the project "Support and advice to African public authorities responsible for migration and development initiatives along the migratory route to West Africa."

Moreover, we spotlight the AU Commission Initiative against Trafficking (AU.COMMIT) Campaign launch with North and Central African States; another important step for the protection of vulnerable groups in Africa.

Without further ado, I wish you a pleasant and pensive reading experience.

*Lukas Gehrke,
Director*

EVENTS

1. Building the Africa-Europe Partnership: What Next?

Lisbon, Portugal, 13-14 December 2012

The international conference on "Building the Africa-Europe Partnership: What Next?" was held on 13-14 December 2012 in Lisbon, Portugal. As part and parcel of the preparatory work for the 2014 Africa-EU Summit and the development of the Post-2015 Global Agenda, the conference debated some of the key issues that impact on the future of the Africa-Europe partnership and international development. [Read more](#)

Version [française](#)

INDEX:

- **Building the Africa-Europe Partnership: What Next?**

- **ECOWAS Extends Social Security to Migrant Workers To Facilitate Intra-regional Mobility**

- **The Kampala Convention Comes into Force**

2. ECOWAS Extends Social Security to Migrant Workers To Facilitate Intra-regional Mobility

Dakar, Senegal, 7 December 2012

On 7 December 2012, ECOWAS adopted the General Convention on Social Security during the Conference of Ministers of Labour and Social Welfare in Dakar, Senegal, thereby reaching a new milestone in the implementation of regional free movement protocols. In addition to the General Convention, two action plans – one promoting youth employment and the other against child labour – as well as a draft supplementary act to create a three-party, regional ECOWAS Social Dialogue Forum were adopted at the conclusion of this event.

[Read more](#)

3. The Kampala Convention Comes into Force

6 December 2012

The African Union (AU) Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa, known as the Kampala Convention, entered into force on 6 December 2012. The Convention entered into force after Swaziland ratified it – it was the 15th Member State to do so. It is the world's first legally binding instrument for the protection and assistance of people displaced within their own countries across an entire continent.

[Read more](#)

4. AU.COMMIT Campaign launched for ECCAS and North African AU Member States

Libreville, Gabon, 3 December 2012

The Africa Union Commission (AUC), in collaboration with the Economic Community of Central African States, the Gabonese Ministry of Family Affairs and Social Welfare and the International Organisation for Migration, launched the AUC Initiative against Trafficking (AU.COMMIT) Campaign for the Central and North African AU Member States on 3 December 2012 in Libreville, Gabon. The AU.COMMIT campaign launch was followed by a three-day consultative workshop on Operationalising the Ouagadougou Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings, Especially Women and Children, in these regions.

[Read more](#)

5. Second African Diaspora Expert Meeting

Paris, France, 6-8 November 2012

Representatives of the African diaspora from across Europe came together in Paris on 6-8 November 2012, to take concrete steps towards reinforcing their role in Africa's development. The second African Diaspora Expert Meeting was convened under the auspices of the Africa-Europe Platform project. Reflections on good practices of diaspora engagement for development, and concrete measures for platform-building, were at the heart of the three-day meeting. [Read more](#)

- AU.COMMIT Campaign launched for ECCAS and North African AU Member States

- Second African Diaspora Expert Meeting

- Alternative Forms of Protection for Refugees and Other Forced Migrants

- Global Governance of Migration: An Opportunity for the Euro-African Region

- More Social Protection for Migrant Workers in West Africa



Related News

1. 15th Africa-EU Joint Task Force Meeting Report. [Read more](#)

2. Erasmus Mundus for Higher Education Students and Staff in Africa. [Find more](#)

Useful links/ publications

1. European Web Site on Integration (EWSI)

2. AfDB: [Information Highway](#)

3. [AfDB Statistical Data Portal](#)

4. CEA ISCTE-IUL: [Crossing African Borders: Migration and Mobility](#)

5. EMN: [Migration of Unaccompanied Minors from West Africa to North](#)

FEATURES

6. Alternative Forms of Protection for Refugees and Other Forced Migrants

“Protection,” according to civil society organisations, means protection of all rights and fundamental freedoms. While the realisation of obligations related to migration and mobility rests primarily with the State, the increasing role of civil society in realising these duties cannot be gainsaid. In Kenya civil society action in ensuring more protection for refugees and other forced migrants has seen a greater convergence of efforts with both State policy and action in recent years. [Read more](#)

7. Global Governance of Migration: An Opportunity for the Euro-African Region

Migration is an abiding feature of human history, with a major potential for transforming society. Historically, migratory flows have varied greatly in terms of nature, size, causes and consequences. But over time, their significance (or at least the attention paid to them) and the way they are managed have also changed. We can confidently state that international migration has never gained the level of attention it is currently receiving from political leaders. [Read more](#)

PROJECT SNAPSHOT

8. More Social Protection for Migrant Workers in West Africa

The social protection of migrant workers has become a key cause of concern among governments and social partners throughout the continent, particularly in several West African countries. Migrant workers, in particular undocumented migrant workers, are excluded from coverage by social protection instruments and schemes. The project “Support and advice to African public authorities responsible for migration and development initiatives along the migratory route to West Africa” (MeDAO Project), funded by the European Union and the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation and implemented by the International and Ibero-American Foundation for Public Administration and Public Policies, carries out capacity building activities in social protection of migrants. [Read more](#)

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Any information or initiative you want to see published in this newsletter? Do not hesitate to contact our team: MME@icmpd.org

MME Partnership is part of the Africa-EU Strategy. More information on www.africa-eu-partnership.org

This newsletter is produced by the EU-funded Support Project to the MME Partnership implemented by:

Africa

6. ACP Observatory: [South-South Return Migration: Challenges and Opportunities](#)

7. ACP Observatory: [South-South Extraregional Migration: An Overview of Emerging Trends](#)

8. UNODC: [2012 Global Report on Trafficking in Persons](#)

9. RMMS/Oxford IMI: [Global Migration Futures - Using Scenarios To Explore Future Migration in the Horn of Africa and Yemen](#)

10. EUI/ECRE: [Refugee Resettlement - The View from Kenya. Findings from Field Research in Nairobi and Kakuma Refugee Camp](#)

11. Migration Policy Practice Journal: [Vol. III, Number 1, February – March 2013](#)

12. Migration Policy Practice Journal: [Vol. II, Number 6, December 2012 – January 2013](#)

13. Migration Policy Practice Journal: [Vol. II, Number 5, October – November 2012](#)

14. MPC: [Migration after the Arab Spring](#)

