

MANAGING THE REFUGEE CRISIS

State of Play of the Implementation of the Priority Actions under the European Agenda on Migration

15 October 2015

The Refugee Crisis – Implementing the Priority Actions

- On 23 September, the Commission proposed and Heads of State and Government endorsed **operational measures, budgetary commitments and actions to implement EU law**. Implementation has begun. We are seeing the **first results**.
- The Commission, the European Parliament and the Council have delivered.
- However, **Member States need to do more** to match the EU efforts, as promised on 23 September.
- The external dimension is key to **tackling root causes** of current migratory and refugee flows.

Operational measures

Progress made

- Migration Management Support Teams, working in 'hotspots', are being set up in Italy and Greece. A *'hotspot'* is a section of the EU external border or a region with extraordinary migratory pressure which calls for EU support. The Support Teams help Italy and Greece to fulfil their obligations and responsibilities.
- First relocations are being implemented.
- First returns from 'hotspots' have taken place.
- First resettlements have taken place.

Next steps

- Member States to fulfill their commitments to support work in the 'hotspots' and Frontex Joint Operations through personnel and equipment.
- Member States to notify the Commission of reception capacity for resettlement and relocation, and appoint liaison officers and national contact points.
- Returns to Pakistan by all Member States (legally binding EU-Pakistan readmission agreement since 2012).

11 identified 'hotspots': six in Italy and five in Greece (12/10/2015)



Lampedusa – Already operational

Trapani, Porto Empedocle and Pozzallo –
To be operational within the coming weeks

Taranto and Augusta – To be operational
by the end of 2015



Lesvos – To be fully operational shortly

Frontex screening and debriefing experts are present
on Lesvos, Leros, Kos, Samos and Chios.

'Hotspots' and Relocation

- Only **Austria, Belgium, the Netherlands, Romania, Slovakia and Spain** have responded to the call for contributions to **European Asylum Support Office** with 81 experts out of the 374 needed.
- Only **Belgium, the Czech Republic, Lithuania, Portugal, Romania and Sweden** have responded to the call of **Frontex** with 48 experts out of the 775 requested.
- **The Netherlands, Lithuania and Estonia** have yet to identify **national contact points and appoint liaison officers** to ensure that a substantial flow of relocations per month starts taking place.
- **Hungary** has yet to answer to the call of sending **liaison officers** to Italy and Greece.
- Only **Austria, France, Germany, Luxembourg Sweden and Spain** have notified their **reception capacities** as receiving Member States.

Budgetary Commitments

Progress made

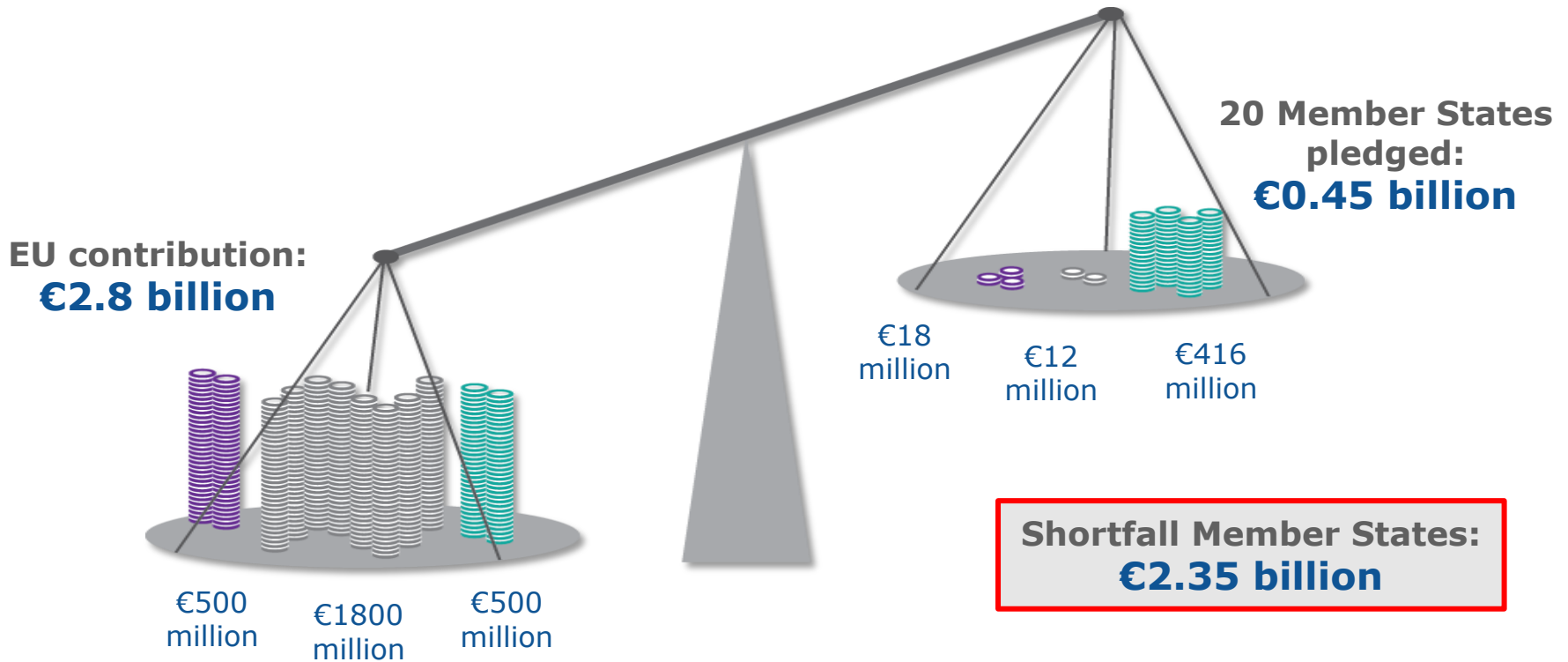
- **Agreed: additional €800 million from the EU budget in 2015 on top of the €1.2 billion from May.**
- **Further €900 million for 2016 now before the EU budgetary authority.**
- **This brings total available EU funding for the refugee crisis almost to €10 billion in 2015 and 2016.**

Next steps

- **Member States to match EU funding for the UNHCR, World Food Programme and other agencies (€500 million).**
- **Member States to match EU funding for the EU Regional Trust Fund for Syria (€500 million) and the Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (€1.8 billion).**

Budgetary Commitments

Member States' financial pledges since 23 September 2015



Budgetary Commitments

Member States' financial pledges since 23 September 2015

Million EUR	Member States	Africa Trust Fund	Syria Trust Fund	Humanitarian aid			Total
				World Food Programme	UNHCR	Other	
	AT				30		30
	BG		0.1				0.1
	CY			0.02			0.02
	CZ			0.2			0.2
	DE	3	5	40	60		108
	DK		10		8.7		18.7
	EE		0.15				0.15
	ES	3			3.5		6.5
	FI	3				7.6	10.6
	FR			18	19	63	100
	HR			0.04			0.04
	HU					1	1
	IT		3	1		22.21	26.21
	LT			0.06	0.04		0.1
	LU	3		0.2	0.1	0.76	4.06
	LV	0.05	0.05	0.05			0.15
	NL					2	2
	PL			1	1		2
	PT			0.09			0.09
	UK			9	32	96	137
Total pledged		12.05	18.30		416.57		446.92
EU additional contribution		1800	500			500	
Total required		3600	1000			1000	
Shortfall		1787.9	481.7			83.43	

Implementing existing EU law

- The EU has a **Common European Asylum System**. It is a strong set of common rules on asylum and irregular migration that has to be applied.

Progress made

- **40 new infringement decisions against 19 Member States, on top of 34 cases already open.**

Next steps

- **Member States to fully implement the Common European Asylum System.**
- **The Commission continues to pursue infringement procedures swiftly and effectively.**
- **Ongoing work with Greece to reinstate Greek Dublin transfers by the end of 2015.**
- **Schengen: Commission Opinion on the prolongation of temporary border controls by Germany, Austria and Slovenia.**

External Dimension

- We are **tackling the root-causes** of the refugee crisis through a **diplomatic offensive and extra funding**

Progress made

- Discussion of draft Action Plan on refugee support and migration with Turkey.
- Establishment of Trust Funds for Syria and Africa.
- Cooperation between the EU and countries of origin and transit.
- Implementation of an EU Action Plan against migrant smuggling.

Next steps

- Finalisation of Action Plan with Turkey.
- Member States to provide additional funding.
- Continued diplomatic offensive, including the Valletta Summit on migration with African partners on 11-12 November.

Turkey

- **Syria's neighbours** host over 4 million Syrian refugees. We need **to work with Turkey** to manage our own external borders (Turkey hosts 2.2 million refugees).
- **Steps taken**
 - Joint Action Plan for the EU and Turkey
 - Visit by FVP Timmermans Commissioners Hahn & Avramopoulous
- **What we want**
 - Cooperate to ensure that refugees stay in Turkey
 - Cooperate to prevent transit to the EU
 - Turkey to do more: **grant asylum seekers the right to work**
- **What Turkey wants**
 - Recognition as safe country
 - They have spent €6.5 billion on the crisis, and want up to €3 billion of additional funds
 - Speed up visa liberalisation
 - Speed up accession negotiations

The Way Forward

Proposal to establish
a **European Border and
Coast Guard** and extension
of the **Frontex mandate**
(December 2015)

Further **reform
of the Dublin
Regulation**



Proposal for a
**structured
system on
resettlement**

**Legal migration
package** including
revision of Blue Card