



Brussels, 26 October 2015

Subject: Invitation to a dialogue with African and European civil society in view of the Valletta Summit

Dear Madam, Dear Sir,

The International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC) Europe, the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) and Caritas Senegal as coordinator of the Migration and Development (MADE) network in Africa are pleased to invite you to participate in the **“Valletta Summit: Dialogue with civil society”** event. This event will take place on **Thursday 5 November 2015, in Brussels** (agenda will be sent shortly).

Please register by filling in [this form \(https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BBBQJCJ\)](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BBBQJCJ). Please note that due to capacity limitation, registration is on a first come first served basis.

The Africa-Europe Summit on Migration will take place in Valletta, Malta, on 11 and 12 November 2015. The conference will build on existing cooperation processes between Europe and Africa, particularly the Rabat and Khartoum processes on migration, and the EU-Africa Dialogue on Migration and Mobility, and will result in a political declaration and an action plan.

In order to provide a joint civil society contribution for the Valletta Summit, ICMC Europe, NRC and the MADE network in Africa have conducted consultations with African and European civil society platforms and organisations, which resulted in the **attached civil society joint statement**.

In line with this initiative, this one-day event in Brussels will give civil society **an opportunity to have a dialogue with African and European leaders about key migration challenges and potential short and longer term solutions**.

The event will bring in the views of African and European civil society representatives including migrants and diaspora organisations, policy-makers, international organisations and academics and will focus on areas that have emerged as common priorities during the consultations, namely:

- ❖ The root causes that force people to migrate;
- ❖ The access to safe and regular migration routes to Europe;
- ❖ International protection;
- ❖ Migration and asylum governance in Africa;
- ❖ The positive role and critical contributions of migrants and diaspora.

African and European civil society organisations have a wealth of expertise and decades of field-based experience in developing approaches and programmes to address crises in Africa and Europe: providing humanitarian assistance, supporting resilience and recovery, livelihood opportunities and development. This event will be the occasion to share

this invaluable knowledge and experience and remind the need for meaningful civil society engagement prior, during and after the Summit.

If you have any question about the registration and programme of this event, please contact us at: cernencu@icmc.net.

We look forward to your participation and thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Alphonse Seck
Secretary General



Petra Hueck
Head of Office



Edouard Rodier
Director



*This event is co-funded by the European Union
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