



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL MIGRATION AND HOME AFFAIRS

Directorate E: Migration and Security Funds; Financial Resources and Monitoring
The Director

AMIF-ISF/2019/07

**'Asylum, Migration and Integration and Internal
Security Funds Committee'**

Subject: Resettlement: Practical aspects of the 2020 resettlement pledging exercise

1. Context

Since 2015, EU Resettlement programmes have helped almost 60,000 people in need of international protection to find shelter in the EU in a safe and legal way. While the proposed Union Resettlement Framework Regulation¹ is pending adoption, the Commission intends to continue providing support to Member States in their resettlement efforts beyond the current "50,000 scheme"² that ends in December 2019³.

Member States are therefore invited to submit new resettlement pledges for the period covering 1 January to 31 December 2020, for which the Commission intends to provide funding, subject to the decision of the Budgetary Authority. The ninth Resettlement Forum on 11 July 2019 in Brussels will provide an opportunity to discuss all aspects of this pledging exercise.

The purpose of this note is to provide guidance for the practical aspects of this new pledging exercise.

2. The 2020 pledging exercise

2.1. Eligibility

In line with Article 2(1) of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 801/2014, in order to qualify for lump sums for resettlements, the persons concerned shall be effectively resettled

¹ COM(2016) 468 final. The proposal for a Union Resettlement Framework Regulation was tabled in 2016 as part of the Common European Asylum System package. Negotiations are not yet finalised.

² Commission Recommendation (EU) 2017/1803 of 3 October 2017, OJ L 259, 7.10.2017, p. 21–24.

³ See letter by Ms Paraskevi Michou, Director-General of DG Migration and Home Affairs, of 29 May 2019.

from the beginning of the period concerned (**1 January 2020**) and up to six months following the end of that period (**30 June 2021**).

Moreover, in order to qualify for the lump sums, resettlements carried out by Member States including from Turkey via 1:1 scheme or the future Voluntary Humanitarian Admission Scheme (VHAS) must also comply with:

- the definition of resettlement provided in Article 2(a) of the AMIF Regulation;
- Article 17 of the AMIF Regulation establishing the additional amounts (lump sums);
- the implementing conditions set out in Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 801/2014

In addition to this, the Responsible Authority should also ensure that all the necessary controls are carried out, in line with guidance note AMIF-ISF/2016/2⁴.

2.2. Available amounts and number of places pledged

The past and current EU-level resettlement schemes have been supported financially by the EU budget based on Article 17 of the AMIF Regulation – Resources for the Union Resettlement Programme.

In line with Article 17 of the AMIF Regulation, Member States are entitled to receive a lump sum of:

- **EUR 10,000** for each person resettled in accordance with the Common Union resettlement priorities listed in Annex III or belonging to vulnerable groups listed in Article 17(5), which also includes urgent and emergency resettlement.
- **EUR 6,000** for resettled persons not qualifying for the EUR 10,000 amount.

The total amount earmarked in the EU budget for the time being can cover the resettlement of an additional **20,000 persons**. Member States are invited to submit **ambitious pledges**, in line with the priorities to be discussed at the upcoming Resettlement Forum on 11 July 2019. At the same time, **the pledges should be realistic taking into account that effective resettlement should be carried out between 1 January 2020 and 30 June 2021.**

Please note that the places pledged in the context of the revision of Article 18 of the AMIF Regulation, already included in the AMIF national programmes, will be counted towards the achievement of the 2020 resettlement pledging target. Member States' pledges for the 2020 pledging exercise will therefore comprise two parts: (1) the places stemming from the revision of Article 18 of the AMIF Regulation (where relevant), and (2) additional places pledged.

⁴ Note to the AMIF-ISF Committee (AMIF-ISF/2016/2) - Controls to be carried out by the Responsible Authority: Interpretation note.

2.3. Resettlement Priorities in 2020

The resettlement priorities for the 2020 pledging exercise will be discussed at the Resettlement Forum on 11 July 2019.

2.4. Revision of AMIF National Programmes

The deadline for Member States to submit their resettlement pledges to the Commission is **15 September 2019** and the revision of the **national programmes should be concluded before the end of 2019**.

The submission of the pledges needs to be made via SFC2014, by proposing a revised version of the AMIF national programmes. Member States are invited to provide the number of persons to be resettled under Section 4. SPECIAL CASES, 4.1 – '*Pledging plan*', column '2018-2020'⁵.

In addition to this, under the '*Justification of the number of persons to be resettled*', Member States are requested to include an indicative breakdown per country from which resettlement takes place within each of the categories of the *Pledging plan*.

For example, if the priority "*Regional Development and Protection Programme in the Horn of Africa*" is chosen, the number of persons pledged under this priority should be further broken down according to the following countries from which resettlement takes place: *Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, Uganda*. If the number of characters is not sufficient in SFC2014, please provide this information in a separate document attached to the revised AMIF national programme. It should be kept in mind that this information is indicative and there is flexibility in the implementation of resettlement, should the priority countries change meanwhile.

Following the submission of the pledges by the Member States, the Commission will carry out its assessment and will decide on the additional amounts (lump sums) to be allocated to each Member State. Subsequently, the Commission will proceed with the revision of the AMIF national programmes, **expected to be finalised by the end of the year**.

⁵ Please note that although the heading of the column in SFC will remain '2018-2020', the pledging period is 1 January 2020 – 31 December 2020.

3. Deadline extension for ongoing pledging exercise

Finally, I wish to recall that the implementation period of the ongoing “50,000 scheme” is extended to 31 December 2019. The corresponding AMIF funds will remain available until that date (but not beyond). I take this opportunity to encourage Member States to make full use of the available budgetary allocations and implement their respective pledge in full.

In the light of the above guidance, Member States are invited to consider the number of pledges for 2020. We are looking forward to discussing the pledging exercise at the Resettlement Forum on 11 July.

Yours faithfully,

Beate GMINDER

[e-Signed]