EUROPEAN COMMISSION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MIGRATION AND HOME AFFAIRS

The Director-General (acting)

Brussels HOME.C.2/AB

Subject: High-Level Resettlement and Humanitarian Admission Committee – request to nominate a representative and organisation of the first

meeting

Your Excellency,

On 14 May 2024, the Regulation (EU) 2024/1350 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a Union Resettlement and Humanitarian Admission Framework, and amending Regulation (EU) 2021/1147¹ (the 'Regulation'), was adopted as part of the Pact on Migration and Asylum. This was an historic agreement, and we now need to focus on its effective implementation.

In that regard, the Regulation establishes a **Union Resettlement and Humanitarian Admission Framework** (the 'Union Framework') for the admission of third-country nationals or stateless persons to the territory of the Member States with a view to granting them a protections status. The Union Framework will contribute to enhancing safe and legal pathways to protection to the EU. It will support in increasing the Union's contribution to international resettlement and humanitarian admission initiatives and in strengthening the Union's partnerships with third countries in regions hosting large numbers of persons in need of international protection.

The Regulation establishes a **High-Level Resettlement and Humanitarian Admission Committee** (the 'High-Level Committee').

The role of the High-Level Committee will be to advise the Commission on the implementation of the Union Framework. It will also engage in discussions to define the recommended number of persons to be admitted and identify third countries and regions of priority from which admissions should occur, with a view to strengthening partnerships with these third countries. The High-Level Committee should meet at least once a year.

The outcome of the High-Level Committee's meetings, and the indications made by the Member States about their participation and contributions to the total number of persons to be admitted, will guide the Commission in drafting the proposal for a two-year Union Resettlement and Humanitarian Admission Plan (the 'Union Plan'). The Union Plan will be adopted by Council by means of an implementing act.

H.E. Ambassador Aivo Orav Permanent Representation of Estonia to the EU Rue Guimard 11–13/Guimardstraat 11–13 Emails: aivo.orav@mfa.ee; permrep.eu@mfa.ee

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¹ http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1350/oj.

As per the Regulation, the High-Level Committee shall be composed of representatives of the European Parliament, the Council, the Commission and the Member States. The EU Asylum Agency, the UNHCR and the International Organization for Migration shall be invited to attend the meetings of the High-Level Committee. Other relevant organisations, including civil society organisations, may be invited to attend the meetings of the High-Level Committee in areas of their expertise. Finally, representatives of Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, and Switzerland shall be invited to attend the meetings of the High-Level Committee where they have indicated their intention to be associated with the implementation of the Union Plan.

To launch the work of the High-Level Committee and with due consideration of its key role in the effective implementation of Regulation, I invite your national authorities to **appoint a representative at senior official level** who will take part to the works of the High-Level Committee. I also invite you to **appoint an alternate at senior official level** who may replace the representative when needed. The nominated representative will be the main contact for any communication on the High-Level Committee.

The first in-person meeting of the High-Level Committee is expected to take place on Thursday 7 November 2024, in Brussels. The meeting will be chaired by Johannes Luchner, Deputy Director-General of the Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs. More information will be shared with the representative in due time.

Should you need more information, please do not hesitate to contact the Commission officials in charge of the file, Aurélie Belzunces (<u>aurelie.belzunces@ec.europa.eu</u>, +32.229.85082) and Sara Bortoletti (<u>sara.bortoletti@ec.europa.eu</u>, +32.229.69236).

I look forward to the kick-off of the High-Level Committee and wish to express my sincere appreciation for your active contribution to its work.

Yours sincerely,

Beate GMINDER

c.c.: Johannes Luchner, Michael Shotter, Anita Vella, Mauro Gagliardi (DG HOME)