Migration policy of Morocco: The role of international cooperation

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In recent years, the Kingdom of Morocco has moved from a country of departure and transit to Europe, into a country of destination.

- Morocco has always advocated that migration should be addressed within a global framework.

- The security or border control dimension cannot not solve this problem.

This is a broad, complex and difficult issue that requires more than ever comprehensive and inclusive policies:

- At national level, through a broad social mobilization (public institutions, civil society, private sector, …)
- At international level, through committed, operational and solidarity-based partnerships
Under the supervision of His Majesty the King, a national immigration and asylum policy has been adopted and implemented in compliance with the international conventions ratified by Morocco and its new 2011 constitution.

Two regularization campaigns: 2014 and December 2016

1. Regularization of migrants and asylum seekers
2. Institutional and legal framework
3. Humanitarian assistance
4. Integration programmes

Three draft legislative bills:
- Human trafficking
- Asylum
- Immigration

- Emergency actions
- Red Cross
- NGOs
Six guiding principles (I-VI)
set out in 11 sectoral and cross-cutting programmes (1-11)

I Humane approach
II Global approach
III Respect for human rights
IV Compliance with international law
V Upgraded multilateral cooperation
VI Shared responsibility

1 Education and culture
2 Youth and sport
3 Health
4 Housing
5 Social assistance
6 Professional training
7 Employment
8 Management of migratory flows and fight against human trafficking
9 International cooperation and partnerships
10 Regulatory and framework and international conventions
11 Governance and communication

An immigration policy that is coherent, global, humane and responsible
The success of this new policy and the implementation of this model is determined by:

**Shared responsibility:** All concerned parties, namely countries of origin, transit and host countries as well as migrants must reconcile their interests in terms of development and dignity.

**Upgraded multilateral cooperation:** The commitment of all stakeholders to achieve a collective, efficient and responsible management of migration issues.
Morocco has always reiterated its commitment to bilateral cooperation in the field of migration management, while taking an active part in defining the terms of reference for consultation with all the countries of the region and beyond, to ensure a comprehensive and harmonious treatment of this issue. This should develop harmoniously and in synergy with the other multilateral frameworks of cooperation.

At the Euro-Mediterranean level, Morocco is also working to build a common area of cooperation, security and solidarity on migration and economic and social integration.

Its geographical proximity to Europe with advanced status, the establishment of the rule of law, and its positive cooperation in the management of migratory flows are all assets that places Morocco in a privileged position.
Moroccan vision of a cooperative migration management

At multilateral level

Morocco and European Union relationship

• The European Neighbourhood Policy has added a new dimension to our relations;
• A Mobility Partnership agreement was signed between Morocco and the EU in 2013;
• Follow-up of the action plan of the Valletta Summit (EU-Africa);
• Periodic review of bilateral relations in the field of migration through the Working group on Social Affairs and Migration (According to the Morocco-EU Association Agreement)
Moroccan vision of a cooperative migration management

At multilateral level

Morocco is also active in regional consultative processes on migration, including:

**Rabat process**
A regional consultative process, created in 2006, which brings together European countries with West-African migration-route countries. It provides a forum for a frank exchange on all issues related to migration, asylum, readmission and return.

**Dialogue 5 + 5**
This process also contributes to the reflection on regional migration governance in the Western Mediterranean area. Morocco is currently presiding over this process.
Morocco's relations with the United Nations system
A Joint Programme was developed by a group of nine United Nations agencies, funds and programs in Morocco.

The Programme aims to strengthen the capacity of the ministry in charge of expatriates and migration affairs and other relevant institutions in the implementation of the National Strategy of Immigration and Asylum (NSIA).

Defined in six axes and 20 projects, this programme responds to the transversal nature of the NSIA and its architecture by providing expertise adapted to each branch's area of specialization. It attaches particular importance to possible synergies between agencies, with a view to pooling resources and reinforcing impacts.
**Moroccan vision of a cooperative migration management**

**At multilateral level**

**Intensive cooperation with IOM**
Several projects addressing various aspects of migration are underway, including on:
- Migration and development
- Anti-trafficking of people
- Integration of migration into sectoral strategies
- Return and reintegration
- Diaspora investment mobilization
- Youth support and social development

**Fruitful cooperation with the OECD**
Two major surveys have been finalized:
- Survey on socio-demographic characteristics of Moroccans residing in OECD countries
- Interaction between public policies, migration and development
**Moroccan vision of a cooperative migration management**

**At multilateral level**

**The role of the GFMD in the global governance of migration**

The GFMD co-chairs will work towards the adoption of a global governance framework for migration that takes into account the interests of all stakeholders in accordance with a triple-win approach, reconciling the interests of (a) countries of destination, (b) countries of origin, and (c) migrants themselves.

The co-chairs will promote (a) international and multi-stakeholder cooperation, (b) an interactive debate with greater involvement of civil society and the private sector, and (c) concrete results.

At the meeting in Berlin (June 2017), one roundtable will be dedicated to international cooperation on crisis migration, focusing on development-oriented solutions. Another roundtable will discuss cooperation in the field of return migration.
Moroccan vision of a cooperative migration management

At bilateral level

Active cooperation with the countries of the North and the South

South-South cooperation
- Commitment to cooperate with African countries (50% of migratory flows in Africa): five agreements have been signed with African countries (Senegal, Sudan, Côte d'Ivoire, Tunisia, Egypt), while several agreements are being negotiated

Germany
- Five projects with GIZ to support the National Policy on Immigration and Asylum, and one project to promote triangular cooperation between Morocco, Germany and Côte d'Ivoire;
- The Co-Chairmanship of the GFMD for the years 2017-2018 is an illustration of the excellent bilateral cooperation and the exchange of the views on migration issues
At bilateral level

Active cooperation with the countries of the North and the South (continued)

- **Spain**
  - Annual Moroccan-Spanish Forum on Immigration and Integration
  - Management of migratory flows and the fight against human trafficking
  - Coordination of an unprecedented and unique annual operation in managing flows of people between the two shores of the Mediterranean sea: “Operation Marhaba” is a Transit Operation of Moroccans residing abroad (Europe) to Morocco during the summer (approximately 2.5 million people).

Cooperation with other European countries: Belgium, Switzerland, France, Italy, ...
Rethinking the global governance of migration

- Coherence, inclusive development, shared responsibility, solidarity, living together, human rights, ...

Seize the opportunities of important frameworks

- 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- Global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration

- Promote all forms of partnerships and at different levels (Local, regional and international)
- Taking advantage of existing frameworks of dialogue (GFMD, Regional consultative processes on migration, etc.)
Thank you

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