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 European Commission to strengthen cooperation on migration and economic development with African partners at Valletta Summit

On 11-12 November, President of the European Commission, Jean-ClaudeJuncker, EU High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy / Vice-President of the Commission, Federica Mogherini, and Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development, NevenMimica, will be representing the EU, together with President Tusk at the Valletta Summit on Migration in Malta. This Summit will bring together European and African Heads of State and Government in an effort to strengthen cooperation in the area of migration and address the current challenges and opportunities. A large number of international and regional organisations, such as the African Union Commission, the Economic Community Of West African States (ECOWAS) Commission, the UN, the UN's Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), have also been invited to participate. On Thursday 12 November, President **Juncker** is also expected to sign the EU's Emergency Trust Fund for Africa, one of the tools set up tourgently respond to the current refugee crisis. This Trust Fund will receive €1.8 billion of funding from the European Commission, complemented with funding from a number of EU Member States and other donors. A factsheet on the EU's cooperation with Africa is available here. Further press material will be made available during the Summit. The concluding press conference will take place on 12 November at 13:30 and will be live streamed on EbS.

• Commissioners Moedas and Hogan to call for more investments into the bioeconomy

Today, Commissioners Carlos **Moedas**, responsible for Research, Science and Innovation and Phil **Hogan**, responsible for Agriculture delivered keynote speeches at the Bioeconomy Forum in Brussels which addresses the need to strengthen the transition from a fossil-based to a bio-based economy in Europe. They have highlighted the Commission's already leading global role in sustainably managing and exploiting our biological resources but pointed out that moving forward requires mobilising further investments. First and

foremost, this means strengthening Europe's research and innovation capacity and increase public private investments like those already supported through the Biobased Industries Joint Undertaking and other projects funded by Horizon 2020. Further funding opportunities to invest into the bioeconomy are also available through the European Fund for Strategic Investments and the Capital Markets Union. The Commissioners have also stressed their commitment to work across policy areas both to ensure the conditions to stimulate such investments and work closely with Member States and other relevant organisations to develop national Bioeconomy Strategies. Click here for more information and webstreaming of the event.

• European Commission awards €16.43 million in emergency funding to Croatia to manage the high influx of migrants in the country

The European Commission has awarded an amount of $\[\in \]$ 16.43 million in emergency funding to Croatia to support the country in managing the high influx of migrants and improve the situation on the ground. The funding comes from the Internal Security Fund – Borders and Visa (ISF) and from the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) which make available $\[\in \]$ 3.99 million and $\[\in \]$ 12.43 million respectively. The funding will be used to finance measures, taken since 16 September, to increase the presence of police staff at the Croatian-Serbian border to improve management, as well as to improve conditions in temporary accommodation centres. A press release can be found here.

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