

## **EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL MIGRATION AND HOME AFFAIRS Directorate C: Migration and Protection

The Director

Brussels, HOME/C2/DG (2019)

Ms. Marina Albiol Guzmán MEP Parlement européen Bât. Willy Brandt 02M015 60, rue Wiertz / Wiertzstraat 60 B-1047 Bruxelles/Brussel

Dear Ms. Albiol Guzmán.

As announced in the Commission's reply on question E-006193/2018, please find below details of the reply obtained by the Executive Director of the European Border and Coast Guard Agency.

"We hereby acknowledge receipt of your letter and the enclosed query therein by MEP Marina Albiol Guzman (GUE/NGL) regarding Frontex Joint Operations (hereafter referred to as JO) taking place at the Spanish maritime borders, namely JO Hera, JO Indalo and JO Minerva. Be assured that Frontex is fully committed to carrying out its tasks with the highest standard of professionalism and the highest respect for fundemantal rights. Bearing this in mind, allow us to present below for your consideration the answers to the queries to be transmitted to Mrs Guzman.

Kindly note that the estimated operational budget for the above mentioned JOs carried out in 2018 is 20,439,161 EUR with the respective allocation of:

1,278,814 EUR to JO Hera,

990,957 EUR to JO Minerva,

18,169,390 EUR to JO Indalo.

In comparison, the budget for the same JOs in 2017 amounted to 9,982,541 EUR with the respective allocation of :

834,770 EUR to JO Hera,

835,340 EUR to JO Minerva,

and 8,312,421 EUR to JO Indalo.

Frontex does not share any direct information/data with Moroccan, Mauritian and Senegalese authorities within the framework of JO Hera, JO Indalo and JO Minerva. Any actions, performed by the above-mentioned African Countries, are disclosed to Frontex by Spanish Authorities and reported via the Joint Operations Reporting Application. It should be noted that the figures related to Third Country Actions do not include the total number of actions performed by the African Countries, but only the incidents communicated by the Spanish Authorities, not reflecting the complete migratory situation in the Western Mediterranean Region. The exchange of information/data takes place under the umbrella of the bilateral agreements between Spain and each Third Country respectively - Morocco, Mauritania and Senegal. Frontex is not a party to any of these bilateral agreements and does not have access to the information/data shared therein.

Attached to this letter you will find an Excel file containing incident statistics from the operations referred to in Mrs Guzman's query reflecting the period of 2012 until 2019. Please be advised that the first 3 sheets contain the same set of data, segregated by three different attributes: "Role of person", "Nationality" and "Age". We would also like to kindly point out that in the Joint Operations Reporting Application incident templates the "Age" attribute is not mandatory, therefore we have a number of cases in which the age value is missing.

Frontex avails itself of this opportunity to renew its assurances of highest consideration."

The European Border and Coast Guard Agency is an independent body established by Council Regulation (EU) 2016/1624 of 14 September 2016. Accordingly, the sole liability for the quoted reply transmitted to the Honourable Member by the Commission, rests with the Agency.

Sincerely yours,

[e-signed]

Michael SHOTTER