



## China and EU jointly discuss the return and readmission of irregular migrants

3-4 November 2015, Beijing

### IOM Press Briefing Note

IOM Liaison Office in China will facilitate a two-day workshop on ‘*Practical Cooperation on Return and Readmission of Irregular Migrants*’ on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> November in Beijing.

Held under the “*EU-China Dialogue on Migration and Mobility support project*”, funded by the Partnership Instrument (PI) of the European Union (EU), the event will benefit from the active participation of key Chinese counterparts, namely Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Public Security, representatives from the Directorate General for Migration and Home Affairs of the European Union (EU), the EU Delegation to China and some Embassies of the EU Member States present in Beijing.

Addressing irregular migration and defining better application of return policies is increasingly becoming relevant to China taking into account its transformation into a country of destination and this opens up many areas of shared interest that can be jointly explored by both EU and China in the field of migration management through cooperation and mutual learning. The workshop will be an important input to the overall efforts to uphold effective return policy as a necessary component of a comprehensive migration policy.

The “*EU-China Dialogue on Migration and Mobility Support Project*”, under which the workshop will be held, aims among other to advance consultations with relevant Chinese authorities on how to create joint operational mechanisms to ensure practical and dignified return of irregular migrants and to facilitate their sustainable reintegration.

Commenting on IOM’s perspective as regards return migration, Pär Liljert, Head of IOM Liaison Office to China, referred to the workshop as the “fruit of a long-standing partnership between EU and China, which has reached such a level of maturity that allows for an open exchange on a common area of concern, namely how to enhance practical cooperation that would foster better management of return migration”.

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