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Statement of Finland, Valletta Summit on migration: Prime Minister Juha Sipilä

We are all faced with new challenges resulting from the numbers of people on the move fleeing wars and conflict. Migration is a shared issue and shared responsibility of all of us. Strong ownership, reinforced partnerships and common responses are therefore needed.

African countries have been hosting millions of refugees and internally displaced persons for decades. We need to work together to tackle the "root causes" of migration.

Future of any society is built upon knowledge and education. All girls and boys should have an equal right and opportunity to take part in education. Together with good vocational training this gives any nation tools for success. We should continue to explore new areas for cooperation in education.

But education alone is not enough. Young people, both in Africa and in Europe, need to have positive future prospects. Job creation is essential for hope. No country can afford to have a young population out of employment in the long term. We need to work together with the private sector to encourage job creation and entrepreneurship as well as innovations for example in communications technology sector. These are examples where the Trust Fund could be of assistance.

We need well-managed migration. We recognize the importance of promoting legal channels for migration and mobility.

This summit is only a start in working more closely together on migration. We need to continue our efforts and work for the follow-ups of this Summit.