The Commission is sparing no effort to facilitate the implementation of the Voluntary Solidarity Mechanism\(^1\).

The Commission has been organising bi-monthly technical meetings with participating countries, the European Union Agency for Asylum and the International Organization for Migration, as well as constant bilateral contacts with and between the participating countries. It has also worked to make sure that beneficiary countries, especially those with no previous experience in relocation, are quickly up to speed in order to start transferring candidates and is making necessary funding available to support the whole exercise.

So far, contributing countries have made available more than 8000 pledges, some of which already activated while others will be activated in 2023.

The Commission shared with participating countries lessons learned from the first months of implementation, inter alia related to the channelling of candidates to relocation hubs, the reduction of the time between take charge and acceptances, and the need of flexibility in the preferences expressed by contributing countries. The Action Plan for the Central Mediterranean Route\(^2\) includes the revision of the Relocation workflow to address these shortcomings.

Candidates whose take charge request is refused by the receiving country, remain under the responsibility of the country where they are present, for the application of any relevant procedure.
