CONCLUSIONS

of the International Conference

“Migration and Refugee Flows in the Transit Countries: Security Implications”,

Skopje, 16 December 2015

The participants:

1. Referring to the Communique of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the CEI member states of 15 June 2015 in Ohrid, in particularly their commitment to strengthening cooperation towards global security and the urgent need to counter with necessary measures the escalation of illegal migration and human trafficking, welcomed the Macedonian CEI Presidency initiative to organize an International conference on these important topics and praised the support of CEI - Executive Secretariat in the realization of the initiative.

2. Underlined the importance and concerns of the global character of the mixed mass flow phenomena, ensued by humanitarian, security, economic, social, financial and political implications.

3. Emphasized that, a part of the many CEI members-states, in particularly those along the so called “Balkans route”, also other countries of the wider region of South East Europe are affected by this unprecedented crisis.

4. Agreed that the individual states cannot address appropriately all the consequence of the mass migratory and refugee flows on their own.

5. Pointed out that this situation requires the highest level of synergy, solidarity and responsibility sharing, as well as common, coordinated, timely and comprehensive approach that combine internal and external policies.

6. Noted that the most important security implications are the organized crime groups’ involvement in smuggling, trafficking of human beings and irregular crossing of borders, incidents within the migrant and refugee groups, risk of terrorists and radicals’
infiltration in the migrants and refuges groups, border incidents, human security implications related to the criminal violence, human rights respect.

7. In order to addressing in effective and efficient way the security implications and risks, underlined the need to stepping up joint efforts aimed to:

a) More pragmatic and proactive approach towards the knowledge based preventive and crisis management activities;

b) Establishing comprehensive border management (surveillance, policing, border control, intelligence;

c) Securing timely information exchange and to strengthening cooperation between law enforcement agencies;

d) Enhancing contacts and collaboration between central and local authorities as well as with civil society;

e) Make available tools for the local population to raise its awareness of the character and rights of the migrants and refugees aimed to preventing fears and stimulating solidarity;

f) Strengthening regional cooperation.

8. Emphasizing the role and importance of the relevant international and regional organizations, EU institutions and agencies to addressing the security implications and risks of the migration and refugees crisis, underlined the need of their additional efforts and assistance.

9. Reiterated the firm CEI commitment to respect the international and national obligations in dealing with the multifaceted challenges of the crisis.

10. Stressed the utmost importance for increased engagement of the broader international community in an effort to finding a political solution to the Syrian conflict and to addressing structural and root causes of instability in a comprehensive way.

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