MANAGEMENT BOARD DECISION 5/2018
of 9 March 2018

on the approval of the deployment of a Frontex Liaison Officer to Tunisia

THE MANAGEMENT BOARD

Having regard to the European Border and Coast Guard Regulation\(^1\), and in particular Article 55(2) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) The operational cooperation with third countries, in particular those countries which, on the basis of risk analysis, constitute a country of origin or transit for irregular immigration, is to be strengthened.

(2) The risk analysis of the Agency shows that Tunisia constitutes an important country of transit for irregular migration.

(3) In its Decision 29/2017 of 27 September 2017\(^2\), the Management Board decided to continue to prioritise North Africa for the deployment of Frontex Liaison Officers also for 2018.

(4) The European Union Border Management Assistance Mission in Libya (EUBAM Libya) is currently based in Tunis. The Frontex Liaison Officer in Tunis could therefore also engage in strengthening the Agency’s cooperation with EUBAM Libya.

(5) Tunis is the seat of regional offices of a number of international organisations, which could offer further possibilities to strengthen the Agency’s visibility.

(6) The European External Action Service and the European Union Delegation to Tunisia have agreed to hosting the Frontex Liaison Officer in the premises of the Delegation and starting the negotiations on an administrative arrangement.

(7) According to Article 55(4) of the European Border and Coast Guard Regulation, the European Commission expressed its prior opinion on the deployment of a Frontex Liaison Officer to Tunisia on 16 February 2018.

(8) The European Parliament shall be kept fully informed without delay as required by Article 55(4) of the European Border and Coast Guard Regulation.

\(^2\) Management Board Decision 29/2017 of 27 September 2017 adopting priority regions for the deployment of Frontex Liaison Officers to third countries
HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

**Article 1**
Subject

The deployment of a Frontex Liaison Officer to Tunisia is hereby approved.

**Article 2**
Tasks

1. The Frontex Liaison Officer is entrusted to develop and maintain operational cooperation and coordination between the Agency and competent authorities of Tunisia.

2. The Frontex Liaison Officer may also support the Agency in reaching out to relevant countries and other international stakeholders in the region, including EUBAM Libya, as appropriate and feasible.

**Article 3**
Posting and deployment

1. The Frontex Liaison Officer will be hosted by the European Union Delegation to Tunisia in Tunis.

2. The Executive Director shall inform the Management Board on the date of the effective deployment of the Frontex Liaison Officer.

**Article 4**
Entry into force

This Decision enters into force on the day following the date of its adoption.

Done by written procedure on 9 March 2018

For the Management Board

[signed]
Marko Gašperlin
Chairperson