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Minister for Foreign Affairs George W. Vella and High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy / Vice-President of the Commission Federica Mogherini chaired the Informal Ministerial Meeting on Development

The Minister also said that another priority of the Maltese Presidency is the relationship between the European Union and African, Caribbean and Pacific countries after the Cotonou Agreement expires in 2020.

Minister for Foreign Affairs, George W. Vella and High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy / Vice-President of the Commission Federica Mogherini chaired the Informal Ministerial Meeting on Development in Brussels.

During this meeting, current negotiations on the Consensus on Development, the partnership between the European Union and Africa and the connection between migration and development were discussed.

Minister Vella said that this meeting was a chance to take into account the progress made in these fields. The Consensus on Development is a main priority of the Maltese Presidency and will be adopted by the Council of the European Union on 19th May and signed between 7-8 June at the European Development Days, when Malta will sign on behalf of the Council and the Member States. During the meeting Members converged their position on the document.

The Minister also said that another priority of the Maltese Presidency is the relationship between the European Union and African, Caribbean and Pacific countries after the Cotonou Agreement expires in 2020. Amongst these countries, the European Union wants to strengthen the partnership with African countries and working towards a better future for African youths.

Malta is working for prominence to be given to the ties between development and migration. The Minister stated that the consensus reached during the Summit and the meeting for High Level Officials held in Malta, last month, provides a solid foundation of which the European Union can work upon.

Prior to the Informal Meeting, Minister Vella had a meeting with High Representative Federica Mogherini, Commissioner for Development Neven Mimica and Committee Chairperson on Development of the European Parliament Linda McAvan, on the cooperation needed in every Presidency to reach the same goals.

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