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Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs
The Chair

To the Chairperson(s) of the committee(s) concerned

Honourable Chairperson,

Since the tragic events near the shores of Lampedusa in October 2013, when 366 migrants drowned in the Mediterranean after their overcrowded fishing boat capsized, we witnessed the loss of 3500 lives in 2014. The crisis further intensified in 2015, and has continued calling the attention of the European public opinion.

The Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs is currently carrying out a strategic own-initiative report on the situation in the Mediterranean and the need for a holistic approach to migration (co-Rapporteurs: Ms Roberta Metsola and Ms Kashetu Kyenge). The Report will assess existing EU policies in order to develop a set of recommendations to feed into the current debate over the EU policies on migration, asylum and borders.

Against this background, the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs would like to invite Members of national Parliaments to an inter-parliamentary meeting on ***"The situation in the Mediterranean and the need for a holistic approach to migration."*** The meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 23 September 2015, from 9 am to 18.30, in the European Parliament in Brussels.

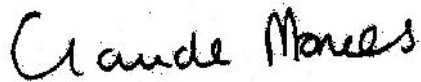
I am therefore pleased to invite up to four Members of the relevant committee(s) from each national Parliament (two from each Chamber in the case of bi-cameral Parliaments) to attend this meeting. After having exchanged with Commission and the Presidency at several occasions, and after several debates in the ordinary Committee meetings on the different elements of the report in the presence of experts, the two co-rapporteurs for the strategic report on migration look forward to listening to contributions by national Parliaments on this important subject, so as to be able to take them into account when drafting their final report. I very much hope that this meeting can be as interactive as possible, so as to allow for a fruitful exchange of views between Members of the European Parliament and national Parliamentarians.

Should you be unable to attend, I would welcome any written contribution which would be distributed to our respective Members and other participants.

Practical details regarding the meeting as well as a detailed draft programme will be forwarded in due course to your Parliament's services for relations with the European Parliament.

I sincerely hope that you will be able to accept this invitation and I am looking forward to welcoming you to the European Parliament on 23 September 2015.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Claude Moraes". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Claude" and the last name "Moraes" clearly distinguishable.

Claude MORAES