



Dr. Markos Meets with Deputy Director - General of Migration and Home Affairs of the European Commission

State Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr Markos Tekle met Mr Simon Mordue, Deputy Director- General of Migration and Home Affairs of the European commission on the margins of the Intergovernmental Conference to adopt the Global Compact of Migration in Marrakesh, Morocco. On the occasion, Dr Markos discussed the sweeping changes Ethiopia is undergoing in introducing political and economic reforms. He underlined that the changes in Ethiopia are positively impacting the region towards peace and stability and regional integration. He in particular highlighted that the peace accord between #Ethiopia and Eritrea has created immense optimism in changing the conflict trap the sub-region finds itself in the past few decades. On migration, Dr Markos underlined that focus should be given to creating economic opportunities at home to prevent the youth from falling prey to traffickers. He further elaborated the efforts Ethiopia is making in job creation through labour intensive light manufacturing by building industrial zones in different parts of the country.

He urged the #EU to further intensify its support to Ethiopia in job creation and return as well as reintegration of returnees. He expressed his appreciation with the EU on the progress made with the Jobs Compact and affirmed Ethiopia's readiness to further build on the achievements made so far.

Mr. Simon expressed his appreciation to the democratic reforms in Ethiopia and affirmed EU's support. He in particular noted EU's desire to collaborate with Ethiopia in return and reintegration, and fighting human trafficking. He also indicated EU's plan to pilot circulation migration where citizens from origin countries will be allowed to European countries and return home after working for a defined period of time.

He further reaffirmed that the EU will support Ethiopia in realizing the commitment contained in the Global Compact on Migration.