

with regard to the consultation document, just a few points from the African Heart Network, a coalition of heart foundations in Africa.

The brain drain issue remains a major issue for Africa. It is affected by the poor standard of health care, the inadequate standard of living, lack of professional development opportunities and funding to attend overseas provision even when the opportunity arises, lack of job satisfaction. The attraction to migrate is therefore irresistible by health care workers in Africa especially when active recruitment is undertaken by EU members.

Efforts to redress the imbalance in healthcare provision would impact circular migration positively. Africa could be supported to grow and retain a highly qualified health workforce. In addition to improving healthcare systems in Africa, providing training and opportunities for advancement, low tech solutions to medical conditions like CVD can re-empower health care workers who currently feel disempowered as they are unable to provide consistent quality standards of healthcare.

A key issue would be for EU countries to cease from sending mixed immigration/migration messages with regard to initiatives such as the 'highly skilled migrant worker' status. Some feel used and then discarded, having seen good quality provision, feel unable to face the stark reality of a return to a worsening healthcare provision and seek to stay or change profession.

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