MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

THE SWISS FEDERAL COUNCIL

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF NORTH MACEDONIA

ESTABLISHING A MIGRATION PARTNERSHIP

The Swiss Federal Council and the Government of North Macedonia hereinafter called "the Signatories"

RECALLING the agreements in force between the Signatories in the field of migration;

RECALLING the international multilateral instruments in the field of migration the Signatories are parties to;

DESIRING, on the basis of the principle of reciprocity, to deepen and expand their dialogue and co-operation in the field of migration, to identify opportunities offered therein and to find constructive solutions to the challenges of global migration;

Have reached an understanding to enhance their cooperation through a Migration Partnership as follows:

The Signatories intend to consider ways of establishing a regular and constant dialogue and a common reflective process on migration matters beneficial to both countries, especially in the areas listed hereafter:

- Management of migration flows;
- Readmission of nationals, stateless persons and of third-country nationals;
- Return assistance and reintegration;
- Prevention of irregular migration;
- Fight against smuggling of migrants and trafficking in human beings;
- Co-operation in the field of education and training;
- Migration and socio-economic development;
- Diaspora relations;

- Integration;
- Capacity building in migration governance matters;
- Other areas concerning the movement of populations between the Signatories' territories.

The Federal Department of Justice and Police, on behalf of the Swiss Federal Council, and the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, on behalf of the Government of North Macedonia, are expected to oversee the implementation of the Migration Partnership described in the present Memorandum of Understanding, if necessary through the establishment of a mechanism for bilateral consultations.

The provisions of the present Memorandum of Understanding do not create any legal rights and obligations between the Signatories.

Signed in Berne on 7 November 2022, in duplicate in the German, Macedonian and English languages. In case of differences in interpretation, the English text should be given priority.

For the Swiss Federal Council

For the Government of North Macedonia