

Presentation by:

Border management co-operation to facilitate labour mobility and combat illegal migration

17th OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum

First Preparatory Conference

Prague, 16 and 17 October 2008



Freedom of Movement

- CSCE/OSCE history linked to this issue
- ➤ Persons are free to leave any country including their own and to return to their country
- > States are free to restrict
 - access to the country to foreign nationals and
 - access to the labour market to nonresident foreigners

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Managing borders

Objectives of border management:

- control (persons, goods)
- facilitation

Borders:

- Checkpoints (land, harbour, airports)
- Green/blue border

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Integrated Border Management (IBM)

Agencies cooperate to manage borders jointly

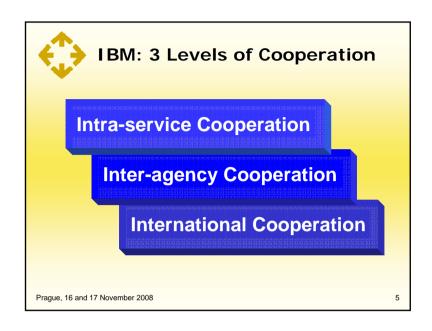
- Border police / border guards,
- Customs.
- Veterinary inspection,
- Phytosanitary inspection.

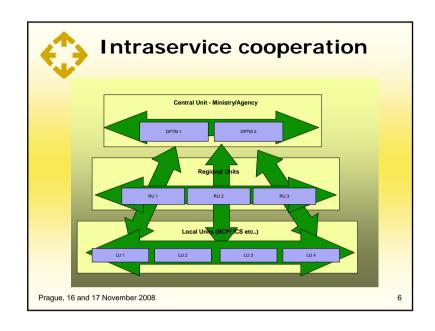
Elements

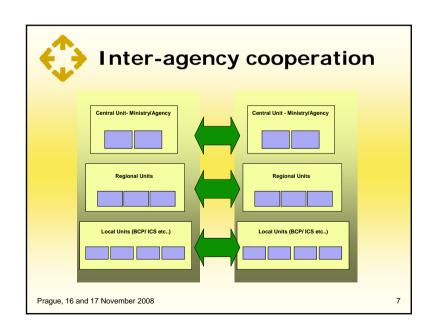
- joint strategy and work plans
- institutionalized information sharing and cooperation at all levels
- Joint Border Crossing Points, joint patrols

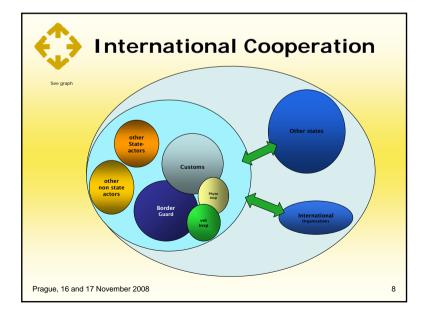
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Related issues

- Passport and identity documents, based on civil registries
- Visa systems
- Data gathering, sharing, processing
- Biometrics
- Registered travelers
- Sharing of intelligence, joint action on transnational smuggling networks
- Governance issues

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Limits of border management

- Limits of profiling
- Balance security and traffic flow
- Green/blue borders difficult to control
- Migrants and smugglers are inventive
- ◆ Sea borders: difficulty to deny entry
- ◆ Return: difficulty of identification
- More comprehensive approach needed

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Elements of a comprehensive approach

Recognition that migrants are stakeholders

- Capacity building on employment abroad
- Dialogue with countries of origin and transit
- Inclusion of civil society, diasporas and migrants

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Impact of ecological and economic challenges

- Ecological migration: Aral Sea, coastal areas, Sahel – few aid programmes for displaced, no particular legal status given to "ecological refugees"
- Countries tend to reduce legal migration options in times of crisis

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The need for dialogue with countries of origin and transit

- Mediterranean Transit Migration
 January 2008: APS and EPS Working
 Document on the Joint Management
 of Mixed Migration Flows, i-map
- Budapest Process
 Ministerial Conference April 2009;
 thematic working groups
- Common understanding can lead to common solutions

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Comprehensive approaches include civil society, diasporas

- Civil society is typically included in counter-trafficking efforts, less in reduction of irregular migration
- Information campaigns are good, personal advice to migrants on ways to realize freedom of movement and avoid unsuccessful migration would be better
- Dialogue needed with civil society, diaporas, migrants

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Creating opportunities for legal migration

- Strenghtening capacity in countries of origin on organisation and promotion of employment abroad (role of private sector and Labour Ministries) and protection of migrants rights
- Meeting the needs of global labour market also means adapting education curricula and negociating the recognition of diplomas

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