



Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

CONCEPT NOTE

Expert meeting

Enhancing the OSCE long-term approach to migration governance: the OCEEA contribution

Vienna, Friday, 17 June 2016

Background

Migration governance is now at the centre of political debate in the OSCE area. The 2016 OSCE German Chairmanship has selected ‘good migration governance’ as one of the priorities in the Economic and Environmental dimension in line with the increasing impact of migration on, economic development and security in the OSCE region and beyond.

Building on its mandate, grounded in the 1975 Helsinki Final Act and shaped further by the Ljubljana Ministerial Council Decision no. 02/05 on *Migration*, and the Athens Ministerial Council Decision no. 05/09 on *Migration management*, and with the intention to build upon the outcomes of the “Security Day” event held in Rome on 4th March 2016, where the migration-security nexus was discussed, the Office of the Coordinator of Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA) currently continues to exercise its mandate and conduct activities in the field of migration governance.

The aim of the Expert meeting is to suggest needs and mechanisms to increase the effectiveness of tools that would assist the participating States in meeting the challenges stemming from a rapidly changing migration scenario, as well as identify areas for improved engagement and enhanced role for the Office. To this end, a “Food-for-Thought” paper, containing key recommendations on this matter, will be elaborate and distributed before the meeting that will serve as a peer-review process.

The “Food-for-Thought” paper will also provide the OCEEA’s contribution to the Informal Working Group on Migration (IWG), established under the guidance of the Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the OSCE, in view of the special Permanent Council (PC) meeting devoted to migration scheduled for 20th July 2016.

The Expert meeting

The Expert meeting will discuss the following aspects:

1. The OCEEA’s mandate and achievements in the field of labour migration governance, including the role of Field Operations;
2. Emerging challenges and areas for action and policy guidance, including with the Partners for Co-operation.
3. The contribution of the OSCE economic dimension to the global frameworks of migration governance.

The event will benefit from the participation of relevant international and regional organizations – the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the United Nations’ Department of Economic and Social Affairs, UNDESA – together with national and international specialists in the field of migration governance, including OSCE Executive Structures and Institutions, academia and research entities, as well as selected civil society representatives.

The participants will be asked to actively contribute to this peer-review process of the “Food-for-Thought” paper through an interactive discussion. The key findings of the Expert meeting will be also collected in a report that will be published soon after the event.

The working language will be English.



Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

**ENHANCING THE OSCE LONG-TERM APPROACH TO MIGRATION GOVERNANCE
THE OCEEA CONTRIBUTION**

Friday, 17 June 2016, 9:30 - 17:30
OSCE Congress Centre, Hofburg, Neuersaal
Heldenplatz, 1010 Vienna

Agenda

Friday, 17 June 2016

09:00 Registration of participants and welcoming coffee

09:30 - 11:00 **Session I: The OCEEA's mandate and activities in the area of migration governance**

Moderator: Mr. Goran Svilanovic, Secretary General of the Regional Cooperation Council

Welcoming remarks:

- **Ambassador Paul Bekkers**, Director of the Office of the Secretary General, OSCE Secretariat
- **Dr. Halil Yurdakul Yiğitgüden**, Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities
- **Dr. Bernd Forster**, Political Officer, 2016 German OSCE Chairmanship

Key-note speaker:

- **Professor Ibrahim Awad**, Professor of Global Affairs and Director of the Center for Migration and Refugee Studies, American University, Egypt

Interventions:

- **Mr. August Gachter**, Centre for Social Innovation, Austria
- **Ms. Teresa Albano**, Economic Affairs Officer, Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

Debate

11:00 – 11:30 **Coffee break**

11:30 – 13:00 Session II: Emerging challenges for further engagement of the OCEEA

Moderator: Mr. Andrei Muntean, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, Head of the Economic Governance Unit, Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

Speakers:

- **Professor Ronald Skeldon**, Graduate School of Governance, Maastricht University, The Netherlands
- **Ms. Natalia Popova**, Senior Labour Migration Specialist, International Labour Organization (ILO)
- **Ms. Yelena Sadovskaya**, Research Council on CIS Migration Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences, Russian Federation
- **Mr. Paul Abell**, President of the City of Amsterdam Council on Diversity and Integration, The Netherlands

Debate

13:00 – 14:30 Lunch break

14:30 – 16:00 Session III - Panel debate: Towards a global framework on migration governance: the contribution of the OSCE second dimension

Moderator: Mr. Patrick Taran, Global Migration Policy Associates, Switzerland

Speakers:

- **Ms. Nahida Sobhan**, Minister Plenipotentiary, Permanent Mission of Bangladesh to the UN in Geneva, The Global Forum for Migration and Development (GFMD)
- **Mr. Bela Hovy**, Chief, Migration Section, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) – via teleconference
- **Ms. Alina Narusova**, Regional Policy and Liaison Officer, International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Debate

16:00 – 16:30 Coffee break

16:30 - 17:30 Concluding session

Moderator: Mr. Emiliano Alessandri, Senior External Co-operation Officer, Migration Focal Point, Office of the Secretary General, OSCE Secretariat

Speakers:

- **Mr. Patrick Taran**, Global Migration Policy Associates, Switzerland
- **Ms. Ermelinda Meksi**, Deputy Co-ordinator, Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities