



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Economic Forum (Senior Council)**

EF.GAL/33/05/Rev.1
29 June 2005

ENGLISH only

Conference Services

THIRTEENTH MEETING OF THE ECONOMIC FORUM

Prague, 23 to 27 May 2005

SUMMARY

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
Place, date and theme for the Thirteenth Meeting of the Economic Forum (Permanent Council Decision No. 624 (PC.DEC/624))	1
Main subjects and organizational modalities for the Thirteenth Meeting of the Economic Forum (Permanent Council Decision No. 666 (PC.DEC/666))	2
Agenda and work programme of the Thirteenth Meeting of the Economic Forum	5
Annotated agenda of the Thirteenth Meeting of the Economic Forum	8
Opening address by the Chairman-in-Office	20
Presentation of the 2004/2005 activity report by the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities	25
Presentation of conclusions and policy recommendations from the sessions by the Chairperson of the Thirteenth Meeting of the Economic Forum.....	30
Concluding remarks by the Chairperson of the Economic Forum	40
Closing remarks by the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities.....	43
Reports of the rapporteurs of the plenary meetings	
Review of the implementation of commitments in the OSCE economic and environmental dimension.....	47
Review of the implementation of commitments in the OSCE economic and environmental dimension: Integration and trade	50
Review of the implementation of commitments in the OSCE economic and environmental dimension: Transport	53
Session I: Population developments	57
Session II: Improving economic prospects in countries of emigration.....	60
Session III: Environment and migration	63
Session IV: Providing services for migrants.....	66
Session V: Awareness-raising and economic integration in countries of destination	69
Session VI: The informal sector	72
Session VII: Policies of integration of persons belonging to national minorities.....	74
Session VIII: Economic and social integration of persons belonging to national minorities	77
OSCE as a platform for dialogue and co-operation	80

Reports of the rapporteurs of side events

Side event with the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation: Migration and economic development of the sending countries	84
Side event on implementing the Roma and Sinti Action Plan (economic and social aspects): Increasing access of Roma to employment and inclusion in sustainable economic development; elements of an OSCE cross-dimensional approach”	87
Side event on the Anti-Trafficking Programme: Presentation of the status of the OCEEA Anti-Trafficking Programme on Public-Private Co-operation in the Prevention of Trafficking in Human Beings (ATP) and other anti-trafficking activities	92
Side event on the presentation of the Labour Migration Project — Armenia: A practical example of OSCE field work in the area of labour migration	94
Log of contributions to the Thirteenth Meeting of the Economic Forum.....	96



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Permanent Council**

PC.DEC/624
29 July 2004

Original: ENGLISH

520th Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 520, Agenda item 6

**DECISION No. 624
PLACE, DATE AND THEME FOR THE
THIRTEENTH MEETING OF THE ECONOMIC FORUM**

The Permanent Council,

Taking into account the Chairperson's Summary of the Twelfth Meeting of the Economic Forum,

Decides that the Thirteenth Meeting of the Economic Forum will take place in Prague within the period from 23 to 27 May 2005. The theme of the Forum will be "Demographic Trends, Migration and Integrating Persons belonging to National Minorities: Ensuring Security and Sustainable Development in the OSCE Area".

Discussions of the Forum should benefit from input provided by other OSCE bodies and relevant meetings, including seminars, and deliberations in various international organizations.

A possible special session and its theme will be decided later.

Moreover, taking into account its tasks, the Economic Forum will review the implementation of commitments in the economic and environmental dimension.

The organizational modalities will be further elaborated and submitted to the Permanent Council for adoption in due time.

The Economic and Environmental Subcommittee of the Permanent Council is tasked to continue its work on further improvement of the efficiency and effectiveness of the Economic Forum and should report on its progress in this regard to the Permanent Council before the end of 2004.

Furthermore, the Permanent Council will examine the issue of the venue of the Economic Forum in 2006, with a view to making a recommendation to the Twelfth Meeting of the Ministerial Council.



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Permanent Council**

PC.DEC/666
7 April 2005

Original: ENGLISH

549th Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 549, Agenda item 5

**DECISION No. 666
MAIN SUBJECTS AND ORGANIZATIONAL MODALITIES
FOR THE THIRTEENTH MEETING OF THE ECONOMIC FORUM**

23 to 27 May 2005

The Permanent Council,

Pursuant to Chapter VII, paragraphs 21 to 32, of the Helsinki Document 1992, and to the OSCE Strategy Document for the Economic and Environmental Dimension of 2 December 2003 (MC(11).JOUR/2, Annex 1),

Bearing in mind the Decision of the Ministerial Council No. 10/04 of 7 December 2004, and

Recalling its Decision No. 624 of 29 July 2004,

Decides that,

1. Within the framework of the overall theme, “Demographic Trends, Migration and Integrating Persons belonging to National Minorities: Ensuring Security and Sustainable Development in the OSCE Area”, and with regard to the preparatory process, the Thirteenth Meeting of the Economic Forum will concentrate on the following main subjects:

- (a) Demographic Trends;
- (b) Migration;
- (c) Integrating Persons belonging to National Minorities.

2. Moreover, taking into account its mandate, the Economic Forum will:

- (a) Review the implementation of commitments in the OSCE economic and environmental dimension, focusing on the following topics selected for review: Integration, Trade and Transport;

(b) Discuss ongoing and future activities for the economic and environmental dimension, in particular the work on implementing the OSCE Strategy Document for the Economic and Environmental Dimension.

3. The participating States are encouraged to be represented at a high level, by senior officials responsible for shaping international economic and environmental policy in the OSCE area. Participation of representatives from the business and scientific communities as well as other relevant actors of civil society in their delegations would be welcome.

4. As in previous years, the format of the Economic Forum should provide for the active involvement of relevant international organizations and encourage open discussions.

5. The following international organizations, international organs, regional groupings and conferences of States are invited to participate in the Thirteenth Meeting of the Economic Forum: Adriatic and Ionic Initiative; Asian Development Bank; Barents Euro-Arctic Council; Black Sea Economic Co-operation; Central Asian Co-operation Organization; Central European Initiative; Commonwealth of Independent States; Council of the Baltic Sea States; Council of Europe; Economic Co-operation Organization; Eurasian Economic Community; European Bank for Reconstruction and Development; European Environment Agency; European Investment Bank; Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; GUUAM; Intergovernmental Commission TRACECA; International Atomic Energy Agency; International Centre for Migration Policy Development; International Committee of the Red Cross; International Labour Organization; International Monetary Fund; International Organization for Migration; Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS; North Atlantic Treaty Organization; Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development; Organization of the Islamic Conference; Organization of the Treaty of Collective Security; Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; Shanghai Co-operation Organization; Southeast European Co-operative Initiative; South-East European Co-operation Process; Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe; United Nations Children's Fund; United Nations Conference on Trade and Development; United Nations Development Fund for Women; United Nations Development Programme; United Nations Economic Commission for Europe; United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; United Nations Environment Programme; United Nations Human Settlements Programme; United Nations Industrial Development Organization; United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime; United Nations Population Fund; United Nations Secretariat of the Convention to Combat Desertification; World Bank Group; World Customs Organization; World Food Programme; World Health Organization; World Tourism Organization; World Trade Organization and other relevant organizations.

6. The Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia) and the Partners for Co-operation (Afghanistan, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Mongolia and Thailand) are invited to participate in the Economic Forum.

7. Upon request by a delegation of an OSCE participating State, regional groupings or expert academics and business representatives may also be invited, as appropriate, to participate in the Thirteenth Economic Forum.

8. Subject to the provisions contained in Chapter IV, paragraphs 15 and 16, of the Helsinki Document 1992, the representatives of non-governmental organizations with relevant experience in the area under discussion are also invited to participate in the Meeting.
9. The Chair of the Forum will present summary conclusions drawn from the discussions at the end of the Meeting. The Economic and Environmental Subcommittee of the Permanent Council will further include the conclusions of the Chair and the reports of the rapporteurs in its discussions so that the Permanent Council can take the decisions required for appropriate follow-up activities.



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Economic Forum (Senior Council)**

13-EF(SC).JOUR/1
23 May 2005
Annex

Original: ENGLISH

First Day of the Thirteenth Meeting
13-EF(SC) Journal No. 1, Agenda item 1

**AGENDA AND WORK PROGRAMME
OF THE THIRTEENTH MEETING OF THE ECONOMIC FORUM**

**Demographic Trends, Migration and Integrating Persons belonging to
National Minorities: Ensuring Security and Sustainable Development
in the OSCE Area**

Prague, 23 to 27 May 2005

1. Opening (open to the press)
 - (a) Welcoming remarks by the Chairperson of the Economic Forum
 - (b) Welcoming remarks by a representative of the Government of the Czech Republic
 - (c) Opening address by the Chairman-in-Office
 - (d) Welcoming remarks by the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities
 - (e) Addresses by representatives of OSCE institutions
 - (f) Keynote addresses
 - (g) Discussion
2. Review of the implementation of commitments in the OSCE economic and environmental dimension
 - (a) Presentation of the report by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe on the implementation of OSCE commitments, focusing on “Integration, Trade and Transport”
 - (b) Keynote addresses and discussion

3. Presentation of the activity report by the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities
4. Review of the implementation of commitments in the OSCE economic and environmental dimension
 - (a) Integration and trade
 - (b) Transport
5. Session I: Population developments
6. Session II: Improving economic prospects in countries of emigration
7. Session III: Environment and migration
8. Session IV: Providing services for migrants
9. Session V: Awareness-raising and economic integration in countries of destination
10. Session VI: The informal sector
11. Session VII: Policies of integration of persons belonging to national minorities
12. Session VIII: Economic and social integration of persons belonging to national minorities
13. OSCE as a platform for dialogue and co-operation
 - (a) Presentation of conclusions and policy recommendations from the sessions
 - (b) Discussion
14. Closing (open to the press)
 - (a) Closing remarks by the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities
 - (b) Concluding remarks by the Chairperson of the Economic Forum
 - (c) Discussion

Work Programme

Working hours:

Monday: 3–6 p.m.

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 9 a.m. – 12.30 p.m. and 2.30–6 p.m.

Friday: 9 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

	Monday 23 May	Tuesday 24 May	Wednesday 25 May	Thursday 26 May	Friday 27 May
Morning		Items 2, 3	Items 5, 6 — Sessions I, II	Items 9, 10 — Sessions V, VI	Items 13, 14
Afternoon	Item 1	Item 4 In parallel: SE1, SE2	Items 7, 8 — Sessions III, IV In parallel: SE3	Items 11, 12 — Sessions VII, VIII In parallel: SE4	

SE1, SE2, SE3, SE4 = side events

**ANNOTATED AGENDA
OF THE THIRTEENTH MEETING OF THE ECONOMIC FORUM**

**Demographic Trends, Migration and Integrating Persons belonging to
National Minorities: Ensuring Security and Sustainable Development
in the OSCE Area**

Prague, 23 to 27 May 2005

Monday, 23 May 2005

3–6 p.m.

Opening plenary (open to the press) (Plenary Hall)

Welcoming remarks by the Chairperson of the Economic Forum,
Ambassador Boris Frlec, Head of the OSCE Task Force, Ministry of
Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia/OSCE Chairmanship

Welcoming remarks by the representative of the Government of the
Czech Republic, H.E. Pavel Svoboda, Deputy Minister for Foreign
Affairs

Opening address by the Chairman-in-Office, H.E. Dimitrij Rupel,
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia

Welcoming remarks by Mr. Marcin Świącicki, Co-ordinator of OSCE
Economic and Environmental Activities

Addresses by representatives of OSCE institutions:

- Mr. Christian Strohal, Director, ODIHR
- Mr. Rolf Ekéus, OSCE High Commissioner on National
Minorities

Keynote addresses by:

- Mr. Vladimír Špidla, European Commissioner for
Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities,
Demographic Crisis — required reforms and new policies
- Ms. Brigita Schmögnerová, Executive Secretary of the
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
- Mr. Brunson McKinley, Director General of the International
Organization for Migration
- Ms. Rita Süßmuth, Member of the Global Commission on
International Migration, former President of the German
Bundestag, former Vice-President of the OSCE
Parliamentary Assembly, Migration — Between Acceptance
and Rejection

- Mr. Grigory Rapota, Secretary General of the Eurasian Economic Community
- Mr. Norman Myers, Environmental Consultant, Fellow, Oxford University
- Mr Alexander Vladychenko, Director General of Social Cohesion, Council of Europe

Discussion

6.30 p.m. Reception hosted by the OSCE Chairman-in-Office (Toskansky Palace)

Tuesday, 24 May 2005

9–11.30 a.m. Review of the implementation of OSCE commitments in the economic and environmental dimension focusing on integration, trade and transport (Plenary Hall)

Moderator: Ambassador Boris Frlec, Head of the OSCE Task Force, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia/OSCE Chairmanship

Rapporteur: Mr. Jörn Beisert, Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany to the OSCE

- Presentation of the UNECE report on the implementation of OSCE commitments in the area of integration, trade and transport by Mr. Abdur Chowdhury, Director, Economic Analysis Division, UNECE
- Presentation of Transition indicators on trade and infrastructure by Ms. Vanessa Mitchell-Thomson, Principal Economist, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
- Comments by Ms. Gina Volynsky, United Nations Development Programme Regional Centre in Bratislava
- Keynote statement by Mr. Michael Harms, German Committee on Eastern European Economic Relations
- Presentation of the summary of questionnaire contributions by Mr. Marcin Świącicki, Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

Discussion

11.30 a.m.–12 p.m. Coffee break

- 12–12.30 p.m. Office of the Co-ordinator of Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA): Activity Report (Plenary Hall)
- Presentation of the OCEEA Activity Report by Mr. Marcin Świącicki, Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities
- 12.30–2.30 p.m. Lunch break
- 2.30–4.15 p.m. Review of the implementation of commitments: Integration and trade (Plenary Hall)
- Moderator: Ambassador Brendan Moran, Permanent Mission of Ireland to the OSCE
- Rapporteur: Mr. Denis Sidorenko, Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Belarus to the OSCE
- Mr. Mario Apostolov, Regional Adviser, Trade Development and Timber Division, UNECE
 - Mr. Daniel Linotte, Senior Trade Advisor, Policy and Legal Advice Centre (PLAC), European Union Project/European Agency for Reconstruction (EAR), commitments within the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the accession processes
 - Mr. Michael Stopford, Head of Global Public Affairs and Government Relations, Syngenta International AG
- Discussion
- Side event with the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation: Migration and economic development of the sending countries (Gallery Room)
- Moderator: Minister Pierre Chevalier, Special Envoy of the Belgian Minister for Foreign Affairs for the OSCE Chairmanship 2006
- Rapporteur: Mr. Fabrizio Scarpa, External Co-operation Officer, OSCE Secretariat
- Ambassador Omar Zniber, Morocco
 - Mr. Jean-Pierre Garson, Head of Non-Member Economies and International Migration Division, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
- Discussion
- 4.15–4.45 p.m. Coffee break

4.45–6 p.m.

Review of the implementation of commitments: Transport
(Plenary Hall)

Moderator: Minister Pierre Chevalier, Special Envoy of the Belgian
Minister for Foreign Affairs for the OSCE Chairmanship 2006

Rapporteur: Ms. Brigitte Waignein, Permanent Mission of Belgium to
the OSCE

- Mr. Michalis Adamantiadis, Regional Adviser, Transport
Division, UNECE
- Mr. Bernard Snoy, Director of Working Table II — Economic
Reconstruction, Development and Co-operation, Stability Pact
for South-Eastern Europe

Discussion

Side event on implementing the Roma and Sinti Action Plan
(economic and social aspects): Increasing access of Roma to
employment and inclusion in local economic development; Elements
of an OSCE cross-dimension approach (Gallery Room)

Moderator: Mr. Mitja Žagar, Director, Institute for Ethnic Studies,
Ljubljana, Slovenia

Rapporteur: Ms. Nina Lindroos-Kopolo, Associate Programme
Officer, OCEEA

- Mr. Michael Guet, Head of the Roma and Travellers Division;
Migration and Roma Department; DG III Social Cohesion,
Council of Europe, and Mr. Nenad Vladislavljev, Roma
consultant, Serbia and Montenegro
- Mr. Michal Vašečka, Programme Director and Analyst,
Institute for Public Affairs, Slovakia
- Mr. Valeriu Nicolae, European Roma Information Office
(ERIO), Brussels
- Ms. Jennifer Tanaka and Mr. Florin Nasture, Pakiv European
Roma Fund
- Mr. Nicolae Gheorghe, Contact Point for Roma and Sinti
Issues, OSCE/ODIHR

Discussion

Wednesday, 25 May 2005

9–10.30 a.m.

Session I: Population developments (Plenary Hall)

Moderator: Mr. Janez Malačič, Professor, Head of the Statistical
Department, Faculty of Economics, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

Rapporteur: Ms. Jeannette Kloetzer, Economic and Environmental Officer, OSCE Office in Yerevan

- Confronting the demographic challenges of the OSCE area
- Support for the improvement and harmonization of data collection on migration and national minorities
Mr. Claus Folden, Co-ordinator, Technical Co-operation Centre, International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- Strengthening of research on demographic developments, economic migration and economic/social integration for information sharing and policy making
Mr. Wolfgang Lutz, Director, Vienna Institute for Demography, Leader, World Population Programme, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis

Discussion

10.30–11 a.m. Coffee break

11 a.m.–12.30 p.m. Session II: Improving economic prospects in countries of emigration (Plenary Hall)

Moderator: Mr. Andreas Halbach, Regional Representative, IOM Vienna

Rapporteur: Mr. Armand Pupols, Mission Programme Officer, Conflict Prevention Centre, OSCE Secretariat

- Facilitating the development of institutional setting, investment, business climates and employment opportunities
Mr. Fernand Pillonel, Head of Office, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Tajikistan
- How shall the OSCE address strategic economic issues and facilitate faster small and medium enterprise sector development furthering youth employment in countries of emigration?
Mr. John Fitzgerald, Foundation for International Community Assistance (FINCA) Samara, Russia Country Director
- Building of human and institutional capacities to meet market and economic development demands
Mr. Roman Mogilevsky, Executive Director, Center for Social and Economic Research (CASE), Kyrgyzstan

Discussion

12.30.–2.30 p.m. Lunch break

2.30–4 p.m.

Session III: Environment and migration (Plenary Hall)

Moderator: Ms. Katherine Brucker, Deputy Political Counsellor,
United States Mission to the OSCE

Rapporteur: Mr. Craig Weichel, Delegation of Canada to the OSCE

- Addressing root causes and the effects of environmental migration: natural disasters, desertification, man-made disasters and climate change and environmental refugees — recognition and action
Mr. Norman Myers, Fellow, Oxford University,
United Kingdom
- Case study Tajikistan: Human-provoked and natural disasters — one of the reasons causing migration
Mr. R. Latipov, Deputy Chairman of the State Committee on Environment and Forestry, Tajikistan
- Environmental impacts of displaced persons
Mr. David Stone, Director, Livelihood and Environmental Security Advisory Group (LIVES)

Discussion

Side event: Anti-trafficking programme (Mirror Hall)

Presentation of the status of the OCEEA Anti-Trafficking Programme on Public-Private Co-operation in the Prevention of Trafficking in Human Beings (ATP) and other OSCE anti-trafficking activities

Moderator: Ms. Helen Santiago Fink, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, OCEEA

Please find the Agenda in the Annex

4–4.30 p.m.

Coffee break

4.30–6 p.m.

Session IV: Providing services for migrants (Plenary Hall)

Moderator: Professor Rasto Ovin Professor, Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Business, University of Maribor, Slovenia

Rapporteur: Ms. Kimberly Bulkley, Economic and Environmental Officer, OSCE Centre in Tashkent

- Facilitating actions to establish information points for migrants in countries of destination
Ms. Susan Martin, Migration Expert, Georgetown University
Washington

- Assisting countries of origin to provide relevant information and training to potential migrants, and to create migrant information centres
Mr. Maurizio Busatti, Chief of Mission, International Organization for Migration, Tirana

Discussion

Thursday, 26 May 2005

9–10.30 a.m. Session V: Awareness raising and economic integration in countries of destination (Plenary Hall)

Moderator: Ms. Susan Martin, Migration Expert, Georgetown University Washington

Rapporteur: Mr. Danielius Pivoriunas, Economic and Environmental Adviser, OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina

- Supporting awareness raising actions regarding integration of migrants and non discrimination on the labour market, in national labour codes and regarding migrants' legal and social rights and obligations
Mr. Steve Arnott, Expert, Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, Directorate National Employment and Social Inclusion, Monitoring and European Social Fund Operations, European Commission
- Promoting ratification and implementation of international migration conventions and agreements on non discrimination
Mr. Martin Oelz, International Labour Standards Department, International Labour Office
- Transit migration — a challenge for migration management
Ms. Ann-Charlotte Nygard, Acting Director, Policy Development, International Centre for Migration Policy Development

Discussion

10.30–11 a.m. Coffee break

11 a.m.–12.30 p.m. Session VI: The informal sector (Plenary Hall)

Moderator: Ms. Michele Klein Solomon, Deputy Director, Migration Policy, Research and Communications Department, International Organization for Migration

Rapporteur: Mr. Johannes Schachinger, Delegation of the European Commission to the OSCE

- The significance of the informal sector in attracting illegal migration including trafficking in human beings — exchange of information, experience and best practice
Ms. Irina Ivakhniuk, Senior Researcher, Deputy Director of the Department of Population, Faculty of Economics, Moscow State University “Lomonosov”, Russian Federation
- The need for improving legal labour migration channels
Ms. Alenka Mesojedec-Pervinsek, Senior Policy Adviser, International Centre for Migration Policy Development
- Facilitating bilateral and regional agreements to manage labour migration
Ms. Michele Klein Solomon, Deputy Director, Migration Policy, Research and Communications Department, International Organization for Migration

Discussion

12.30–2.30 p.m.

Lunch break

2.30–4 p.m.

Session VII: Policies of integration of persons belonging to national minorities (Plenary Hall)

Moderator: Mr. John de Fonblanque, Director, Office of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities

Rapporteur: Mr. Vincent de Graaf, Legal Officer, Office of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities

- Inclusion and social cohesion
Mr. Nick Johnson, Director of Policy and Public Sector, Commission for Racial Equality, United Kingdom
- Non-discrimination and positive measures
Ms. Tove Malloy, Senior Research Associate, European Centre for Minority Issues, Flensburg, Germany
- Policies and ways of integration
Mr. Mitja Žagar, Director, Institute for Ethnic Studies, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Discussion

Side event: Presentation of the Labour Migration Project — Armenia: A practical example of OSCE field work in the field of labour migration (Mirror Hall)

Opening Remarks: Mr. Ashot Yesayan, First Deputy Minister, Ministry of Labour and Social Issues, Republic of Armenia

Project Introduction: Ms. Blanka Hancilova, Democratization Officer, OSCE Office in Yerevan

- Legislative Review: Ms. Hana Kabeleova, International Expert
- Results of a nation-wide representative household survey: Ms. Blanka Hancilova, Democratization Officer, OSCE Office in Yerevan
- Lessons learned and possible follow-up: Ms. Blanka Hancilova, Democratization Officer, OSCE Office in Yerevan

Discussion

4–4.30 p.m. Coffee break

4.30–6 p.m. Session VIII: Economic and social integration of persons belonging to national minorities (Plenary Hall)

Moderator: Ambassador Colin Munro, Delegation of the United Kingdom to the OSCE

Rapporteur: Ms. Bess Brown, Economic Officer, OSCE Centre in Dushanbe

- Ethnic diversity management and economic and social integration of persons belonging to national minorities based on the concept of integration respecting diversity
Mr. John de Fonblanque, Director, Office of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities
- Need for information and awareness raising to decrease negative stereotyping
Mr. Michael Guet, Head of the Roma and Travellers Division, Council of Europe
- Need for economic empowerment and integration
Mr. Karomatullo Olimov, State Counsellor of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan on social development and public relations

Discussion

6.30 p.m. Reception hosted by the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (Czernin Palace)

Friday, 27 May 2005

9–11 a.m. The OSCE as a platform for dialogue and co-operation (Plenary Hall)

Moderator: Ambassador Boris Frlec, Head of the OSCE Task Force, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia/OSCE Chairmanship

Rapporteur: Mr. Gabriel Leonte, Economic and Environmental Adviser, OCEEA

- Wrap-up — presentation of conclusions and policy recommendations
- The role of the OSCE in addressing issues related to demographic developments, migration and the integration of minorities
- Identification of areas for closer co-operation with other organizations and institutions on migration and integration issues

- Comments by experts
- Open discussion on presented recommendations and ways forward including development of OSCE Strategy/Action Plans on migration and integration issues

11–11.30 a.m.

Coffee break

11.30 a.m.–
12.30 p.m.

Closing plenary (open to the press) (Plenary Hall)

Closing remarks by the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, Mr. Marcin Świącicki

Concluding remarks by the Chairperson of the Economic Forum, Ambassador Boris Frlec, Head of the OSCE Task Force, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia/OSCE Chairmanship

Discussion

12.30 p.m.

Lunch

**SIDE EVENT — ANTI-TRAFFICKING PROGRAMME
(DRAFT AGENDA)**

**OCEEA Anti-Trafficking Programme on Public–Private Co-operation in
the Prevention of Trafficking in Human Beings (ATP)**

I. Opening remarks

Mr. Marcin Świącicki, Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

II. Overview of the ATP/Status of Implementation — Successes and Challenges

Ms. Helen Santiago Fink, Senior Economic Affairs Officer/ATP Programme Manager OSCE/OCEEA — Secretariat

III. Presentation by ATP Project Implementers (accomplishments and added-value)

— ATP Subprogramme I: Promoting self-regulation of the private sector implementation of the Code of Conduct for Prevention of Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation of Children in Tourism in Bulgaria

— Ms. Helen Santiago Fink, Senior Economic Affairs Officer/ATP Programme Manager OSCE/OCEEA — Secretariat

— ATP Subprogramme III: Creating economic empowerment opportunities

— International Business Leader Forum's Youth Career Initiative
Mr. Kurt Strohmayer, General Manager, JW Marriott Bucharest Grand Hotel

— Women entrepreneurial training and business competition
Mr. Robin Seaward, Deputy Head of Office, OSCE Office in Baku

Discussion/Questions and answers

IV. OSCE Co-operation in anti-trafficking activities: ATP Phase II

— New projects opportunities and funding needs

— Self-regulation of the Tourism Industry and Women's economic empowerment in Moldova
Ms. Antonia De Meo, Anti-Trafficking Officer, OSCE Mission to Moldova

Ms. Maria Antonia Di Maio, Italian Consortium of Solidarity (ICS)
Mr. Umberto Musumeci, Nuovi Equilibri

V. OSCE Anti-Trafficking priorities

- Ms. Anelise Gomes de Araujo, Adviser, OSCE Anti-Trafficking Assistance Unit (ATAU)
- Ms. Alina Brasoveanu, Anti-Trafficking Officer, ODIHR

Discussion/Questions and answers/Closing remarks

OPENING ADDRESS BY THE CHAIRMAN-IN-OFFICE

Thank you Mr. Chairperson,
Distinguished Commissioner Špidla,
Colleagues, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to warmly welcome all of you to the Thirteenth Meeting of the OSCE Economic Forum, devoted to the topics of demography, migration and integration of persons belonging to national minorities. I'm very pleased that this year's Senior Council meeting has attracted so many distinguished, high-level policy-makers from international organizations and national governments. Thank you for coming.

I would also like to express my thanks to our hosts, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic, headed by Mr. Cyril Svoboda, as well as the OSCE Office in Prague, for the excellent organization of this Forum.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The issues of demography, migration and integration of persons belonging to national minorities are tightly interwoven, and it is impossible to address one issue without addressing the others.

The OSCE Chairmanship has decided, together with all the participating States, to place the complex theme of "migration-integration" at the heart of the economic/environmental, human and politico-military dimensions as a priority of the OSCE in 2005.

Dear Colleagues,

The importance of demographic development, migration and integration of persons belonging to national minorities is growing. At this year's Forum, we will discuss, among others, population developments, the economic and environmental factors underlying migration, the informal sector and illegal migration, needs for improved information sharing and applied research, as well as awareness raising and the economic integration of migrants. We will also be discussing policies and positive practices for the economic and social integration of persons belonging to national minorities.

The demographic writing is on the wall, and it overturns all the conventional rules. Facing a reversal in its growth pattern, Europe's population will drop from nearly 730 million in 2005 to approximately 650 million in 2050. Meanwhile, in 2050, the world's population is expected to have risen to 9.1 billion people, up from 6.5 billion today. By mid-century populations in the developed countries as a whole are expected to remain unchanged, but they will age substantially. The proportion of elderly people, defined as those over the age of 60, will rise from the current one-fifth of the population to one-third by 2050. In contrast, the population of the 50 least developed countries in the world is projected to more than double owing to a young population age structure. However, not all of these countries will experience the same development pattern; some regions and countries might face depopulation due to ecological problems, famine and drought, economic depression, social instability, wars, epidemics or a specific combination of these factors.

Considering all the above, the OSCE faces many challenges. It could be tasked with facilitating modernization and sustainable development in less developed participating States, taking into account traditional lifestyles and the cultural wealth of individual regions. It could also co-ordinate efforts to assist the least developed participating States in developing and in improving their living conditions and economic opportunities. The OSCE could initiate concerted programmes and measures designed to change some traditional patterns of life that contribute to the unsustainable population explosion in certain environments and to offer people other options, particularly better economic, social and living conditions, education and mobility. These programmes and measures should also be observed in the context of more successful management of global migrations. An example is Serbia and Kosovo: There has been a brain-drain from Serbia, and a demographic explosion in Kosovo.

The OSCE also faces many challenges in the most developed OSCE participating States. Longevity in these countries is becoming the central most strategic issue of the twenty-first century, affecting every aspect of social and political life. That people are living longer is a human triumph. However, the rise in the number of older people, combined with the sharp decline in fertility rates among wealthier nations, requires radical changes in existing thinking and perceptions about our societies — including new approaches to social, health, pension, demographic and migration policies and systems. We can already see signs of economic instability in some OSCE participating States. Existing social, health-care and pension systems need to be reformed substantially. Perhaps the OSCE can help in efforts to design and implement sustainable social networks for the elderly and programmes for their full integration into society. This can also be done by creating opportunities for the full productive inclusion into the economic sphere of all elderly persons still willing and able to contribute actively. However, by now it has become evident that, regardless of all such efforts and programmes for the elderly, these societies will not be able to preserve their present levels of development and welfare without immigration from other, particularly less-developed, regions and participating States.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Migration is a complex and omnipresent phenomenon in the history of humankind, which is related and contributes to interdependence between peoples, civilizations and economies. The OSCE area and its bordering regions encompass both societies of origin, located largely at its borders, and the target societies for numerous migrants — economic and other, legal and illegal. We are confronted with phenomena such as forced migration and ethnic cleansing, resulting largely from war and its consequences, but also from ecological disasters.

Freedom of movement is a human right with strong economic, political and social implications. It is therefore essential that we identify these, so as to base our rules, policies and regulations on relevant facts, which will enable us to create effective institutions, stimulate economic development and, at the same time, preserve a healthy environment. By promoting the implementation of existing mutual agreements, encouraging the development of bilateral and regional agreements, and developing a common global strategy, we can boost the positive effects and reduce the negative consequences of migration.

Although often pushed by deficiencies in the home environment, migratory flows are predominantly driven by the migration policies of the countries of destination. Here we must

beware of the fact that migratory movements by definition entail a loss of human resources for typical countries of origin, while in countries of destination, they may give rise to political, economic or social tensions. On the other hand, the standard of living in many OSCE countries of destination would deteriorate significantly without a migrant inflow. So immigration is increasingly becoming an element of sustainable prosperity in countries of destination.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Managing migration requires activities in countries of origin and countries of destination. Activities in countries of origin should focus primarily on improving the population's social and economic conditions. At the same time, they should be directed towards providing relevant information to potential migrants on the reality in their countries of destination. It is evident that countries of origin themselves cannot address and resolve these issues alone and require the assistance of the international community and more developed countries.

Ideally, all migration should be legal from the viewpoint of human rights and the labour market. In order to achieve this and to maximize the economic advantages of migration, it is important to control and regulate migration when necessary. The basic principle to be followed here is the principle of immigrants' full and equal integration.

In many OSCE participating States, migration remains high on the political agenda. Although we all agree that it is a sensitive issue, it is a fact that contemporary immigration policies and regulations no longer correspond to today's realities. For some developed OSCE regions, immigration is welcome as a buffer against the threat of a fall in fertility rates. In recent decades, a typical stimulus for migratory flows in countries of destination has also been a growing need for labour with various skills to fill both public- and private-sector jobs. As immigration is not a sustainable solution to these problems, developed countries will have to combine their immigration policy with reforms of their pension systems and labour market regulation. Hundreds of thousands of illegal immigrants working in the informal sector represent just one more problem to be solved.

In times of economic recession, locals in developed countries often blame immigrants for unemployment and the difficulties in securing public housing. Immigration is by far the most pressing issue for the upcoming general elections in many established democracies. At times, an unnecessary atmosphere of intolerance is created. Promising "freedom from overcrowding", and "an end to economic migration", and making explicit appeals to anti-immigration sentiments, some political parties in some OSCE participating States are, unfortunately, intent on jumping on the anti-immigration bandwagon.

The attitude towards migrants is rather one of marginalization and exclusion than of inclusion and integration. That is why the OSCE should help facilitate the exploration, in participating States, of improved legal means of entry for migrants and more effective integration into the political, social and educational structures of the host societies. In this context, the OSCE can also help in the process of identifying good practices regarding migration systems and management.

I hope that the Forum will lead to a comprehensive identification of the OSCE's role as a policy participant in the field of economic and environmental migration. This could be

upgraded into an action plan/strategy as well as into the formulation of a statement of principles guiding the integration of persons belonging to national minorities. Furthermore, I expect that we will learn more about the most successful practices and policies for addressing the current demographic challenges, the migratory movements and the needs for integrating persons belonging to national minorities.

Dear Colleagues,

National governments are beginning not only to recognize the ever-increasing need to manage migrations and integrate immigrants, but also to ensure the adequate protection of persons belonging to minorities, in order to ensure peaceful co-existence, sustainable development and stability within individual societies, both in societies of origin and in target societies, and in the international community. It is absolutely essential that we strive for the full implementation of the OSCE standards related to the respect of fundamental freedoms and protection of human rights, including minority rights. Recognizing the need for integration of national minorities, but not necessarily assimilation into the cultural, social, political and economic fabric of society, is also important because it may reduce the risk of tension and dissatisfaction stemming from minority issues which have the potential to lead to violent conflicts.

As regards the protection and adequate integration of persons belonging to national minorities — “affirmative action towards immigrants/emigrants” — the protection and integration of migrants in the OSCE area should be further developed in such a way as to take into account their specific situations, needs and interests. For example, the disappearing borders in Europe have substantially reduced pressure on minorities.

The Chairmanship believes that the OSCE could serve as a forum for the participating States to expand the discussion to include economic and social aspects of integration. The Organization already has experience in facilitating economic integration through its development of small and medium-sized enterprises and economic empowerment work which also targets minorities and vulnerable population groups.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Taking into account the fact that a meaningful political process can only be launched through an informed and focused debate, the Chairmanship has striven to steer the cycle of this year’s three preparatory seminars towards constructive discussions. All this would not have been possible without the valuable contribution and expertise of the International Organization for Migration, the International Centre for Migration Policy Development and the OSCE Office of the High Commissioner on National Minorities, as well as all of the participants in the preparatory seminars; I would like to thank you all for your valuable support and tremendous contribution.

The outcome of the Economic Forum will serve as the platform for future action of the OSCE in selected thematic areas. In implementing many of the suggestions and recommendations resulting from our upcoming discussions, the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities will have to continue its close work with other OSCE institutions, especially the Office of the High Commissioner on National Minorities and the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights. Here I would also like to highlight the OSCE missions on the ground, which are crucial for the implementation

of the OSCE mandate. Most importantly, to provide for the implementation and effective practical results of our common endeavours, the OSCE's field capacities and institutional expertise must be suitably matched with fruitful and lasting co-operation with international actors endowed with substantial resources. Only in this way can we entertain real hope for our joint success in realizing common goals.

Thank you.

PRESENTATION OF THE 2004/2005 ACTIVITY REPORT BY THE CO-ORDINATOR OF OSCE ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES

Ladies and Gentlemen,
Excellencies,

I have the honour and the pleasure to present to you the latest annual report on OSCE activities in the economic and environmental dimension, which was distributed under the reference number EF.GAL/10/05.

Over the past year, there have been a number of developments in the economic and environmental sphere, and one could not fail to notice that the 55 participating States have gradually been enhancing the role of the second dimension.

The present report reflects the increasingly programmatic approach of the second dimension.

Co-operation with the UNECE

In the Strategy Document for the Economic and Environmental Dimension, which was adopted at the Ministerial Council in Maastricht in December 2003, the participating States tasked the OSCE Secretary General with concluding an arrangement with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) on closer co-operation between the two organizations.

Throughout 2004, the two Secretariats negotiated a memorandum of understanding that was signed at the Ministerial Council in Sofia in December 2004 by the Executive Secretary of the UNECE and the OSCE Secretary General.

As a first result of this co-operation, the current review session at this Forum on commitments assumed by the participating States within the economic and environmental dimension has been given a new format: it has been extended to an entire day and thus provides an opportunity to perform an in-depth review of the implementation of commitments within the selected cluster on integration, trade and transport.

In another area of close co-operation with the UNECE, developing an early warning mechanism for the economic and environmental dimension, the result achieved so far, after several workshops and video conferences, is a concept paper for a possible system, designed to call the attention of OSCE participating States to threats stemming from economic and environmental factors at an early stage, with suggestions for possible action.

12th Economic Forum

Last year's Economic Forum highlighted the importance of the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, foreign investment and human capital for the effective functioning of a market economy.

The Forum also emphasized the importance of public-private dialogue and of partnership with the business community for institutional and human capacity-building.

Based on the Forum's recommendations, building upon its previous involvement and expertise, and following the guidance received through the Economic and Environmental Sub-Committee, my Office identified a number of follow-up activities and tried to promote a more programmatic approach with regard to the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, foreign and domestic investment and human capacity-building.

We supported several field presences in organizing workshops on streamlining on small and medium-sized enterprises legislation and training devoted to the development of such enterprises. The concept of the OSCE guide on best conditions for enhancing the business and investment climate was developed; fund-raising was successfully concluded; and the next phase, of soliciting authors, was initiated.

Among other concrete activities, let me mention the Central Asia Applied Research Network, which was launched together with the OSCE Academy in Bishkek and the Eurasia Foundation. The Central Asia Applied Research Network brings the research needs of the private and public sectors to the economics curricula of universities in Central Asia.

Good governance

The Ministerial Council Meeting in Sofia in December 2004 adopted a decision on combating corruption which reiterated the importance of good governance and the fight against corruption.

Improvement of the management of public resources at the local level aimed at municipalities was implemented in Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina, and prepared in Azerbaijan.

Over the past few years, the OCEEA has developed a range of projects which address the issue. It focuses its attention on the promotion and implementation of international standards and conventions against corruption, the strengthening of public administration systems, etc.

Moreover, the Strategy Document calls for a continuation of activities aimed at developing, implementing and enforcing financial legislation and regulations on combating money laundering and the financing of terrorism. Towards this end, the OCEEA has formed partnerships with international organizations that are active in the fight against corruption, above all the Council of Europe, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). OSCE field presences are closely co-operating with the UNODC in promoting the ratification and early implementation of the UN Convention against Corruption signed in 2003.

Among the concrete results in the area of good governance is the OSCE Handbook on Best Practices in Combating Corruption, which was published in 2004 and has met with very strong demand from across the entire OSCE area.

The initial English and Russian editions were soon followed by Albanian, Serbian and Uzbek versions, with Georgian, Croatian and several other translations either already underway or under consideration, such as a Polish version. The Handbook has been widely distributed to government officials, NGOs, academics and the media and has been used in a number of workshops organized by OSCE field presences and other international organizations.

Also in the area of good governance, the OCEEA has intensified its co-operation with the UNODC by continuing to support participating States in their efforts to strengthen their ability to fight money laundering, and to prevent and suppress terrorist financing. Among the States in which the OCEEA organized workshops in 2004 and the first half of 2005 were Armenia, Georgia, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan.

Combating trafficking in human beings

My office has also continued to implement the Anti-Trafficking Programme presented to participating States and potential donors at last year's Economic Forum. The basis for this Programme was The OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings which was endorsed by Decision No. 2 of the Maastricht Ministerial Council meeting.

Following this guidance and in line with the recommendations stemming from the 11th OSCE Economic Forum on Trafficking, the OCEEA has launched a three-year Anti-Trafficking Programme on Public-Private Co-operation in the Prevention of Trafficking in Human Beings.

The objective of the Programme is to implement preventive measures that discourage demand and ameliorate conditions that make women and children particularly vulnerable to trafficking in human beings.

In this regard, the Programme strives to mobilize the private sector's contribution to combating trafficking by establishing private-public partnerships among the business community, NGOs and governments.

At present, eight project activities have been implemented in seven OSCE participating States.

The Programme places particular emphasis on mobilizing the private sector's participation in helping to combat trafficking. We have promoted the Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism among companies that operate in South-Eastern Europe.

My office has also launched pilot projects that aim at providing professional experience for vulnerable population groups in Ukraine (notably for orphans) and in Romania.

Youth Entrepreneurship Seminars (YES)

Traditionally, the YES Programme has been a training activity that targets young people aged 15 to 25 and provides them with the fundamental elements they need to start a business. The YES Programme aims not only to promote entrepreneurship among the young,

but also to stimulate youth participation in the political and economic reforms process in their countries.

Over the years, the YES training has evolved to become more targeted and to provide greater depth of coverage, so as to meet local needs for entrepreneurial education.

In addition, in some OSCE mission areas, business plan competitions have complemented the entrepreneurial trainings and additional advisory services have been offered for their preparation.

The OCEEA continues to support the replication of the entrepreneurial training programmes throughout the OSCE mission areas as an economic empowerment activity and as a means to cultivate private sector development in economies in transition.

Efforts are being made to incorporate entrepreneurship education into the local institutional structures in order to provide access to a broader segment of the local population.

Countries where the YES programme has been implemented include Albania, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Serbia and Montenegro and Uzbekistan.

ENVSEC

The Environment and Security Initiative (ENVSEC), launched in 2003, in co-operation with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), has advanced significantly in all three regions of activity: Central Asia, the Southern Caucasus and the Western Balkans.

In Central Asia, the first phase, aimed at identification of hot spots, has been concluded. The in-depth assessment of environment-related security issues in the Ferghana Valley in Central Asia resulted in the development of concrete follow-up activities addressing several environmental hot spots, such as uranium mining, waste disposal and sound management of small rivers.

In the Southern Caucasus, hot spots were identified and described, and inter-institutional co-operation was advanced.

In South-Eastern Europe, the work on specific hot spots has continued.

In the environmental area, besides the ongoing Environment and Security Initiative, the OCEEA has continued a number of water management projects as a follow-up to the 10th Economic Forum.

For example, the South Caucasus river monitoring project has entered its third year of implementation, while the Commission on the Rivers Chu and Tallas has finally been set up. Similar projects are being implemented with regard to the Sava and Dniestr Rivers.

These are examples of how the OSCE can play a role in building transboundary confidence and facilitating regional co-operation.

The OCEEA has also been very active in promoting environmental awareness, facilitating citizens' access to information about environmental matters and supporting their participation in environmental decision-making. Aarhus centres have opened in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan and more are planned in 2005 in Belarus, Kazakhstan and Georgia.

Conclusion

I do not intend to elaborate on the other regular activities of the OCEEA, with which most of you are familiar, such as organizing preparatory seminars and the annual Economic Forum under the leadership of the OSCE Chairmanship, supporting the Chairmanship in preparing meetings of the Economic and Environmental Subcommittee of the Permanent Council, and so on.

Altogether, more than 200 events, seminars, training courses, conferences and workshops on economic and environmental issues were organized by the OSCE field presences and/or the OCEEA between May 2004 and April 2005.

I believe that all of them contributed to an increased international dialogue, awareness-raising and institutional capacity-building on economic and environmental issues at the heart of the OSCE's second dimension.

Let me stop there and invite you all to enjoy your lunch, after which we will continue the review session.

After lunch we shall be going into more depth with regard to the various commitments in respect of trade, integration and transport. The afternoon session will start at 2.30 and I hope to see you there.

Thank you.

**PRESENTATION OF CONCLUSIONS AND POLICY
RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE SESSIONS BY THE
CHAIRPERSON OF THE THIRTEENTH MEETING
OF THE OSCE ECONOMIC FORUM**

OSCE as a platform for dialogue and co-operation

Dear Colleagues,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

After a whole week of stimulating discussions on the topic of demography, migration and integration of persons belonging to national minorities, let me present some of the main ideas, conclusions and policy recommendations of this year's Economic Forum. I would like to emphasize that they embrace a wide range of issues, many of them outside the scope of the OSCE framework and its mandate. On the other hand, the global approach followed by some presentations additionally helped us understand the overwhelming scope of these important and highly relevant issues.

Wrap-up presentation of conclusions and policy recommendations

In Session I — Population developments — it was emphasized that the Preparatory Seminars of the Thirteenth Meeting of the OSCE Economic Forum had contributed to a clearer picture of the demographic reality in the OSCE area and its neighbourhood, and to a better understanding of the OSCE's role in that context. That was recognized as an indispensable precondition for identifying the political priorities for addressing economic and security concerns at the national and international levels.

The results of a multi-year programme for the creation of a general model for the collection, application and sharing of migration-related data were presented. It was stated that improving governments' capacity to collect and apply data provided a better basis for realistic policy-making. In addition, dialogue and co-operation between the countries and experts participating in the programme needed to be promoted, and issues of common concern needed to be addressed. The scope of data-sharing mechanisms should be expanded, and a number of more highly elaborated indicators should be developed. Furthermore, it was suggested that the OSCE participating States take an active part in and support with resources the expansion of data-sharing mechanisms. The OSCE was encouraged to further facilitate relevant multinational programmes, seminars and training in order to support the above-mentioned objectives.

Demographic changes and trends in the context of demographic transitions in the twenty-first century were also elaborated on. The historical assumption that a decline in fertility would stop at the replacement level had not been confirmed in reality. Half of the current world population had fallen below replacement level and Europe had been the first continent to do so. That fact, in combination with higher life expectancy and the decline in the working population, had already had a negative social and economic impact on the whole OSCE area, with possible serious implications for stability and security.

It was therefore important to identify research priorities and determine institutional needs in the field of population development. There was an urgent need for comparative European demographic analysis that went beyond the already existing networking of national institutes. Thus, the establishment of a European population research centre with direct linkages to policy-making, which would conduct policy-relevant research and analysis to the highest standards, was proposed. The OSCE would be expected to make a political contribution to that objective by addressing the governments of the participating States accordingly.

The establishment of a specific forum to focus on demographic trends and population development, including migration, by transforming the existing Informal Working Group on Gender Equality and Anti-Trafficking and broadening its mandate, was proposed. The Working Group could in addition focus on promoting activities for increasing awareness relating to the challenges posed and responses required in the spheres of demography, migration and integration, promotion of standard-setting and gender equality as a prerequisite for sustainable family policy. It could furthermore provide best practices for combining maternity and family commitments with professional careers for women and men on an equal footing. In order to assist the Working Group with analytical studies and background materials and data, it was suggested that a special unit should be established within the Office of the Co-ordinator of Economic and Environmental Activities.

In the context of the discussion of the broad and complex field of migration, Session II dealt with issues relating to the improvement of economic prospects in countries of emigration. The session highlighted the complex interaction between migration and economic development. While improving economic opportunities in countries of origin should help reduce emigration pressures, migrants could also be a resource for economic, social and political progress through their remittances and their human capital. Capacity-building in education and research was mentioned as a task having high priority in the majority of the participating States in transition. New approaches to reducing negative impacts stemming from the "brain-drain" were also needed. Those efforts required broad support from the international community, including the OSCE. A possible niche for the OSCE in that process could lie in supporting some components of educational systems that were most relevant to the OSCE agenda, such as education for minorities, migrants and other vulnerable groups. Appropriate training programmes, especially for improving the employment capabilities of those population segments and promoting the circulation of migrants between countries of destination and countries of origin, should also be stimulated and assisted, especially through the exchange of information and experiences.

Microfinance lending and lending to small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) could be a strong driver of local economic growth. It would be worth addressing the specific problem of youth unemployment. One approach could be to design a programme combining microfinance loans and/or loans to SMEs with a connected grant programme to provide incentives for SME and micro entrepreneurs to hire and train younger workers.

Cross-border co-operation between countries at different levels of economic development was very important. It was also very important for more advanced countries to invest in their less developed neighbouring regions. That would create more sustainable overall economic growth and better solutions for different social problems, as well as contributing to the containment of irregular economic migration.

Session III dealt with issues of environment and migration. Apart from being caused by personal experience and expectations, migration was also pulled by opportunity and pushed by poverty, wars and natural and man-made disasters. Estimates showed that some 25 million people globally had been forced to abandon their homes, with little hope of returning, due to environmental degradation. For alleviating the situation, the importance of community involvement, public awareness and access to information in identifying environmental risks and potential solutions was highlighted.

It was pointed out that, only through consistent and co-ordinated action could more lasting security be ensured. The equivalent of the cost of 21 days of global expenditures in respect of military presence would be sufficient to solve the most pressing environmental problems and neutralize their negative consequences. When devising economic and social policies, an environmental perspective should be taken into account. Co-operation and co-ordination, both between and within States, could help avoid the unforeseen consequences of man-made and natural disasters that led to migration and displacement.

Participating States had a responsibility to ensure that rules were in place to protect the environment from unsustainable practices and that those rules were enforced. Environmental security was closely linked to human and economic security. An OSCE cross-dimensional perspective was important when considering cases of environmental migration and displacement.

The OSCE's mandate in enhancing environmental security was primarily political and could be fulfilled, *inter alia*, by encouraging implementation of existing conventions, securing political support from governments and citizens of affected countries, mobilizing and co-ordinating resources and helping to recognize the warning signals of environmentally induced population movements. OSCE field presences had an important role to play in implementing that mandate, including by developing, implementing and monitoring primarily small-scale and community-focused project activities.

The purpose of Session IV was to describe and develop ways and means for providing services for migrants. One of the focal issues addressed was how to develop policy recommendations based on best practices in providing services for migrants, as well as to suggest how the OSCE, the IOM and other partner organizations could facilitate international co-operation and networking in the field and adopt and implement them in the OSCE region, as appropriate.

Migrants often based their decisions to migrate on poor or inaccurate information. Countries of origin and of destination faced many challenges in providing good migrant services, such as the lack of information technology facilities and the lack of knowledge on the part of migrants as to how to conduct proper research about their destination country. Further challenges were posed by the widespread belief among migrants that information about immigration to a country of destination was "classified" information that countries of destination did not wish to share. Migrants often tended to believe that countries of destination were reluctant to provide information to countries of origin.

The primary goal of migrant services should therefore be to provide accurate information about destination countries and to assist migrants in language, cultural adaptation and vocational training for skills in demand in the destination country. International organizations could help to provide such services and to build the capacity of government

structures so that they could eventually assume the function of providing services such as research, collection and dissemination of information, counselling and training. However, it was equally important that the information on employment opportunities in countries of origin be provided to those who were considering returning home. To enable potential migrants to take an informed decision, information on the risks and consequences of irregular migration should be available.

However, services for migrants should be directed not only at migrants, but also at communities affected by migration. In that context, public-private partnerships, the government and civil society could play a very effective role in providing migrant services. In that sense, migrant services should be of several types: pre-arrival, taking the form mainly of the provision of relevant information for migrants; post-arrival, providing information and services relating to housing, rights and responsibilities, medical services, education and so on; and then translation and interpretation services, and measures to reduce community tensions and xenophobic reactions so as to help communities affected by migrants, including information on the number and the characteristics of migrants.

The OSCE should identify best practices in migrant/immigrant services in the context of the OSCE participating States' needs. Such practices would be identified by determining how different ones enabled migrants to integrate into society and increased migrants' positive impact on communities of destination.

Countries of origin and countries of destination should collaborate to provide a one-stop information source to enable migrants to obtain pre-arrival and post-arrival information on their rights and responsibilities.

Awareness-raising about migration should take place through a combination of governmental and international organizations, and civil society and private sector groups such as business, ethnic, and religious organizations, but, most importantly, the message must be spread using migrant networks, because migrants were more likely to believe the information being channelled through such sources than they were that which came directly from the government or international organizations.

Building on the OSCE/IOM pilot initiatives, further projects could render assistance to countries of origin in establishing migrant services and migrant information service centres and provide training to national specialists and government officials dealing with migration issues. Apart from that, the OSCE could support regional dialogue on migration issues.

OSCE participating States should support an Internet-based information platform linking migrant groups in countries of origin and countries of destination, while the OSCE could serve as a clearing house for information on how national migrant service programmes could be improved.

Session V was devoted to awareness-raising and economic integration in countries of destination. The full economic integration of migrants benefit both the migrants and their host communities. Migrants often faced difficulties in finding employment owing to lack of skills, limited host country language fluency and conditions in the labour market. Programmes designed to overcome such barriers were needed in order to ensure the economic participation of migrants. Respect for the legal rights of migrants as enshrined in international

and national law would also help improve the economic integration of migrants. Integration of migrants was, however, complicated by high rates of irregular migration.

According to the estimates presented, there were as many as 6.4 million irregular migrants in Europe. Empirical evidence showed that, in some cases, when legal migration channels were opened up, irregular migration flows might also increase if steps were not taken to curb them. Further development of meaningful and comprehensive migration policies and migration management could lead to sustainable solutions for both countries of origin and countries of destination. In order to develop such policies, there was also a need for government-driven, formal and informal migration dialogue.

It was stressed that the OSCE could help to increase the positive impact of migration by seeking synergies through regional inter-governmental dialogue on migration issues. In co-operation with other relevant organizations, the OSCE should seek to provide assistance in developing and improving national policy frameworks and legislation, and to implement integration and anti-discrimination programmes in participating States.

In co-operation with relevant international organizations, the OSCE could furthermore promote the implementation of relevant international conventions and agreements to protect the rights of migrants and to facilitate the comprehensive integration of migrants in countries of destination. In addition, the OSCE could assist participating States in implementing national and international laws in a coherent and integrated way, bringing social dialogue and policies into play. One of the key actions in that respect could also be to develop programmes to mitigate migration pressures and the brain-drain by raising awareness and providing economic opportunities at home.

The significance of the informal sector was discussed in Session VI. It was pointed out that there was a two-way connection between the informal sector and irregular migration. The informal sector attracted irregular migrants both for employment and for illegal activities such as trafficking and smuggling. In that respect, the OSCE could take an active role with other international organizations, and thus could contribute to a reduction in all forms of exploitation. In the other direction, irregular migration fueled the development of the informal sector. The informal sector and the irregular migration linked to it had a direct impact on security and stability as well as on human rights and economic development. That made them relevant for the OSCE, which had an important role to play as a forum for dialogue and exchange of information.

Minimizing the negative consequences of the informal sector and irregular migration was a matter of governance and, therefore, had a relevance to the commitments of governments to comply with their obligations as enshrined in international law. In order to encourage regular migration, discourage irregular migration and promote sustainable economic development, effective policies in the economic and migration spheres needed to be developed and implemented, both in countries of origin and in those of destination.

The OSCE could usefully help to raise awareness of the benefits of regular migration, the risks of irregular migration and opportunities for forging bilateral, regional and other agreements in order to alleviate the negative impact of irregular migration linked to the informal sector.

Session VII covered policies of integration of persons belonging to national minorities. Modern societies, including the societies of the participating States of the OSCE, had always been and still were internally diverse. Diversity was constantly increasing due to migration and the globalization process. For that reason, diversity needed not only to be acknowledged, but also to be managed to ensure stability and peace in multi-ethnic and multicultural societies.

The best way to manage diversity was through “integration respecting diversity”. That concept was based on the full and equal participation in all sectors of society of all persons, including those belonging to national minorities. Such integration should respect human rights and fundamental freedoms, among them the right of persons belonging to national minorities to maintain their own identity and culture. That integration was in the interest not only of persons belonging to national minorities, but also in that of society as a whole. It reduced risks of conflicts and increased the possibilities for economic and social development. Integration respecting diversity is a two-way process. It required the active participation of all relevant actors, such as the State, institutions, civil society and individuals, including persons belonging to minorities. The essential components of active participation were political, cultural and economic participation. Education and the media, as well as science and research, also played particularly important roles in striving for the inclusion, integration and participation of persons belonging to national minorities.

The principle of non-discrimination was the starting point for a legal framework, standards and policy instruments of integration respecting diversity. That principle had evolved from one that contemplated strictly formal equality into one that sought to promote substantive equality. It was not only about the right to participate, but also about the opportunity to participate. To achieve that, special measures might be needed, for example, in employment or education policies. Such measures needed to be tailor-made, especially when they were intended to stimulate the integration of marginalized minorities. However, special measures should be temporary and should not result in reverse discrimination.

Another useful policy instrument was the impact assessment of all existing and new governmental policies, from the point of view of persons belonging to national minorities. Consultation with representatives of those groups was essential. All policies and measures should seek to promote the integration of persons belonging to national minorities and persons who were potentially excluded, including economically and socially deprived persons, in many cases migrants.

It was suggested that the OSCE draft and adopt a statement of principles for integration respecting diversity. Focusing on persons belonging to national minorities, it might have a wider application in the OSCE participating States. Such a set of principles should be based on existing OSCE and other international standards. It should also take into account positive practices in the participating States and include all key elements of the integration process.

Session VIII, economic and social integration of persons belonging to national minorities, built upon the discussions in the previous session, focusing on some specific dimensions of integration. In that context, it was concluded that marginalization, poverty and lack of access to education and economic opportunity were dangerous. They could potentially even result in social and economic instability and unrest. In view of the living conditions and

the marginalization of the Roma and Sinti, policies and measures for the improvement of their situation and for their equal integration deserved to receive more attention.

With respect to inclusion and integration, it should be stressed that the problem exceeded the bounds of the mandate of the High Commissioner on National Minorities. In addition to persons belonging to national minorities, other individuals, such as migrants, new minorities and others, could be deprived of privileges, excluded or discriminated against.

Whether or not a specific, distinct community was recognized as a national minority, the existing international standards regarding the protection of persons belonging to national minorities should be applied. Furthermore, it was stated that the principles of integration of persons belonging to national minorities could be universally relevant.

Activities, programmes and measures should focus on training, capacity-building and other empowerment activities. They should be targeted at, and adjusted to, the specific needs of individual minorities. Simultaneously, they should lead to the mainstreaming and full integration of minorities in the regions where they lived. In that context, the initiative for drafting and adopting a set of principles on integration was supported.

One delegation insisted/requested that the OSCE should consider developing measures that could help to ensure the legitimate rights of persons belonging to national minorities in Latvia and Estonia.

On the margins of this year's Economic Forum, four side events were organized:

The side event with the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation was organized for the second consecutive year. The event was aimed at discussing migration and the economic development of the sending countries.

It was stated that migration had a strong impact on the security, stability and development of the South Mediterranean region. An in-depth discussion of the issue would take place at the next Mediterranean Seminar, to be held in Rabat, Morocco, in September 2005, and was expected to lead to concrete recommendations. Although a positive dialogue had been established between the northern and the southern shores of the Mediterranean, what was necessary was to focus on the economic and human aspects of migration. The OSCE had an important role to play in that respect. The need to stimulate reinvestment of remittances in the countries of origin was noted, since remittances were frequently much higher than the amount of foreign aid and foreign direct investment in sending countries.

The side event on implementing the Roma and Sinti Action Plan focused on increasing the access of the Roma to employment and their inclusion in sustainable economic development. The need for improved dialogue and co-operation of all relevant actors at the national and international levels was stressed. When developing common policies and strategy, those actors must facilitate joint planning and programmes for taking advantage of synergies.

The national action plans were mentioned as a vehicle for improving the situation of the Roma and Sinti. They should address the issues of education and training, employment and economic initiative, health and housing, information and communication, and the

adoption of legislation to combat discrimination. The central goal should be the inclusion and integration of the Roma and Sinti in all spheres of life – economic, political, cultural and social. In that respect, their participation in mainstream political parties should also be facilitated.

Furthermore, the participating States should keep their commitments and increase their efforts to implement the OSCE Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti within the OSCE area. The ODIHR and OCEEA should enhance their activities aimed at strengthening the organizational capacity of Roma and Sinti associations so as to make them effective partners for implementing Roma-related policies. It was recommended to OSCE institutions to consider the possibility of establishing a fund for sustainable development of local Roma communities.

During the discussion at the side event on the OCEEA Anti-Trafficking Programme on Public-Private Co-operation in the Prevention of Trafficking in Human Beings, it was noted that greater emphasis needed to be placed on economic empowerment activities aimed at income generation and job creation in countries of origin in order to help stem economic migration, alleviate poverty and help break the cycle of trafficking in human beings. The OSCE could engage development organizations and international financial organizations, such as the World Bank, in programmatic discussions on targeting economic development programmes for vulnerable/at-risk groups and marginalized regions.

Changes in patterns and routes of trafficking called for a more intensified multi-sectoral approach, involving government, civil society and the private sector/business community in co-operative efforts to combat trafficking in human beings.

A greater political and resource commitment was needed to address the demand side of trafficking, both within and outside of OSCE regions.

At the last side event, a presentation of the labour migration project in Armenia was given. The project it represented a practical example of OSCE field work in the sphere of labour migration.

The project comprised two parts: a review of legislation on migration and the administrative framework; and the nation-wide representative sociological survey of households. Those elements constituted a starting point for policy formulation on labour migration.

The role of the OSCE in addressing issues related to demographic development, migration and integration of persons belonging to national minorities

Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me present the view of the OSCE Chairmanship regarding the role of the OSCE in addressing issues related to demographic development, migration and the integration of persons belonging to national minorities. Several of the ideas expressed during the preparatory process and at the Economic Forum itself are good and deserve proper consideration; some are too ambitious and do not take into the account the nature of our

Organization. Nevertheless, we should focus on those that are, in our view, feasible and realistic.

Our ambition is to prepare an action plan or strategy for managing migration issues for adoption at the Ministerial Council meeting in Ljubljana in December 2005.

In our view, our next priority should be to formulate a statement of principles to guide the integration of persons belonging to national minorities, for endorsement in Ljubljana.

The OSCE should continue to serve as a forum for discussion on the issues of migration and the economic and social aspects of integration of persons belonging to national minorities. In this connection, we extend our full support to the organization of the regional conference/workshop on migration in the CIS region.

Furthermore, we would like to express our support for the idea of preparing a handbook on managing migration.

The OSCE should, in our view, contribute to awareness-raising regarding migration, including environmentally-induced migration.

Building on the OSCE/IOM pilot initiatives, further projects could be developed to offer assistance to countries of origin in establishing migrant services and migrant information service centres and to provide training to national specialists and government officials dealing with migration issues.

The establishment of an advisory group to the OCEEA on demography, migration and integration issues, consisting of experts from partner organizations and academia, may also be suggested.

We welcome the proposal that a specific forum to focus on demographic trends and population development including migration should be established by broadening the mandate of the existing Informal Working Group on Gender Equality and Anti-Trafficking.

Taking into account the lively and comprehensive discussions at this Forum, we sincerely hope that these recommendations will enjoy the broad-based support of the participating States.

Identification of areas for closer co-operation with other organizations and institutions on migration and integration issues

In the view of the OSCE Slovenian Chairmanship, there is a need to reinforce the co-operation with other international and regional organizations in carrying out the recommendations of the 13th OSCE Economic Forum, particularly with the International Organization for Migration, the International Centre for Migration Policy Development, the Council of Europe, the European Union, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

In this respect, let me welcome the recent adoption of the Declaration on Council of Europe-OSCE Co-operation and the signing of the joint statement by both chairpersons

during the Third Council of Europe Summit in Warsaw. One of the priority areas of this co-operation is the protection of persons belonging to national minorities.

The OSCE should take the initiative to co-ordinate diverse activities and programmes for supporting economic development, awareness-raising and the provision of information to potential migrants in which numerous national and international actors are involved. Here, the role of the OSCE field presences should be especially mentioned.

In the course of preparations for the Forum, the OSCE has established good collaboration with the International Organization for Migration, the International Centre for Migration Policy Development, the Council of Europe, the Office of the High Commissioner on National Minorities and international experts. This provides a viable basis for future joint follow-up activities in selected thematic areas. Co-operation and co-ordination in collecting, selecting and analyzing data on demography, migration and minorities; development of adequate methodologies; and development of joint research projects could be listed as examples. Such co-operation is especially important, as it can provide the basis for the development of adequate policies and action plans.

Knowledge and understanding of diversity are important foundations for tolerance, coexistence and co-operation, stability and well-being in diverse, multi-ethnic and multicultural societies in the OSCE participating States. Awareness-raising activities and programmes are central tools in this context. Their success calls for the permanent, active participation of educational institutions and the media. The co-operation of all relevant international and national actors, including civil society, with businesses and enterprises, is also needed. The OSCE could initiate the co-operation of international organizations, such as the Council of Europe and diverse specialized UN agencies, in the development of networks and programmes that can contribute to this end. By establishing partnerships with national and sub-national actors, the OSCE field presences could play a central role, especially in indicating specific needs.

In saying this, let me, Ladies and Gentlemen, conclude the wrap-up presentation of conclusions and policy recommendations. I believe that there is enough room and opportunity for targeted OSCE action. With this, I invite you all to comment on the recommendations presented, in an open discussion.

Thank you.



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Economic Forum (Senior Council)**

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Annex

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**CONCLUDING REMARKS
BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE ECONOMIC FORUM**

Dear Colleagues, Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Slovenian Chairmanship acknowledges with deep satisfaction the words of praise expressed to it for putting the issues of demography, migration and integration on the agenda of this year's Economic Forum, which has brought together over 450 participants, including representatives of the OSCE participating States, Partners for Co-operation and Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation, the OSCE Secretariat and field presences, international organizations and non-governmental organizations, as well as academics and representatives of the business community. There was a common understanding that this topic had proved to be one of the central issues of concern to the OSCE participating States. The topics of demography, migration and integration continue to be among the most important challenges confronting the OSCE participating States. As we have learned during these five days, they will attain even greater relevance in the years to come. If not properly addressed, the problems of migration and integration of migrants could lead to serious threats to security and stability within the OSCE area and its neighbourhood. The topics selected are by their nature cross-dimensional and require concerted action.

The Chairmanship has striven to lead the cycle of this year's preparatory seminars and the Economic Forum itself towards meaningful discussion, and feasible suggestions and recommendations. In order not to lose momentum, adequate follow-up initiatives in full compliance with the OSCE's political mandate need to follow the discussions, findings and recommendations of the Thirteenth Economic Forum. We are confident that these will represent a useful platform for many feasible follow-up activities of the OSCE. In its efforts directed towards the implementation of the various tasks stemming from the recommendations of this Forum, the OSCE should further enhance co-operation with its institutions and other international agencies.

The role of field presences and, in particular, the economic and environmental officers, is of utmost importance in the implementation of OSCE activities. In order to provide for effective implementation and practical results, the OSCE's capacity and institutional expertise should be effectively linked with those of other key international players in these fields.

We are glad to note that the Chairmanship's view on the role of the OSCE in addressing the issues of demographic development, migration and integration of minorities was widely supported. This has additionally encouraged the Chairmanship and the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities to further elaborate concrete steps necessary for the realization of the ideas presented. We are looking forward to co-operating closely in that respect with experts from the OSCE institutions and leading international agencies. We have been encouraged by the support expressed by some delegations regarding the idea of preparing an action plan or strategy for managing migration issues and formulating a statement of principles to guide the integration of persons belonging to national minorities, to be proposed for consideration as possible deliverables for the Ministerial Council meeting in Ljubljana in December 2005.

It is the view of the Chairmanship that the review of the implementation of OSCE commitments in the economic and environmental dimension is an important integral part of the Economic Forum. We would like to thank the UN Economic Commission for Europe for providing us with an excellent report on the implementation of OSCE commitments in the area of integration, trade and transport, and for the interesting presentations delivered to the Forum. We appreciate the support for the new format of the review session. We share the view that the application of this format represents a step forward in the implementation of the Maastricht Strategy Document for the Economic and Environmental Dimension. In our view, the Memorandum of Understanding between the OSCE and the UNECE has already contributed to closer co-operation and should be further enhanced.

We were happy to note that several delegations expressed their support for the deliberations of the incoming Chairmanship regarding the proposed topic for the OSCE Economic Forum in 2006. It is the understanding of the Chair that there is wide support, even consensus, regarding the theme proposed by the incoming Belgian Chairmanship for the Fourteenth OSCE Economic Forum, namely, "Transportation in the OSCE area: Development of transport to enhance regional co-operation and stability, and a secure and safe transport network". A final decision on the theme and its modalities will be taken by the Permanent Council in the coming weeks. This decision should also make it possible to address innovative ways and means to further improve quality and effectiveness of the proceedings in the economic and environmental dimension. We wish the incoming Belgian Chairmanship every success in the preparations for a new series of events.

Before concluding, let me express my sincere appreciation to our traditional host, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic. I am especially thankful to the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, Dr. Marcin Swiecicki, and his team, and particularly Mr. Gabriel Leonte and Ms. Andrea Gredler, for their immense contribution and the valuable assistance they provided to the Slovenian Chairmanship in the course of the preparatory cycle for the Economic Forum 2005. Since this is the final Economic Forum with the current Co-ordinator, I commend him for his personal contribution to the enhancement and promotion of the economic and environmental dimension and wish him all the best in his future assignments.

I would also like to thank the OSCE Conference Services and the team of the OSCE Prague Office for their excellent organization of this important gathering. Our special thanks go to the Office of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities, the International Organization for Migration, the International Centre for Migration Policy Development and all the other experts and scholars, and not least to the team of Slovenian scholars, whose

expertise proved to be indispensable. Furthermore, I would like to extend my thanks to the panellists, moderators, rapporteurs and interpreters for engaging us in most stimulating discussions. Our sincere thanks also go to all of you, the active participants in events under the umbrella of this year's Economic Forum. You have all contributed to the success of this event.

Thank you.

CLOSING REMARKS BY THE CO-ORDINATOR OF OSCE ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES

Distinguished Chairperson,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

After five days of deliberations the time has now come to draw the conclusions of this year's 13th OSCE Economic Forum. Following the wrap-up session this morning, I do not intend to summarize once more all the issues presented to us. Allow me rather to make some personal observations on the discussions we had this week in the review session and the sessions dedicated to the main theme of the Forum, as well as at the side events.

Let me first refer to the review session.

The effective implementation of OSCE commitments in the economic and environmental dimension, as stipulated in the key OSCE documents, in particular the Strategy Document for the Economic and Environmental Dimension, is of utmost importance. As you know, last year in Sofia the OSCE and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) concluded an agreement which put our already fruitful co-operation with the UNECE on a firmer foundation. I am grateful to the UNECE for its professional contribution to the review of the implementation of OSCE commitments. I also want to thank the participating States that contributed to this analysis and answered the questionnaire.

This year, the review focused on integration, trade and transport. For the first time, the review session lasted one full day. I think we are moving in the right direction since we had a chance to take an in-depth look at the review topics. Perhaps one deficiency has been that we identified many problems, but not much discussion was focused on the follow-up, on possible solutions. I hope that the review session helped participating States to identify some problems and that the comparison to other States and to international standards will facilitate the effort to find remedies and improvements.

The session on transport proved that this is a relevant issue for the OSCE and that it would be a good idea to hold the next Economic Forum on this topic.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The presence and contribution of an European Union commissioner and other leaders from international organizations, such as the International Organization for Migration, and the academic community proved that this year's theme of the Economic Forum is at the forefront of challenges faced by the international community.

I do not intend to dwell at length now on the conclusions and recommendations related to the main theme of the Forum. They were thoroughly summarized by the Chairperson of the Economic Forum, Ambassador Boris Frlec, in the morning session.

Numerous proposals, ideas and recommendations have emerged as a result of our deliberations. Together with the Chairmanship, my office will carefully analyse all of them

and will in due course submit, follow-up proposals on activities to be pursued by the OSCE and its participating States. I am looking forward to discussing these proposals in the Economic and Environmental Subcommittee as well as in the Permanent Council. I am confident that we will agree on useful follow-up activities.

Let me now share some personal observations.

Speaking about migration, we should never forget that national governments and international organizations should first of all ensure labour opportunities in the native countries of potential migrants.

During the Economic Forum, we learned how diverse and innovative policy solutions are explored by participating States faced with mounting migratory pressures. The exchange of information on successful and effective practices is of key importance. I have asked delegations to submit such contributions to my office with a view to producing a handbook on effective practices in the area of labour migration in the OSCE area. Here the OSCE may take a leading role in facilitating the production of such a handbook, in co-operation with expert organizations. To ensure its relevance the handbook would be developed through a consultative process involving the participating States and other relevant actors, and taking into account the global Berne Initiative, so as to avoid duplication.

So far we have received fewer than ten such contributions, and I would therefore invite participating States to provide us with more of their experience and policies.

In formulating the agendas for possible regional migration workshops, the OSCE should build upon priorities identified in informal inter-governmental dialogues on the development of comprehensive national migration systems tackling both labour migration issues and the prevention and control of irregular migration.

Before joining the OSCE, I was engaged in politics and I might eventually return to politics. There is one thing that I learned during that time, namely, that the best ideas and instruments will not find their way into practice unless public support is ensured. In order to ensure such support for adequate migration policies and effective integration policies, we must work on public awareness. There is still a strongly negative perception of migrants in destination countries. I am happy to hear that the European Commission is already working on this with journalists to clarify relevant issues and with minority NGOs to help them communicate through the media.

We have to see whether and how the OSCE can contribute to awareness-raising and also how research can be stimulated in this area. We need to know and communicate to the public the costs and benefits of migration for source and destination countries. We also have to understand the consequences for illicit migration of opening legal migration channels.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Time and again, bureaucratic red tape is emerging as a reason for irregular migration and employment. Does it really make sense to require foreign employees to go back to their home country in order to apply for visa extensions and job permits if they already have a job and the employer is willing to extend the work contract? In particular, small employers are burdened by these bureaucratic procedures and such problems foster illegal employment. We

can encourage co-operation with chambers of commerce to streamline procedures in this regard.

Field presences

Our field presences are crucial for the implementation of the OSCE mandate in the economic and environmental dimension. The side event on the labour migration project in Armenia highlighted the role the OSCE field presences can play. There are also other telling examples such as the information centre for migrants in Tajikistan, established in co-operation with the IOM and the support provided in Uzbekistan to the working group on migration. We should build upon these experiences.

Environment

Field presences will also be our main asset when addressing the root causes of environmentally induced migration. Equally, the ongoing ENVSEC initiative may serve as a basis for the identification of potential areas where environmental issues may increase migratory pressure. But more important than improvement of local sustainability, is the provision of assistance to the people who have already been forced to leave their homes because of natural or man-made disasters.

Roma and Sinti

For the second consecutive year, the OCEEA in co-operation with the ODHIR Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues organized a side event dedicated to Roma and Sinti issues within the framework of the Economic Forum. The situation of Roma and Sinti in many countries is in my opinion very worrisome. Not only are they still excluded from societies, but despite numerous symposiums and conferences, deliberations, action plans, declarations etc., action at the ground level is still inadequate to address the problems. Perhaps we should monitor more closely the implementation by participating States of the OSCE Action Plan on the Roma and Sinti. OSCE institutions and my Office can also do more, provided that funding is made available for this purpose.

ATP

One side meeting highlighted the accomplishments during its first year of the Anti-Trafficking Programme (ATP) developed by my Office. Specific commitments by the private sector on self-regulation were presented. The activities of Phase II of the ATP will place greater emphasis on income generation and job creation in countries of origin. It is clear that additional extra budgetary funding is needed to continue project implementation.

In an interesting development, Japan has announced the commitment by its tourism industry to the adoption of the Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism.

Mediterranean Seminar

At the Mediterranean side event, interesting links were identified between a topic of the review session — trade — and the main topic of the Forum — migration. Our Mediterranean partners have good natural conditions and an abundance of labour to cultivate

tasty tomatoes, for example. However, the EU is still maintaining high barriers to agricultural imports. In the absence of free markets, farmers are abandoning their plantations and are themselves headings towards Europe. This is one more argument for eliminating agricultural import barriers in order to reap the benefits of globalization and free trade in this sector.

The consolidated summary of the 13th OSCE Economic Forum will soon be made available to delegations in Vienna as well as to participants. It will also be available on our website at www.osce.org/eea and we will produce a CD-ROM.

Mr. Chairperson,

Before concluding these remarks, I would like to thank you personally, as well as your team, and in particular Ms. Blažka Kepic, Mr. Robert Kokail and the three professors from Slovenia, for your excellent co-operation in the preparation of this Forum. In addition I would like to thank you all — delegations, government representatives, international organizations, NGOs, experts, academics, business representatives, representatives of other OSCE institutions and field presences — for your valuable contribution. I would especially like to thank our moderators, rapporteurs and lead speakers for engaging all of us in most stimulating discussions.

I am especially thankful to the dedicated team of my office — Andrea, Helen, Kilian, Gabi, Nina, Raul, Annica, Mylène, Petra and Philip — to whom a great deal of the success of this Forum has to be attributed. I would also like to thank the OSCE Conference Services and our technical team from Vienna, and furthermore Ambassador Jaromir Kvapil, Head of our OSCE Prague Office, his assistant Iveta Džuriková and their dedicated team. And last, but not least, I would like to thank our interpreters for their excellent work.

Mr. Chairperson, Ladies and Gentlemen, it was an honour and a great pleasure to be with all of you this year, and I would also like to thank all of you who attended previous fora.

I would like to say that I enjoyed thinking and working with you in this wonderful city.

Thank you and I wish all of you a safe journey home.

**DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS, MIGRATION AND INTEGRATING
PERSONS BELONGING TO NATIONAL MINORITIES:
ENSURING SECURITY AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT IN THE OSCE AREA**

24 May 2005

Report of the Rapporteur

Agenda item 2: Review of the implementation of commitments in the OSCE economic and environmental dimension:

- (a) Presentation of the report by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe on the implementation of OSCE commitments, focusing on “Integration, Trade and Transport”**
 - (b) Keynote addresses and discussion**
-

Mr. Abdur Chowdhury, Director, Economic Analysis Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) presented the UNECE report on the implementation of OSCE commitments in the area of integration, trade and transport. He concluded that the absence of violent conflict was a precondition for integration. He said that poverty could only be reduced if governments followed sound fiscal and monetary policies, created a climate of predictability which was governed by the rule of law, secured private property rights and created an adequate institutional framework. Good governance and poverty reduction had a positive impact on security.

Ms. Vanessa Mitchell-Thomson, Principal Economist at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, supported those findings by presenting transition indicators. Whereas many countries in transition in the OSCE area had successfully implemented reforms in small-scale privatization and trade and price liberalization, many of them had found reforms in the fields of infrastructure and regulation much more difficult to complete. Especially in respect of electricity, railroad transport and telecommunications, there was a need to increase private sector participation, to boost competition and to establish a sound regulatory framework. She noted that geographic constraints, border controls, imperfect regulatory policies and weak institutions were hampering economic progress, especially in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

Ms. Gina Volynsky, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Regional Centre in Bratislava, argued that the cause-effect relationship between the degree of openness of an economy and its prosperity was unclear. She urged wealthy countries to open their markets even more for developing countries and to reduce non-tariff barriers. She said that the benefits of market liberalization in economies in transition or developing economies might be distributed unevenly between the different strata of society. Wealthy countries should provide technical assistance to countries in transition or developing countries in order to prepare them adequately for WTO accession negotiations.

Mr. Michael Harms, German Committee on Eastern European Economic Relations, stressed the importance of good governance and emphasized the need for a reliable and predictable environment which provided planning security for foreign investors. In order to address insufficient market size, small countries should pursue policies of integration. A good transport network, reliable energy supply, good telecommunications, the qualifications of the workforce, but also the image of a country were important factors determining investment decisions.

In his presentation of the answers to the questionnaire which had been sent out to participating States, the Co-ordinator for OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, Mr. Marcin Świącicki, concluded that his findings supported the analysis of the UNECE and the EBRD. He called on wealthy States to support countries in transition in their preparations for WTO accession. In the field of foreign direct investment, economies in transition had to intensify their efforts to improve the investment climate, to streamline procedures and to improve the protection of property rights. Economies in transition often suffered from non-tariff barriers, lack of information and visa requirements. Some countries which faced an accumulation of different barriers needed special assistance.

In the discussion, many delegations expressed support for the new format of the review of implementation of commitments. In that context, they welcomed the Memorandum of Understanding concluded between the OSCE and the UNECE and called on the two organizations to continue enhancing their co-operation. Several delegations also encouraged the OSCE to intensify its co-operation with other international organizations, development banks and international financial institutions.

Delegations agreed that integration was conducive to security. Therefore, both integration into the global economy and regional approaches should be welcomed.

One delegation reported on the results of the recent EU/Russia Summit and welcomed the efforts to build a common economic space. It emphasized that new dividing lines in Europe had to be avoided. Echoing that view, another delegation welcomed the EU enlargement process and the New Neighbourhood Policy, but at the same time pointed out that the EU, in co-operation with the concerned countries, should make every effort to prevent or alleviate negative consequences.

One delegate reported on related discussions in the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and underlined the important role of parliamentarians in creating conditions conducive to economic development. He provided information about the Fourth Sub-regional Conference of the Parliamentary Assembly on the High North: Environment, Security and Cooperation, which had recently been held in Tromsø, Norway.

Several delegations underlined the important role of WTO membership for the integration of their country into the global economy. For countries in transition, a rapid accession to the WTO could also pose some risks. A thorough preparation for entry into the WTO was necessary and a gradual approach might be appropriate.

Several delegations expressed their support for the deliberations of the future Chairmanship regarding the topic for the Economic Forum in 2006.

Referring to the confiscation of property of its citizens in the aftermath of World War II, one participating State expressed the concern that another participating State was not adhering to its OSCE commitments relating to property rights. The participating State concerned reserved its right to reply.

**DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS, MIGRATION AND INTEGRATING
PERSONS BELONGING TO NATIONAL MINORITIES:
ENSURING SECURITY AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT IN THE OSCE AREA**

24 May 2005

Report of the Rapporteur

**Agenda item 4: Review of the implementation of commitments in the
OSCE economic and environmental dimension:**

(a) Integration and trade

The first keynote speaker, Mr. Mario Apostolov, Regional Advisor, Trade Development and Timber Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) focused his presentation on the OSCE's commitments in the area of international trade and security, trade liberalization, integrated trade information flows and co-operation between the OSCE and the UNECE in these fields.

Referring to a number of commitments contained in the OSCE Strategy Document for the Economic and Environmental Dimension, he pointed out that integration and functional co-operation in trade serve to support security and prevent conflicts. In that regard, trade facilitation at the regional and subregional levels represented an important instrument for achieving sustainable political solutions to conflicts. Examples were given of several trade initiatives and networks in the Balkans (SECIPRO, Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe, TTFSE).

Mr. Apostolov also emphasized that trade liberalization was one of the key means of integrating the OSCE countries into the world market. Noting that substantial progress had been achieved in the reduction of import tariffs, customs reforms and the process for accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO), he pointed out that some problems and protectionist policies still persisted. The UNECE representative stressed the need for a regional co-ordinated approach to WTO accession and for more harmonized and unified free trade agreements. He also called attention to the positive role of trade facilitation in combating corruption.

Stressing the importance of a better management of trade information flows in order to render trade more efficient and also more secure, Mr. Apostolov gave some examples of national initiatives, such as the Container Security Initiative, and presented the concept of the "Single Window" and the UN Layout Key for trade documents.

The UNECE Advisor also mentioned the need for trust between the public and private sectors in order to promote trade facilitation. One of the ways to bridge existing gaps in that respect might be the creation of national bodies for trade facilitation.

Finally, he presented some ideas on possible joint OSCE-UNECE projects relating to the integrated management of trade information flows, the creation of national trade facilitation bodies, and the organization of a regional Trade Facilitation Conference in Kiev. In such a partnership, the UNECE could develop standards and documents, and the OSCE could mobilize security experts and provide its field network for implementation. Both organizations could work jointly to raise funds and co-operate with strategic partners within those projects (World Bank, European Union, etc.).

Mr. Daniel Linotte, Senior Trade Advisor, Policy and Legal Advice Centre, European Agency for Reconstruction, discussed in detail the establishment of the WTO and its structure, commitments within the WTO framework and accession processes. He enumerated the main functions of the Organization, namely, to provide a code of conduct for trade and a forum for settlement of disputes and liberalization negotiations, to administer trade agreements, and to monitor the trade policies of its members.

Mr. Linotte noted that most of the OSCE participating States were already members of the WTO. All but one of the remaining participating States had applied for membership, and were at different stages in the accession process. He noted that that process was subject to a strict procedure and also involved domestic aspects of negotiations. The length of negotiations varied from country to country and commitments in respect of tariffs could be quite different. Delaying accession might create additional burdens for candidate countries and could have a negative impact on economic growth and the welfare of the people. Therefore, the adoption of liberal schedules in respect of commitments might facilitate the accession process and could send the right signal to the business community and potential investors. He also emphasized the special importance of technical assistance by WTO members to candidate countries. In his view, the issue of high tariffs and quotas applied by developed countries should be borne in mind.

Mr. Michael Stopford, Head of Global Public Affairs and Government Relations, Syngenta International AG, presented private sector approaches to integration and trade based on the example of the agricultural sector. He expanded on several challenges of integration and trade, such as development *versus* the environment and sustainability, market liberalization *versus* subsidies and tariffs, and the role of the public sector *versus* that of the private sector.

Mr. Stopford particularly stressed the need for close co-operation, genuine partnership and division of labour between the public and private sectors in ensuring effective international trade and integration. In that regard he emphasized the role of transparent and coherent regulatory frameworks in creating conditions needed for investments.

In the discussion that followed the keynote presentations, one delegation expressed its appreciation of the role of the UNECE in the process of the review of implementation of OSCE commitments in the economic and environmental dimension and applauded the extended format of review that had been introduced at the current Economic Forum. It agreed that integration and trade largely supported security, and that co-operation between the public and private sectors was very important. It also underlined the need to follow up the discussions on commitments after the Forum with practical measures and pointed to the leading role of the Chairmanship in that respect.

The representative of one field operation expressed concern about the way some international companies in the private sector were taking advantage of the absence of clear regulations in countries in transition to test new or unapproved agro-technologies.

One delegation pointed to the need for the OSCE and the UNECE to assist participating States in the implementation of numerous free trade agreements and their harmonization.

In response to those comments, the presenters provided some additional information on the private sector stance towards the use of new technologies, on ways to harmonize regional trade agreements, in particular in South-Eastern Europe, and on forms of technical assistance in the WTO accession process.

In his concluding remarks Ambassador Moran, Head of the Permanent Mission of Ireland to the OSCE, once again underlined the importance of OSCE/UNECE co-operation and the need to apply to a wider OSCE area the experience that had been acquired at the regional and subregional levels.

Main findings/recommendations

Integration and functional co-operation in respect of trade serves to support security and prevent conflicts. In this regard, trade facilitation at the regional and subregional levels, achieved through development and implementation of harmonized trade agreements, helps to bring about sustainable political solutions to conflicts.

Trade liberalization is one of the key means to integrate the OSCE participating States into the world market. The WTO accession process plays an important role in that respect and should be supported by appropriate technical assistance.

There is a potential to further build synergies between the OSCE and the UNECE and to develop concrete joint projects relating to the integrated management of trade information flows, the creation of national trade facilitation bodies, and organization of regional trade facilitation conferences.

The OSCE should facilitate the development of a genuine partnership between the public and private sectors in ensuring effective international trade and integration.

**DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS, MIGRATION AND INTEGRATING
PERSONS BELONGING TO NATIONAL MINORITIES:
ENSURING SECURITY AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT IN THE OSCE AREA**

24 May 2005

Report of the Rapporteur

**Agenda item 4: Review of the implementation of commitments in the
OSCE economic and environmental dimension:**

(b) Transport

The session was introduced by Minister Pierre Chevalier, Special Envoy of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Belgium for the OSCE Chairmanship 2006.

In his introductory statement, Minister Chevalier highlighted the importance of transport operations. They had an impact on the sustainable economic development of countries, on trade and on the integration of national minorities. But transport was also an issue with a definite political sensitivity. The extent to which transportation was developed or restricted reflected the degree to which people wanted to connect or not to connect with their neighbours. Funding of transport was important and might be difficult in some cases, but the development of transportation was first of all a question of political will or dialogue.

It was precisely in that area that the OSCE could create added value by facilitating the dialogue on transport issues and seeing transport as a way of building or restoring confidence between people.

At the same time, the security of transportation could be threatened by terrorist activities or uncontrolled environmental risks. Given OSCE's comprehensive security mandate, it was clearly appropriate for the Organization to address that issue as well.

On several occasions, the OSCE participating States had committed themselves to the development of efficient, safe and secure transport networks.

One of the main international players in the area of transport was the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). The UNECE had had long and valuable experience in that field. Today, the co-operation between the UNECE and the OSCE followed the lines of the Memorandum of Understanding concluded in December 2004. Further possibilities of co-operation were to be explored within the mandates and the activities of both organizations, particularly in the area of transport, where it seemed evident that synergies might be achievable.

The review report was presented by Mr. Michalis Adamantiadis, Regional Adviser, Transport Division, UNECE, who said that international transport was vital for international trade and for the integration of countries. That was particularly the case for landlocked

countries. The UNECE/OSCE region was characterized by inadequate and incoherent networks. The development of transport was negatively influenced by:

- Insufficient funds dedicated to transport infrastructure;
- Complex border transition procedures;
- Security threats;
- Heterogeneous regulations;
- Safety, health and environmental risks.

In addressing those barriers, the UNECE governments had developed international measures such as legally binding agreements and conventions, which were constantly updated. Special attention was being paid to the development of coherent international transport networks, including the “E” networks (extended to the Caucasus and Central Asia). That work was based on traffic censuses and on specific planning methodologies. Detailed information had been given on the TEM and TER Projects, as well as on the Euro-Asian Transport Links Project.

Border crossing facilitation measures, e.g., the TIR Convention and the Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods, were expected to improve transport operations.

However, much remained to be done at the level of implementation, regarding both the legal instruments and the participation in the transport network projects (TEM, TER, Euro-Asian Transport Links Project).

Mr. Bernard Snoy, Director of Working Table II, Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe, was asked to comment on the issue. He said that Working Table II had created an Infrastructure Steering Group in which International Financial Institutions (IFIs) and the EU Commission discussed a co-ordinated and consistent approach at the regional level. That format appeared to be unique. Within the framework of the Regional Transportation Strategy, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) had been concluded with regard to the development of infrastructure in the Western Balkans. The MOU was based on four building blocks:

1. A common assessment of the core regional transport network;
2. Priority-setting related to the investment programme;
3. Common agreement on policy reforms;
4. Common institutions to underpin co-operation: a High-Level Steering Group in Belgrade and the South Eastern European Transport Observatory.

Other areas of interest related to governance, the reform of the railway sector (especially in countries in transition) and inter-modal transport needed for the environmental

sustainability of transport. Special attention should also be paid to the contribution of new technologies and genuine border management.

The High-Level Group chaired by Ms. Loyola de Palacio, former Vice President and Commissioner for Transport and Energy in the European Commission, was currently preparing to submit to the European Commission a set of proposals related to the extension of major Trans-European axes to the neighbouring countries.

The OSCE could play a role in developing transport as a contribution to economic development and global stability. In that respect, the efforts made by the incoming Belgian Chairmanship to shape that activity of the OSCE were to be welcomed.

A further exchange of views with the audience on the particular role for the OSCE focused on :

- The need for political decisions to assure the implementation of legal instruments and transport network projects; the OSCE could provide a platform for such an intensified dialogue;
- The example offered by the Stability Pact; the OSCE could take stock of the existing initiatives and enhance regional co-operation by acting as a catalyst to mobilize international organizations, governments, NGOs and the private sector;
- Joint projects to be set up by the OSCE/UNECE to promote the development and security of transport;
- Exploration of areas where a better use of existing capacity could be reached, e.g., by combating bureaucracy and corruption, tackling the incompatibility of documents and setting up appropriate border management procedures.

Recommendations (transport):

1. The OSCE should take stock of existing activities and strategies developed by international organizations regarding safe and secure transportation infrastructures and enhance regional co-operation, providing a platform for political dialogue and acting as a catalyst to mobilize international organizations, governments, NGOs and the private sector.
2. The UNECE has developed legal instruments that aim at the development of transport networks and provide for safe and secure transportation. Implementation and monitoring of these instruments are areas where more remains to be done. There could be a role for the OSCE in promoting the ratification of instruments and in stimulating States to participate effectively in network projects.
3. The OSCE could identify areas in which policy reforms are needed with a view to a better functioning of the transportation infrastructure. A next step would be to stimulate the adoption of policy reforms and their implementation.
4. The OSCE and the UNECE might consider the possibility of setting up joint projects to promote the development and security of transport.

5. The OSCE could explore areas in which a better use of existing capacity could be reached, e.g., by combating bureaucracy and corruption, tackling the incompatibility of documents (including the introduction of single trade and transport documents for border transits throughout a region) and setting up appropriate border management procedures.

**DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS, MIGRATION AND INTEGRATING
PERSONS BELONGING TO NATIONAL MINORITIES:
ENSURING SECURITY AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT IN THE OSCE AREA**

25 May 2005

Report of the Rapporteur

Agenda item 5: Session I: Population developments

The Moderator, Prof. Janez Malačič, Head of the Department of Statistics of the Faculty of Economics, University of Ljubljana, stated that the preparatory seminars for the 13th Meeting of the OSCE Economic Forum had helped to draw a clearer picture of the demographic reality in the OSCE area and its neighbourhood, and to convey a better understanding of the OSCE's role in that context.

That was an indispensable precondition for identifying political priorities related to the way economic and security concerns could be addressed at the national and international levels.

Mr. Claus Folden, representing the Technical Co-operation Centre of the International Organization for Migration, analysed the results of a multi-year Programme for the Creation of a General Model for the Collection, Application and Sharing of Migration-Related Data, conducted with some of the CIS countries. He underlined the following outcomes as being of importance:

- Improving professional skills in the methodology of data collection and application, thus providing a better basis for realistic policy-making;
- Promoting dialogue and co-operation between the countries and experts participating in the programme;
- Addressing issues of common concern;
- Defining indicators and data-sharing mechanisms; developing the same professional language;
- Building capacity and introducing best practices.

The speaker encouraged the OSCE to further facilitate multinational programmes, seminars and training activities in order to support the above-mentioned objectives.

Mr. Wolfgang Lutz, Director of the Vienna Institute of Demography of the Austrian Academy of Sciences and Leader of the World Population Programme at IIASA, elaborated on demographic changes and trends in the context of demographic transitions in the twentieth century. The assumption that declines in fertility would stop at the replacement level had not

been borne out by reality. Currently, half of the world's population had fallen below replacement level, and Europe had been the first continent to do so. That fact, in combination with higher life expectancies and the decline in the working-age population, was already having a negative social and economic impact on the whole OSCE area, with serious implications for stability and security.

In his conclusions, the speaker highlighted the following points:

- It was important to identify research priorities and institutional needs: an analysis of variations across Europe was essential for understanding the nature and determinants of ongoing processes.
- There was an urgent need for a comparative European demographic analysis that went beyond the already existing networking of national institutes.
- A European population research centre with a direct linkage to policy-making, which would conduct policy-related research and analysis to the highest standards, should be established.

The OSCE was expected to make a political contribution to that objective by addressing the governments of the participating States accordingly.

The Czech Republic made a presentation on the pilot project: "Selection of qualified foreign workers".

Discussion

All the participants, who took the floor, praised the Chairmanship for putting the issue of demographic trends and migration on the agenda. There was a common understanding that the problems identified were among the most important challenges that the OSCE participating States were facing at the beginning of the twenty-first century. If not properly addressed, they might give rise to serious threats to security and stability within the OSCE area and its neighbourhood.

In order to avoid losing momentum, adequate initiatives, in full compliance with the OSCE's political mandate should be taken as follow-up to the discussions and findings of the 13th Meeting of the OSCE Economic Forum.

The following recommendation can be considered as of special importance:

A forum should be established to focus on demographic trends and population developments, including migration, by transforming the existing Informal Working Group on Gender Equality and Anti-Trafficking and broadening its mandate accordingly. Its agenda could comprise the following:

- Action to increase awareness concerning these challenges and the responses required;
- Promotion of standard-setting;

- Promotion of gender equality as a prerequisite for a sustainable family policy; development of best practices for combining motherhood and professional careers for women and men on an equal footing;
- Development of policies to manage migration in a positive way: favourable conditions for the rapid integration of immigrants;
- The empowerment of human capital in countries of origin in order to tackle outgoing migration flows;
- Linkages with other international governmental and non-governmental organizations dealing with issues relevant in this context.

It was also suggested that a special unit should be established within the Office of the Co-ordinator of Economic and Environmental Activities to assist the working group with analytical studies and background material and data.

The participants also encouraged the OSCE to further facilitate relevant multinational programmes, seminars and training activities in order to support the objectives discussed, e.g., in the area of data collection and sharing mechanisms.

It was also suggested that a European population research centre with a direct linkage to policy-making, which would conduct policy-related research and analysis to the highest standards, should be established.

**DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS, MIGRATION AND INTEGRATING
PERSONS BELONGING TO NATIONAL MINORITIES:
ENSURING SECURITY AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT IN THE OSCE AREA**

25 May 2005

Report of the Rapporteur

Agenda item 6: Session II: Improving economic prospects in countries of emigration

At the beginning of the session, Mr. Andreas Halbach, Regional Representative, IOM Vienna, said that there were approximately 170 million migrants in the world, of which only 10 per cent were forced migrants. The rest were economic migrants. Migration was a very complex process and, in the OSCE context, it had political, economic and human aspects. After actual economic development, migration was the second best way for States to achieve economic well-being.

Mr. Fernand Pillonel, Head of Office in Tajikistan, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, stressed that labour migration had a direct impact on Tajik society. A major migration from Tajikistan had started after the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991 and had greatly increased after the start of the civil war in 1992.

According to Mr. Pillonel, the country had several types of migration flows: the “brawn drain” (exodus of semi-skilled workers for a limited period of time), the brain drain, the shuttle traders and the replacement migrants. All migrants fell into the following categories: seasonal migrants, migrants under employment contracts, temporary migrants, shuttled migrants and shuttle migrants (traders) and settled migrants (migrants who in many cases founded new families in their countries of destination). In many cases, migrants had an irregular or illegal status. Most Tajik migrants had an irregular status, because they had a right to stay, for example, in Russia, but they did not have proper employment contracts. Most of them were also temporary migrants.

He added that 85 per cent of Tajik migrants were men and only 15 per cent were women, who were mainly involved as shuttle traders. More than half of Tajik migrants had had no profession before leaving Tajikistan.

Since the use of remittances from labour migration remained a problem in Tajikistan, the EBRD supported activities related to business advisory services.

Mr. John Fitzgerald, FINCA/Samara, Country Director for Russia, said that microcredit lending and lending to small and medium-sized enterprises could be useful tools to promote job stability in economies in transition. A combination of those two broad product categories, not only helped to secure the jobs and livelihoods of entrepreneurs to whom the loans were made and their families, but could also increase local employment opportunities as the successful businesses expanded and hired new workers.

Mr. Fitzgerald said that that type of lending, especially microcredit lending, reached the poorer strata of society. People at those levels generally did not have access to regular banking services and credit, so without microfinance, most would not have the opportunity to develop their businesses as effectively. In many cases, with proper funding and management, microfinance programmes could be self-sustaining, and thus able to fund all their operational and financial needs without reliance on donors after the start-up phase.

Since microfinance lending and lending to small and medium-sized enterprises could be such a strong driver of local economic expansion, it was worth exploring how their power might be leveraged to address the specific problem of youth unemployment. One approach could be to design a programme combining microfinance loans and/or loans to small and medium-sized enterprises, with a connected grant programme to provide incentives for such enterprises and entrepreneurs to hire and train younger workers. That had been done in the Ferghana region covering three countries — Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan.

Mr. Roman Mogilevsky, Center for Social and Economic Research (CASE-Kyrgyzstan), stressed that one of the important preconditions for sustainable economic growth was the creation of an institutional environment and the accumulation of human potential conducive to solving problems of development under market economy conditions. The task of building the required institutional and human capacity of the governments and societies in the region was a multifaceted one. Two components of that task were: (i) the creation of proper educational systems meeting market demand for a skilled labour force, and (ii) the establishment of institutions which supported the decision-making process at the government or company level and provided evidence regarding the interests of different stakeholders, and rigorous, fact-based analyses regarding social and economic development issues.

Mr. Mogilevsky pointed out that, from the point of view of migration, educational systems were of particular importance. On the one hand, educational systems should provide young people with adequate skills, which would increase their opportunities for employment in their countries of origin. On the other hand, educational establishments had a role to play in providing potential labour migrants with knowledge (languages, skills in demand, information on their rights, etc.), that they needed to successfully enter the labour markets of destination countries and avoid marginalization.

Participants in the discussion agreed on the importance of education and even suggested that entrepreneurial education should be included in the curricula of secondary schools. It was also suggested that there should be more training and educational programmes and training for national minorities, especially in the context of ethnic migration.

Participants also stressed the importance of cross-border co-operation between countries at different levels of economic development. Mention was made of the importance for more advanced countries to invest in their less developed neighbouring regions, since that would create more sustainable overall economic development and would afford a better solution for different social problems.

Educational systems should provide young people with adequate skills, increasing their opportunities for (self-)employment in their countries of origin.

Educational systems should provide potential labour migrants with knowledge — languages, skills in demand, information on their rights — which they needed to successfully enter labour markets of destination countries and avoid marginalization.

It was also mentioned that the majority of CIS countries could not afford to maintain educational systems in the same form and on the same scale as previously. A deterioration in the quality of education was widespread. Major reforms in education were unavoidable.

Migration opportunities supported the demand for better education in the countries of origin and therefore helped to sustain educational systems; that partially offset the “brain drain” effect of migration.

Extensive efforts in analytical capacity-building were needed in CIS countries and in Central Asia in particular, and had already been undertaken by some international organizations, including the OSCE. For example, the OSCE Academy in Bishkek could become a source for exchange of information or could develop research programmes for young people.

Follow-up suggestions by participants

Capacity-building in education and research is a high priority task in the majority of the countries with economies in transition, and it requires strong support from the international community, including the OSCE. Possible niches for the OSCE in this process could be:

1. Support to the components of educational systems most relevant to the OSCE agenda, such as education for minorities, migrants and other vulnerable groups;
2. Development of applied analytical capacity in interdisciplinary studies focusing on political, economic, social and environmental problems of the region;
3. Information exchange and knowledge dissemination.

The OSCE should support the creation and implementation of integration programmes which are specially targeted at minorities and women and which, apart from education, should include face-to-face consulting, community work and implementation of government incentives.

Microfinance lending and lending to small and medium-sized enterprises can be strong drivers of local economic expansion and it is worth exploring how their power might be leveraged to address the specific problem of youth unemployment. The OSCE could support the designing of programmes combining microfinance loans and/or loans to small and medium-sized enterprises, with a connected grant programme to provide incentives to encourage such enterprises and entrepreneurs to hire and train younger workers. Entrepreneurial education could be included in the curriculum in secondary education.

The OSCE should promote cross-border co-operation between countries with different levels of economic development. It is important to encourage more advanced countries to invest in less developed neighbouring regions, since that will create more sustainable overall economic development and will better address the different social problems.

**DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS, MIGRATION AND INTEGRATING
PERSONS BELONGING TO NATIONAL MINORITIES:
ENSURING SECURITY AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT IN THE OSCE AREA**

25 May 2005

Report of the Rapporteur

Agenda item 7: Session III: Environment and migration

The session opened with presentations by three speakers.

Mr. Norman Myers, Fellow, Oxford University, underlined the growing problem of “environmental refugees” and the need for governments and international organizations to recognize them as such. In 1995, he had estimated the number of environmental migrants to be 25 million, a figure which could only have grown substantially in the past decade and would continue to rise if current climate-change models proved to be correct. Millions of environmental migrants from Africa and Latin America had already found their way into OSCE participating States (e.g., Spain, Italy, the United States of America), with hundreds of thousands more arriving each year. Within the OSCE region, Central Asia had produced the highest number of environmental migrants due to drought, desertification and flooding. Poverty exacerbated migratory pressures, driving “marginal people into marginal environments.” Mr. Myers posited that States not only bore a responsibility to provide humanitarian assistance to those people, but also to help them find sustainable livelihoods. The United Nations had estimated that rectification of the problem would cost USD 50 billion, an amount equivalent to 21 days of global military spending. In Mr. Myers’ view, that money could better enhance security by alleviating the plight of environmental migrants. He also suggested that planting trees in vulnerable areas had proven to be one of the most effective preventative and remedial measures against environmental migration.

Mr. R. Latipov, Deputy Chairperson, State Committee on Environment and Forestry, Republic of Tajikistan, presented the participants with a case study of the effect of man-made and natural disasters on patterns of migration in his country. Those disasters ranged from flooding and mudslides to drought and desertification. While such events could be classified as natural disasters, they had in fact been caused or exacerbated by human activities, such as excessive tapping of aquifers and cutting of trees for firewood. As a remedial measure, the Government of Tajikistan had planned to remove 7,664 households from areas prone to environmental hazards, but had only managed to complete 2,420 transfers from 2000 to 2004 (with another 2,000 households moved since then). The Government had also put in place a legislative and regulatory framework to prevent man-made environmental degradation, but lacked the resources to ensure implementation and compliance. Mr. Latipov cited several means of preventing and dealing with environmental migration, including: (1) incorporating environmental factors into economic and social planning (environmental “mainstreaming”); (2) raising public awareness of environmental risks; (3) involving local communities in policy and project development and implementation; (4) encouraging alternative economic activities; (5) training farmers to use more environmentally-sensitive techniques; and

(6) mass planting of trees. In that context, Mr. Latipov referred to a Tajik community which had planted over 300,000 trees, as well as a government plan to reforest 2,200 hectares of vulnerable land between 2005 and 2009. The international community could assist that effort by providing resources and continuing to ratify and implement relevant UN conventions.

Mr. David Stone, Director, Livelihood and Environmental Security (LIVES) Advisory Group, presented case studies from Sudan, Pakistan and Thailand to illustrate the negative effects that displaced persons, particularly those living in semi-permanent camps, could have on the natural environment. The uniqueness of each situation precluded the application of a standardized approach. Rather, each situation should be analysed on its own terms in close consultation with local communities and authorities. Early identification of at-risk populations coupled with effective planning could alleviate the worst effects of environmentally-induced migration. Small-scale, community-based projects often yielded more effective, sustainable results than large, “top-down” initiatives. Mr. Stone also cited the example of refugee camps acting as “magnets” to migrants fleeing even worse conditions elsewhere, as had occurred in Darfur. He stressed the importance of regional co-operation (both between and within States) in preventing and alleviating the conditions which turned refugee camps into migrant magnets.

In the ensuing discussion period, participants stressed the importance of preventative identification of risks as well as capacity-building to help offset environmental threats to security. The OSCE already applied that approach through the Environment and Security (ENVSEC) Initiative. One delegate noted that preventative action, while desirable, was not always possible, as evidenced by the Chernobyl disaster. Nevertheless, the OSCE could still play a highly constructive role in the mobilization and consolidation of assistance in such cases. The same delegate also noted the vital role played by OSCE field operations in the elaboration of small-scale projects responsive to the needs of the host country.

Other participants emphasized the direct relationship between the degree of community involvement and the success of a given project. Accordingly, the importance of engaging local stakeholders and raising public awareness should not be underestimated. Participants also mentioned regional co-operation across State and other administrative boundaries as an important factor contributing to project success (or failure). With reference to the specific case of a Roma and Sinti refugee camp situated on contaminated soil in Kosovo, one delegate observed that that case required a cross-dimensional perspective, as it was not simply a question of environmental migration. Another delegate pointed to unregulated well drilling in his country which had adversely altered the water table. He stressed the need for effective legislation/regulation and enforcement.

Recommendations for specific OSCE action:

- The OSCE, through its network of field operations, should continue and expand, where appropriate, its efforts to raise awareness of environmental risks in vulnerable regions, particularly by supporting the establishment and maintenance of Aarhus Centres;
- OSCE field operations and institutions should strive to the greatest extent possible to incorporate the views of affected communities into project proposals and field work;

- An environmental perspective should be “mainstreamed” into all OSCE projects, and OSCE field operations should promote this principle *vis-à-vis* the host authorities;
- A proactive, preventative approach to man-made and natural environmental risks, as represented by the ENVSEC Initiative, should be encouraged;
- Where possible, OSCE field operations should consider and promote regional co-operation, both between and within participating States, in the formulation and execution of projects;
- The OSCE should consider ways to further assist participating States in the implementation of relevant international conventions, as well as in the development and enforcement of legislation/regulation aimed at protection of the natural environment;
- The OSCE should maximize its efforts to secure political support of affected governments and citizens in identifying and alleviating environmental risks while mobilizing and co-ordinating donor support for these purposes.

**DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS, MIGRATION AND INTEGRATING
PERSONS BELONGING TO NATIONAL MINORITIES:
ENSURING SECURITY AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT IN THE OSCE AREA**

25 May 2005

Report of the Rapporteur

Agenda item 8: Session IV: Providing services for migrants

The objective of this session was to develop policy recommendations based on best practices in providing services for migrants to be employed by others that could be adopted and implemented throughout the OSCE region.

Mr. Maurizio Bussatti, Chief of Mission for the IOM in Tirana, Albania, said that, while international organizations could play a role in developing adequate migrant services that could serve as a model for State institutions, the goal of those organizations should not be to take over services that should ultimately be provided by State institutions.

The following were challenges that typically faced both those wishing to migrate from “source” countries and also “source” country governments in providing quality migrant services: lack of IT facilities, lack of knowledge on the part of migrants as to how to conduct proper research about their destination country, a common belief by migrants that information about immigration to a destination country was somehow “classified” information that destination countries did not wish to share, reluctance by destination countries to provide information to source countries, lack of migrant service facilities in rural areas or the provinces of source countries, and, lastly, lack of State and private information services.

Because most migrants were making their decisions to migrate based on poor or inaccurate information, the primary goal of migrant services should be to provide accurate information about destination countries and to assist migrants in respect of language, cultural adaptation and vocational training for jobs in demand in the destination country. International organizations could assist in providing such services and building the capacity of government structures so that they could later assume the function of providing services such as research, data collection, dissemination of information, counselling and training.

Ms. Susan Martin, Migration Expert, Georgetown University, spoke about various ways to develop successful migrant services programmes that aided in integration. Services should be directed not just at migrants, but also at communities that were affected by migration. Public/private partnerships, the government and civil society could play a very effective role in providing migrant services.

Pre-arrival services, such as the provision of information through pamphlets, videos and Internet-based pre-departure orientation discussing legal rights and responsibilities, the government and history of the destination country, basic needs, health services and immigrant

benefits and expectations could be extremely useful for migrants when planning their departure from the source country.

Post-arrival services would comprise housing services including information on tenant rights and responsibilities, and information on medical services, education and degree accreditation, family law, gender relations, marital rights, domestic violence and spousal and child rights, driver's licences and driver education, financial literacy and banking services, and the best way to remit money back to the source country to avoid the loss of income through wire transfer fees, as well as language and job skills training.

Community-oriented services could include information for the community on migrant characteristics; community relations between the community and incoming migrants and between various immigrant groups; ways of combating discrimination, racism, and xenophobia; informational training sessions for law enforcement personnel; information and training for educators and those in the health sector; and information on interpretation and translation services for immigrants.

Language training services: Host language acquisition should be targeted towards children of the first and second generation and should be balanced with native language retention. Both parents and teachers should be involved in the language learning process. Language classes for adults should focus on basic skills, literacy, host country language acquisition, and civics and vocational training.

The experts and participants made the following recommendations:

1. The OSCE should identify best practices in migrant/immigrant services in the context of the OSCE participating States' needs. Those best practices should focus on how to best adapt/integrate migrants into society and how to ensure that incoming migrants have a positive impact on community relations and increase understanding of the issues of migration.
2. "Source" and "destination" countries could collaborate to provide a one-stop information source to enable migrants to obtain pre-arrival and post-arrival information on their rights and responsibilities.
3. Awareness concerning migration should be raised through a combination of government and international organizations, and civil society and private sector groups such as business, ethnic, and religious organizations, but most importantly the message must be spread using migrant networks, because migrants are more likely to believe the information being channelled through these sources rather than directly from the government or international organizations.
4. The OSCE could serve as a clearing house for information on ways in which national migrant service programmes could be improved.
5. The OSCE should render assistance to countries of origin in establishing migrant services and migrant information service centres and should provide training to national specialists and government officials dealing with migration issues.

6. OSCE participating States should support an Internet-based platform to pass information between migrant groups in source and destination countries.
7. Every migrant has a right to access to information about legal rights and responsibilities.
8. The OSCE could support a regional dialogue on migration issues, and regional organizations should be encouraged to begin this discussion.

**DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS, MIGRATION AND INTEGRATING
PERSONS BELONGING TO NATIONAL MINORITIES:
ENSURING SECURITY AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT IN THE OSCE AREA**

26 May 2005

Report of the Rapporteur

**Agenda item 9: Session V: Awareness-raising and economic integration
in countries of destination**

Three presentations were made at Session V: by Mr. S. Arnott from the European Union (EU), DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, Mr. M. Oelz from the International Labour Organization (ILO) and Ms. A. C. Nygard from the International Centre for Migration Policy Development.

Mr. Arnott highlighted recent activities and decisions by the European Commission. The EU had developed a policy context framework and measures for supporting the social and vocational integration of migrants and asylum seekers. The policy context included the European employment strategy, the European strategy for inclusion, directives on racial equality and equality in employment, the green paper on managing economic migration and European structural funds.

In terms of policy measures, there had been extensive support for access to employment within the Community, recognition of existing skills and qualifications, job guidance and counselling, civic education and the fight against discrimination and racism. To combat discrimination in the workplace, the EQUAL Community Initiative had been introduced in all the EU member States. The Initiative was focusing on making a business case, developing new tools to raise employer awareness and engaging social partners. It also focused on making news reporting more representative, developing new forms of training, providing opportunities for young people and enhancing cross-national co-operation.

Mr. Oelz welcomed the OSCE's invitation to the ILO to present its views and experience on managing migration internationally and to give information on the status of ratification of international conventions at the Economic Forum. Mr. Oelz presented the ILO's experience and perception of migration worldwide and gave information on the status of ratification of international conventions and agreements related to migration that had been developed by the ILO.

Mr. Oelz said that migration was a global reality in which all countries participated. At present, around 86 million people were living outside their countries of origin and were economically active (employed, self-employed etc.); 10 per cent of the workers in Western Europe were foreign-born, and women accounted for half of all migrants.

In June 2004, the ILO at its 92nd session had adopted a visionary resolution and conclusions on migrant workers, which included an ILO plan of action for migrant workers,

recognizing that migration — labour migration — was a major global challenge for governance, international co-operation and protection of the rights and dignity of the individuals involved.

He presented international legal instruments for protection of migrant workers, including ILO Conventions No. 97 (Migration for Employment) and 143 (Migrant Workers) and the UN Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families, all of which were valid and relevant to the current situation. First of all, those conventions provided a legal framework for guaranteeing the protection of migrant workers, and secondly, they dealt with the organization of migration through measures aimed at regulating the conditions in which migration for employment occurred, and for adopting measures aimed at combating irregular migration.

Mr. Oelz also presented the ILO migration programme, highlighting some elements of the 2004 action plan.

The status of ratification of the conventions was also important for the ILO, which had a mandate to assist its members to remove remaining obstacles. Further co-operation with the OSCE in that respect would be appreciated.

Ms. Nygard presented the phenomenon of transit migration as a common challenge both to countries of origin, transit and destination, and to developed and less developed countries. Recognizing that the phenomenon of transit migration was mostly irregular and not captured by formal integration measures, and affected countries regionally and even globally, the presentation contemplated possible responses, emphasizing the need for multilateral and international co-operation in tackling the problem.

It should be recognized that transit flows consisted of a mix of persons moving with the aim of achieving economic and social betterment, but also of persons in search of protection against persecution and ill-treatment. It remained important to respect the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and generally to respect the human rights of the irregular migrants.

A very large number of immigrants in destination as well as transit countries in the OSCE region were outside the formal migration systems, and thus in an irregular situation — and consequently were not affected by any formal integration measures. Up to 6.4 million irregular migrants were estimated to be residing in Europe. Just a few years ago, ICMPD had estimated the yearly irregular inflow from and through the North African region at around 100,000-120,000, and the numbers were rising sharply. Most migrants from Sub-Saharan Africa heading for Europe passed through the Magreb region. Migration routes in the Eastern Mediterranean region went through Syria and Lebanon, and from there departures took place by sea towards Europe, or by sea and overland through Turkey.

The end result in the migration chain — integration — was not attainable without channels for orderly migration and measures to prevent irregular migration. Even worse, a deficit in orderly migration provided the perfect breeding ground for the informal sector, with its exploitative elements.

In conclusion Ms. Nygard mentioned that, for migration management, the countries in a region or subregion sharing the same migration challenges should agree on a harmonized

approach towards tackling the problem. Many countries needed comprehensive and sustainable migration policies and migration management capabilities with a root-causes approach, involving development co-operation and better joint management of migration to mitigate illegal migration pressure, including readmission, assisted return and reintegration issues. A number of actions needed in various areas were mentioned:

Economic and social integration in the countries of destination: exchange of information and experience on regularization campaigns; registration and documentation of labour migrants in an irregular situation; reduction of the informal sector through the introduction of employer sanctions; labour agreements;

Action to combat trafficking for sexual and labour exploitation through the training of police and the judiciary, awareness-raising, return and reintegration; protection of victims of trafficking;

Return and readmission: identification, consular co-operation, procurement of travel documents, repatriation (voluntary, non-voluntary), reintegration, readmission agreements;

Information exchange on legislation policies and practices relating to the prevention and control of irregular migration among the relevant authorities of the participating States.

Following the presentations, a number of participants posed questions to the panel; speakers gave answers and contributed to the discussion.

One participant forwarded two suggestions for further involvement by the OSCE in migration management through assistance to governments of participating States.

Key Suggestions for Possible OSCE Action

The OSCE should:

- Contribute towards mitigating the negative impact of migration by seeking synergies with regional inter-governmental dialogues on migration issues;
- In co-operation with other relevant organizations, seek to provide assistance in developing/improving national policy frameworks and legislation, and to implement integration and anti-discrimination programmes in participating States;
- In co-operation with relevant international organizations, promote implementation of relevant international conventions and agreements to protect the rights of migrants and facilitate the comprehensive integration of migrants in countries of destination;
- Assist participating States to implement national and international laws in a coherent and integrated way, bringing social dialogue and policies to bear;
- Develop programmes to mitigate migration and the brain drain by raising awareness and providing economic opportunities at home.

**DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS, MIGRATION AND INTEGRATING
PERSONS BELONGING TO NATIONAL MINORITIES:
ENSURING SECURITY AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT IN THE OSCE AREA**

26 May 2005

Report of the Rapporteur

Agenda item 10: Session VI: The informal sector

The moderator of this session, Ms. Michele Klein Solomon, Deputy Director, Migration Policy, Research and Communications, International Organization for Migration, introduced the topic by pointing out that there was a two-way connection between the informal sector and irregular migration. Economies with an already existing informal sector acted as incentives for irregular migration, which, in turn, helped to fuel the informal sector. The main economic causes for irregular migration were large differences in income between developed and developing economies and the mismatch between demand and supply in labour markets, which was further accentuated by restrictions to the free movement of persons. That opened opportunities for illegal activities such as trafficking and smuggling of human beings.

Ms. Irina Ivakhniuk, Senior Researcher and Deputy Director of the Department of Population, Faculty of Economics, Moscow State University "Lomonosov", spoke about the significance of the informal sector in attracting illegal migration, including through trafficking in human beings. She differentiated between three subsectors of the informal sector: the informal (but legal) economy, the grey (semi-legal) economy and the black (criminal) economy. Therefore, diversified methods of managing the various subsectors were needed. Generally, in order to reduce incentives for irregular migration, States should aim at legalizing the informal sector through the simplification of registration and accounting procedures, provision of training and credit opportunities, and legal support. At the same time, the semi-legal and illegal subsectors should face prosecution. The OSCE should be involved in awareness-raising leading to a common understanding of the risks of irregular migration linked to the informal sector. The OSCE should encourage the development of SMEs in countries of both origin and destination. Finally, the OSCE should foster co-operation and exchange of information, including at the regional level and through bilateral agreements.

Ms. Alenka Mesojedec-Pervinsek, Senior Policy Adviser, International Centre for Migration Policy Development, stressed the need to improve legal labour migration channels. It was sound migration policy to reflect the economic needs of a given country and effective implementation of such a policy required good governance based on transparent legislation, trained staff and functioning institutions. Bilateral agreements between countries of origin and destination, in particular on short-term labour migration, reduced the risk of smuggling and trafficking, and benefited countries of origin through remittances and a reduction in brain drain. The OSCE could contribute to developing a common understanding of the risks of irregular migration and could help to reorient it towards legal migration through international co-operation and information exchange.

Ms. Klein Solomon gave an overview of internal national measures and inter-State co-operation mechanisms aimed at reducing the incidence of irregular migration linked to the informal sector and promoting legal avenues. Government investment in, and commitment to, migration management were keys to the success of both national and international measures. National measures to improve migration management included capacity-building and the development of appropriate legislative and administrative mechanisms to facilitate orderly movement. Of particular relevance to the OSCE were inter-State co-operation mechanisms fostering dialogue, and the sharing of experiences and effective practices. The IOM, ICMPD and other organizations provided assistance in capacity-building to governments. Bilateral agreements were an effective way of opening legal migration channels and, more generally, addressing a comprehensive range of migration management issues, including incentives to reduce irregular migration. For example, Italy had recently concluded bilateral agreements with Albania, Tunisia and Morocco, and Spain had signed bilateral agreements with Ecuador, the Dominican Republic, Colombia, Romania and Morocco. Similarly, regional co-operation on migration was increasing and improving prospects for more beneficial migration.

In the discussion following the presentations, it was stated that opening more regular migration channels in practice might attract more irregular migration. One delegation pointed out that the informal economy was a phenomenon that had already existed before the era of globalization and was to some extent independent from the level of regulation of an economy. Several delegations pointed out that bilateral and regional agreements were helpful in raising awareness and fostering co-operation between countries of origin and destination. Examples given were the European Union, which addressed the issue of migration in the framework of its Neighbourhood Policy, and an agreement between Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan.

Main points and recommendations:

- There is a two-way connection between the informal sector and irregular migration. The informal sector draws irregular migrants both for employment and for illegal activities such as trafficking and smuggling. In the other direction, irregular migration fuels the development of the informal sector;
- The informal sector and irregular migration linked to it have a direct impact on security and stability as well as on human rights and economic development. This makes them relevant to the OSCE, which has an important role to play as a forum for dialogue and exchange of information;
- Minimizing the negative consequences of the informal sector and of irregular migration is a matter of governance. It requires developing and implementing effective policies in the economic and migration spheres, in countries of both origin and destination, in order to encourage regular migration, discourage irregular migration and promote sustainable economic development;
- The OSCE can usefully help raise awareness about the benefits of regular migration, risks of irregular migration and opportunities for forging bilateral, regional and other agreements in order to reduce the negative impact of irregular migration linked to the informal sector.

**DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS, MIGRATION AND INTEGRATING
PERSONS BELONGING TO NATIONAL MINORITIES:
ENSURING SECURITY AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT IN THE OSCE AREA**

26 May 2005

Report of the Rapporteur

Agenda item 11: Session VII: Policies of integration of persons belonging to national minorities

Mr. Nick Johnson of the Commission for Racial Equality of Great Britain described the experiences of the United Kingdom in striving for ethnic and racial equality. He explained that the legal anti-discrimination framework was quite strong, as it had been set up already in the 1970s with the Race Relations Act and had since been strengthened, for example, through the inclusion of a positive obligation on all public authorities to promote equality. The UK policy of promoting equality was backed up by a developed system of collecting data on all forms of economic, social, educational and political participation of the various ethnic communities. That system allowed the government and local authorities to monitor the effect of their policies and to adopt specific new measures.

In spite of the well established legal anti-discrimination framework, major problems of inequality continued to exist in the United Kingdom. First, inequality between the different ethnic groups persisted: members of most ethnic groups, for example, faced higher unemployment, lower average incomes, a lower life expectancy, lower education levels, etc. Second, there was limited interaction between the different ethnic communities and the majority of the population. In a recent survey, 70 per cent of the respondents had considered that they had no or not enough contacts with persons of different ethnic groups. Third, the participation of members of ethnic communities in society was too low. Political participation was only one example of that problem, with only 10 out of 650 Members of Parliament coming from a different ethnic community, whereas such communities accounted for more than 10 per cent of the population.

In light of those and other figures, Mr. Johnson concluded that inequality was actually increasing in the United Kingdom. He suggested that three basic lessons could be drawn. First, society could not ignore inequality. The positive duty to achieve ethnic and racial equality needed to be enforced. A key policy instrument element was the minority impact assessment, which obliged public authorities to assess the impact of all new major governmental policies on persons belonging to national minorities. Consultation with representatives of such groups was essential in that respect. Second, inequality would continue to exist as long as the underlying causes were not addressed. A legal anti-discrimination framework was not enough in itself. Third, consensus on a definition of what constituted integration was needed, and targets for measuring progress in that field needed to be set. Measuring interaction between different groups was particularly difficult.

Mr. Johnson concluded by stressing that it was vital to make everyone aware of the fact that equality and integration were in the interest of society as a whole, not just in the interest of minorities. Finally, establishing shared values, interaction between all different ethnic groups and their participation in all aspects of society were crucial to achieving integration.

Dr. Tove Malloy of the European Centre for Minority Issues analysed the principle of non-discrimination and its significance in the changed conditions of the twenty-first century. She began by examining the origin of the principle and explained its links to the peace treaties of 1919. Initially, the principle had been limited to the negative rule of equality or formal equality. Over the past century, the principle had, however, evolved towards substantive equality, addressing not only the right to participate and be treated equally, but also the opportunity to participate. A set of new international legal instruments reflected that evolution with, for example, the adoption of the Framework Convention on National Minorities and Protocol 12 to the European Convention on Human Rights. Regarding the latter instrument, the Council of Europe stated, for example, that “equal situations are treated equally and unequal situations differently.”

Dr. Malloy stressed that the principle of non-discrimination needed to be enshrined not only in the constitutions of the participating States, but also in their administrative, criminal and civil law. States should moreover establish independent specialized bodies to combat discrimination which should, *inter alia*, give assistance to victims, monitor legislation and conduct awareness-raising campaigns. Other public authorities should act as role models, for example, in their employment policies.

Another important tool for achieving equality was affirmative action, which had, for example, proved effective in the employment sector and education. Other positive measures might include several non-legal tools, as integration should not be limited to a rights-based approach, but should also include individual empowerment and security enhancement. Dr. Malloy concluded by suggesting that a future OSCE statement of principles on integration should include a paragraph on non-discrimination and positive measures.

Dr. Mitja Zagar of the Institute for Ethnic Studies of the University of Ljubljana discussed the increasing diversity of the societies of the OSCE participating States and on the need to raise awareness among the population. In multi-ethnic and multi-cultural societies, that diversity was increasing as a result of migration and the globalization process and needed to be acknowledged and managed. The best way to do that was through the concept of “integration respecting diversity”, which was based on ensuring the full participation of all persons belonging to national minorities in all sectors of society, while at the same time respecting their right to maintain their own identity and culture. Integration respecting diversity was a two-way process which comprised rights and obligations for the State, persons belonging to national minorities and all other groups in society. Essential components were political, cultural and economic participation. Education and the media played a particularly important role in striving for the inclusion, integration and participation of persons belonging to national minorities.

The principle of non-discrimination was the starting point for achieving integration, but it was unlikely to be sufficient. Special measures/affirmative action might be needed, for example, in employment or education policies. Such measures needed to be tailor-made and based on accurate and sufficiently specific data on the inclusion or exclusion of certain

groups. Furthermore, special measures were by nature temporary and must not result in reverse discrimination.

The OSCE should draft and consider a “statement of principles” on integration respecting diversity which would focus on persons belonging to national minorities, but which might have wider application in the OSCE participating States. Such a set of principles would include the key elements of the integration process, and would be based on the existing OSCE and other international standards, as well as the best practices in the participating States.

Mr. Michael Guet of the Council of Europe (Roma and Travellers Division) focused on one question in particular: should minority policy questions be mainstreamed (i.e., included in all major general government policies) or were they more effectively responded to if policies were specifically targeted at minorities? He concluded that the answer to that question depended very much on the situation of the minority whose problems were to be addressed. Referring to the Roma and Sinti, he argued that they often were so economically and socially deprived in terms of unemployment, access to health care, education and other social services, that only specifically designed measures could have any effect at all. An understanding of their culture and values, consultation with community leaders and good communication channels to the individuals were furthermore crucial to the acceptance of integration policies. Finally, he pointed out that some measures adopted on that basis had been successful, such as positive experiences with the use of mediators for health care and education and improvements in political participation, particularly at the local level.

**DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS, MIGRATION AND INTEGRATING
PERSONS BELONGING TO NATIONAL MINORITIES:
ENSURING SECURITY AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT IN THE OSCE AREA**

26 May 2005

Report of the Rapporteur

**Agenda item 12: Session VIII: Economic and social integration of persons
belonging to national minorities**

In his presentation, Mr. John de Fonblanque, Director of the Office of the High Commissioner on National Minorities, called attention to the keynote speech of the High Commissioner, in which Mr. Ekeus had drawn attention to the importance of integration as a means to avoid or reduce the risks of future tensions involving minority issues. Mr. Fonblanque noted that minorities were often worse off in economic terms than were the rest of the population. Although there were exceptions, national minorities were commonly marginalized, thus developing a sense of alienation from the State. While each situation of economic marginalization was unique, it was possible to suggest a few broad principles for dealing with the phenomenon. Those included the recognition that economic participation could not be separated from other forms of participation essential to integration, such as political and cultural participation. In order to participate, minorities had a responsibility to learn the State language. Non-discrimination must be strictly applied, but it was not enough, and positive measures needed to be taken to bring a disadvantaged minority up to the level of the majority. The speaker called for a dialogue to establish best practices in minority integration.

The second speaker, Mr. Michael Guet, Head of the Roma and Travellers Division, Migration and Roma Department, Council of Europe, called attention to the need for accurate statistical information to combat negative stereotyping. He added that, although some governments had prepared positive legislation on the Roma and Sinti, negative perceptions remained strong and there was a need to persuade majority populations that they could live side by side with Roma and Travellers. The Council continued to receive complaints about the harassment of those groups in the form of hate speech, forced sterilizations and videos inciting to violence. Those issues and the implementation of policies at the national level were to be discussed at a joint OSCE-Council of Europe conference on 20 and 21 October 2005.

Professor Karomatullo Olimov, State Adviser to the President of Tajikistan on Social Development and Public Relations, noted that earlier interventions by the Tajik delegation had already raised the issues affecting national minorities in Tajikistan, and he acknowledged that, although the country's constitution gave minorities full political and legal rights, some problems persisted. In particular, all the nationalities in the country suffered economic deprivation, but that was not generally perceived as affecting one national group more than others. There was a desperate need for improvement of education, and minority nationalities, although guaranteed by law the right to receive education in their own languages in areas of

dense settlement, often were unable to obtain textbooks in those languages. The speaker hoped that co-operation with the OSCE would continue to improve the situation of Tajikistan's national minorities.

A representative of the Latvian Human Rights Commission noted that solutions to the problems of ethnic minorities in one place often did not apply in another. He asserted that the situation of non-citizens in Latvia had deteriorated since the country had joined the European Union, and the school reform launched in September 2004 was curtailing the rights of minorities. Adding that Latvia had signed a convention on the protection of national minorities 10 years earlier, the speaker appealed for more opportunities to be made available to national minorities.

Another representative thanked Mr. Guet for raising the issue of negative stereotyping and noted that stereotypes could change. They could not be prohibited by law, and attempts to eradicate them only made them stronger. They could be countered only by educating people and making them aware of stereotypes. He added that a code of conduct for the media had been effective against negative stereotyping in advertisements.

One participant said that Switzerland attached great importance to the integration of minorities and called attention to the need for accurate information on economic exclusion and the reasons for it. Noting that minorities themselves were sometimes not helpful in data collection efforts, he suggested that the OSCE could help countries devise ways to collect statistics on minority exclusion.

One representative asserted that the Economic Forum could not make specific recommendations, to which the moderator responded that suggestions could be recorded.

A member of the Association of Soviet Koreans in Tajikistan drew attention to the weak representation of national minorities in that country's national parliament and the sparse representation of minorities in small and medium-sized businesses. He called particular attention to the good examples of national minority integration that had been set by Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation.

A representative of the Association of Uigurs of Kazakhstan explained that the country's Uigurs had been integrated thanks to an educational model that preserved and developed their language and culture. He called on the OSCE to help with migration processes, noting that Kazakhstan had become not only a source country of migrants, but a receiving and transit country as well.

A representative of Karaganda State University offered Kazakhstan as a model of the adaptation of national minorities to conditions in the country of residence, adding that the willingness to adapt was a reaction to the country's attractive economic opportunities.

Another participant noted that marginalized minorities were not necessarily only ethnic, and drew attention to the appearance of marginalized political groups who might feel constrained to turn to extremism for lack of other alternatives.

It was also noted that the lack of language skills often limited economic opportunities for minorities.

Specific suggestions for the OSCE:

- Marginalization, poverty and lack of access to education and economic opportunity need to be recognized as dangerous in any society;
- The situation of the Roma and Sinti needs to receive much more attention;
- The problem of integrating minorities involves more than just national minorities as defined in the HCNM mandate. It needs to include migrants, new minorities, political minorities and others;
- There is a need to overcome the technical problem of States that do not recognize national minorities. They have problems too, and the principles involved in integration are universally relevant.

**DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS, MIGRATION AND INTEGRATING
PERSONS BELONGING TO NATIONAL MINORITIES:
ENSURING SECURITY AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT IN THE OSCE AREA**

27 May 2005

Report of the Rapporteur

Agenda item 13: OSCE as a platform for dialogue and co-operation

- (a) Presentation of conclusions and policy recommendations from the sessions**
 - (b) Discussion**
-

The session started with a comprehensive presentation of the conclusions and policy recommendations that had emerged from the Forum, delivered by Ambassador Boris Frlec of Slovenia, the Chairperson. He summarized the discussions and suggestions from each session and side event and focused on the role the OSCE could play in addressing issues related to demographic developments, migration and the integration of persons belonging to national minorities. His statement was circulated under the reference number EF.DEL/74/05.

Following the introduction, the participants engaged in a lively discussion and numerous comments were made with regard to the recommendations that had been presented by the Chairperson. The discussion focused in particular on the proposed action plan or strategy on managing migration issues, the statement of principles guiding the integration of persons belonging to national minorities, the OSCE role in addressing migration, etc.

It was generally agreed that demographic issues, migration and the integration of persons belonging to national minorities should remain on the OSCE agenda as priorities. Many delegations and experts welcomed the recommendations and expressed their support for the follow-up process. It was noted that, in implementing the recommendations, the elements that were specific to the OSCE should be taken into account. The implementation process could also contribute to the general enhancement of the economic and environmental dimension. More synergies with other dimensions should be sought. Co-operation with other partners was also an important factor for the successful implementation of the Forum's recommendations.

Although some recommendations, such as the proposed plan of action or strategy on migration, were ambitious, many delegations considered them reasonable and expressed the view that useful results could be achieved. They stated their willingness to continue the discussions in various frameworks in Vienna, ahead of the Ministerial Council meeting in Ljubljana. In particular, the Economic and Environmental Subcommittee (EESC) should look into the issues in question more closely.

The proposal for drafting a handbook on effective practices in managing migration was also supported, and the OCEEA was encouraged to follow up on the project, in co-operation with other relevant organizations and experts. One delegation stressed that various approaches and practices of OSCE participating States should be taken into account and reflected in such a handbook, as all of them were valuable.

One expert said that the OSCE was in a very good position to call attention to and promote best practices in the field of migration owing to its three-dimensional approach and its regional coverage. A handbook on best practices should build on the work done in the context of the Berne Initiative and should be adapted to the needs of the participating States (countries of origin, transit and destination).

It was recommended that the OSCE should continue the discussions on migration issues, also taking into account the debates and conclusions reached in other fora such as the Global Commission on International Migration (GCIM).

Other suggested areas for follow-up could be: addressing irregular migration; providing technical assistance and training activities in particular for source, transit and new destination countries; training migration officials regarding the rights of migrants; developing policies to manage migration, including through bilateral and regional co-operation; and developing a mechanism for collection of data. The OSCE should develop such activities in close co-operation with partner organizations such as the IOM, ICMPD, UNHCR, and the CoE, taking into account the specific advantages and expertise of each organization.

One participant referred to the economic consequences of migration and highlighted its negative effects in countries of origin, which were losing vital human resources. He called on the OSCE to adopt a more balanced approach and to focus more on alleviating the negative consequences of migration in sending countries. Another delegation said that the OSCE was already playing a useful role and added that indeed more could be done to support economic development and combat unemployment in countries of origin.

It was also stated that, even though progress had been achieved in some cases in improving the management of migration through bilateral agreements, problems still persisted and that the OSCE might contribute not only to facilitating such co-operation, but also to improving the implementation of such agreements.

The relevance of environmentally-induced migration was mentioned by many participants. In dealing with such issues, due attention should be paid to economic as well as environmental factors, agriculture and the sustainable use of land, water management, legal aspects, etc. The OSCE should offer a platform for all the stakeholders involved and should also promote access to information and public participation in the decision-making process. The OSCE's role in raising awareness of environmentally-induced migration at the national and international levels should be strengthened.

One delegation emphasized the importance of regional co-operation and regional solutions to issues related to migration and integration. It also referred to the useful role the OSCE field presences played at the national level and stressed the need for a better co-ordination and for a strengthening of the OSCE's role as a regional forum for dialogue and co-operation.

Other experts and representatives of international organizations also said that migration could be best addressed at the regional level and that the OSCE could play a useful role in that regard. They expressed their willingness to continue and deepen the existing co-operation with the OSCE.

General support was expressed regarding the role of the OSCE as a forum for discussion of issues related to demographics, migration and integration. The organization of regional seminars/workshops, in particular in the CIS region, was advocated. Relevant and concrete topics should be selected for such events, in order to achieve effective results.

The establishment of an advisory group of experts on issues related to demographics, migration and integration was also supported. One delegation said that it viewed such a group rather as a loose network of experts than as an institutionalized structure.

One delegation suggested that, when dealing with population developments, the OSCE should take into account the work done by the UN. One participant drew attention to the necessary distinction between migrants and refugees.

One delegation expressed some doubts regarding the transformation of the Informal Working Group on Gender Equality and Anti-Trafficking into a forum for discussion of migration and demographic issues by broadening its mandate, but said that it was ready to further consider the matter.

With regard to the statement of principles on integration, one delegation, while expressing its support, noted that it was important to have a narrow definition of national minorities.

One delegation stated that, even if agreeing on principles for the integration of persons belonging to national minorities might be a difficult process, since definitions of minorities might be different from country to country, it was worth pursuing such an objective because all the participating States faced challenges of integration. Others supported that statement. It was also noted that many countries were also affected by migration and the integration of new arrivals and that both older and recent immigrants had rights.

Another delegation expressed doubts regarding the usefulness and the added value of a statement of principles on the integration of persons belonging to national minorities. It commented that the OSCE should also address the needs of new minorities and it looked forward to further discussing those issues in Vienna.

One speaker stressed that the OSCE should also serve as a forum for dialogue with regard to integration issues and should be more active in dealing with issues such as education, in particular language education, lack of citizenship of persons belonging to minorities, etc and implement real measures which would contribute to ensuring the legitimate rights of persons belonging to national minorities. In that context, the situation of Russian-speaking minorities in Latvia and Estonia was mentioned.

The OSCE should pay greater attention to the real needs of people and, to that end, more information on the actual situation in various countries was needed. In that context, it

was said that the participation of local NGOs in OSCE meetings was important and should be supported, including by providing financial means.

In promoting the integration of persons belonging to national minorities, the OSCE could facilitate better access to education and schools. Kindred countries and neighbouring countries could also play a useful role and the OSCE should facilitate such contacts and co-operation.

It was stressed by one delegation that education in countries of both origin and destination was a key issue and should be a priority with regard to the integration of ethnic minorities. Another delegation supported that statement and added that multilingualism was of particular importance. It also said that more economic opportunities should be provided for national minorities.

It was also stated that having a legal basis conducive to integration was important but not always sufficient and that specific economic and social conditions in each country should be taken into consideration when talking about integration.

Another subject raised during the discussion was the situation of Roma and Sinti communities, which often were the most marginalized groups in many countries. The situation of Roma refugees, IDPs and returnees from Kosovo was mentioned. A cross-dimensional approach was needed in order to achieve a sustainable solution. Actions of participating States and the OSCE for implementation of the OSCE Action Plan for Roma and Sinti should be more consistent. More should be done to support and promote local economic development. The upcoming CoE/OSCE Roma and Sinti International Conference scheduled to take place in Warsaw on 20 and 21 October 2005, could afford a good opportunity to continue the discussion.

Two delegations recalled their specific suggestions made during the side event with the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation. One delegation supported the idea of continuing the discussion on migration issues at the forthcoming OSCE Mediterranean Seminar in Morocco in September.

At the end of the session Mr. Marcin Swiecicki, Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, expressed the readiness of his office to provide assistance to delegations for their future deliberations on the issues of concern. He welcomed the numerous proposals, ideas and recommendations that had emerged and the rich debate that had taken place and said that the OCEEA would carefully study all the recommendations and identify, prepare and implement follow-up activities.

**DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS, MIGRATION AND INTEGRATING
PERSONS BELONGING TO NATIONAL MINORITIES:
ENSURING SECURITY AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT IN THE OSCE AREA**

24 May 2005

Report of the Rapporteur

**Side event with the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation:
Migration and economic development of the sending countries**

On 24 May 2005, for the second time, a side event with the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation took place on the margins of the Thirteenth Economic Forum in Prague. The aim of the meeting, chaired by Minister Pierre Chevalier, Special Envoy of the Belgian Minister for Foreign Affairs for the OSCE Chairmanship 2006, was to discuss a specific concern of the OSCE Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation within the overall theme of the Economic Forum, namely, migration and the economic development of the sending countries. Participants in the meeting included participating and partner States.

The Chairman pointed out that a well-integrated migrant represented an asset for the receiving country, while at the same time participation in the economic life of a society through work represented the best way for migrants to secure their successful social and cultural integration. Participants in the meeting were invited to address relevant questions related to migration, such as the economic causes of migration; conditions to guarantee a contribution by migrants to the development of the economies of their countries of origin and of destination; reinforcement of the link between migration and development; challenges posed by migration in countries of origin and destination; management of migration in a win-win situation, for the migrants themselves, as well as for their societies of origin and destination.

Keynote addresses were delivered by Ambassador Omar Zniber of Morocco and Mr. Jean-Pierre Garson, Head of the Non-Member Economies and International Migration Division of the OECD.

Ambassador Zniber stated that migration had a strong impact on the security, stability and development of the South Mediterranean region. Conducting an in-depth discussion on that issue was a matter of great importance, and was one of the aims of the forthcoming Mediterranean Seminar, to be held in Rabat, Morocco, in September 2005. Different countries had different approaches to migration, but the concerted work of both the countries of origin and of destination was needed, as had been stressed at the opening of the Thirteenth Meeting of the Economic Forum. Although a positive dialogue had been established between the northern and the southern shores of the Mediterranean, what was necessary was to focus on the economic, social and human aspects of migration, and the OSCE had an important role to play in that respect. The proper examination of the problem of migration required the formulation of a global approach and a long-term plan of action with regular follow up, and it

was hoped that the discussions in Rabat would lead to concrete recommendations related to the problem.

Mr. Garson pointed out that political development was a key issue, especially in relation to peace and stability in the sending regions. A careful analysis of migration trends was needed. Migration could help mitigate some problems, but was not a solution. There was a need to promote co-operation and investment. Migration flows could be reduced if the sending countries managed to achieve stability and prosperity. That was a particularly important question as the younger generations started to approach the age of entering the labour market. Remittances by migrants were frequently much higher than the amount of aid and foreign direct investment in sending countries, so there was a need to stimulate reinvestment of remittances in the countries of origin by, *inter alia*, fighting corruption and creating the right conditions. Countries that until recently had been sending countries had become receiving countries as a result of policies aimed at opening them up and increasing their level of democratization. He also stressed the need for political reform and further democratization, which would stimulate economic development.

In the ensuing discussion, the following main points were raised:

- There was a general consensus that economic development was a key to addressing problems related to migration. Some participants expressed the view that a focus on restrictive measures against migration had failed to counter migratory trends. Promoting codevelopment and addressing the underlying causes of migration were stressed.
- The same approach to addressing migration should be extended to the Sub-Saharan countries, whose migrants frequently attempted to transit through South Mediterranean countries.
- The proposal for elaboration of an action plan or a declaration as the outcome of the forthcoming Mediterranean Seminar in Rabat was worth pursuing. It was proposed that such an outcome should be forwarded as a collective recommendation of the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation to the Chairmanship-in-Office for adoption by the Ministerial Council in Ljubljana in December 2005.
- The recommendations of the Third Ministerial Conference of the 5+5 Dialogue on Migration in the Western Mediterranean, held in Algiers on 15 and 16 September 2004, should be given appropriate follow-up.
- There was a need to look at migration trends in terms of complementarity, rather than substitution.
- There was a need to establish a proper dialogue between the sending and the receiving countries, including by promoting cultural exchanges. Also, it was argued that an issue of brain-drain existed and should be addressed, including by limiting instances of open invitations to potential highly-qualified migrants by representatives of destination countries or by agreeing on compensation for the lost investment in education by the sending countries. However, others argued that, in terms of numbers, migration by highly-skilled professionals posed a more limited challenge compared to the high numbers of less-skilled migrants.

- Although there was a perceived link between migration and organized crime, drug smuggling and terrorism, there was a need to change the perception so that migrants could be seen as an asset and not only a burden.
- Addressing factors giving rise to migration might in turn also contribute to increased security. Such factors included: proper dialogue and handling in connection with movements of migrants, the fight against poverty, facilitation of legal migration and integration and increased action against illegal migration.
- Consideration needed to be given to systematic policies aimed at stimulating the reinvestment of remittances by migrants in productive activities in the countries of origin.
- There was a need for co-operation and dialogue in the framework of the OSCE in order to raise awareness of the relationship between migration and development, and of the conditions under which negative factors for sending and receiving countries could be mitigated, e.g., through the development of in connection with the attraction of migrants, and good practices in connection with their integration.
- Concerns were expressed that development might come at the expense of environmental issues, especially considering that a rising number of migrants were environmentally induced migrants. The environmental dimension of migration was proposed for inclusion in the agenda of the Mediterranean Seminar in Rabat in September 2005.

At the end, the Chairperson expressed appreciation for the stimulating debate and the interesting contributions from the speakers, as well as from the Mediterranean Partners and participating States. He also expressed support for continuing the discussion and looked forward to further discussion in Rabat.

**DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS, MIGRATION AND INTEGRATING
PERSONS BELONGING TO NATIONAL MINORITIES:
ENSURING SECURITY AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT IN THE OSCE AREA**

24 May 2005

Report of the Rapporteur

Side event on implementing the Roma and Sinti Action Plan (economic and social aspects): Increasing access of Roma to employment and inclusion in sustainable economic development; elements of an OSCE cross-dimensional approach”

The Moderator, Mr. Mitja Žagar, Director, Institute for Ethnic Studies, Ljubljana, introduced the topic of the side event, and referred to the OSCE Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti within the OSCE Area and the need for a cross-dimensional approach to its implementation. He said that the side event and its emphasis on economic aspects of the Roma and Sinti situation should be seen as a contribution to the ongoing process, which would continue with the Roma and Sinti Joint International Conference in Warsaw, on 20 and 21 October 2005. He also said that the Roma and Sinti were probably the most marginalized minority group in Europe, and called for more effective co-operation between governments, international organizations and NGOs to improve the economic, political and social conditions for Roma and Sinti.

Mr. Nicolae Gheorghe, Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues, OSCE/ODIHR, stressed the importance of interlinking all the different Roma and Sinti initiatives, including by strengthening the co-operation and co-ordination between the OSCE and the Council of Europe, with the aim of generating real action at the local level. He also asked the participating States and the OSCE institutions to work towards implementation of the OSCE Action Plan on Roma and Sinti. Furthermore, he emphasized the importance of facilitating political participation by the Roma and Sinti at all levels of society.

Mr. Michael Guet, Head of the Roma and Travellers Division, Migration and Roma Department, DG III — Social Cohesion, Council of Europe, presented the conclusions of the project “Access to employment of Roma from South East Europe”. Under the project, surveys had been carried out on the economic situation of Roma in Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia and Montenegro. Mr. Guet stressed the importance of allowing the Roma to take a lead role in addressing the questions both of employment and of education and finding viable solutions which reflected needs and realities at the grass-roots level. He also pointed out that improved interaction and more open discussion between authorities and Roma communities were needed to address different employment possibilities, including the “grey economy” in which many Roma were engaged and its possible regulation.

Mr. Nenad Vladislavljev, Roma consultant for the Council of Europe then presented the survey results from the four countries, and recommended specific future steps:

- Roma should take the lead at the local level in identifying employment opportunities;
- Access to local education programmes should be improved;
- The development of small businesses should be supported;
- Legislation should be changed to allow for special needs related to the Roma in respect of education and employment.

Mr. Nicolae Valeriu Ciolan, European Roma Information Office (ERIO), Brussels, discussed the Lisbon Strategy (43/2000 EC) and its application to the Roma. The Strategy placed strong emphasis on combating poverty and social exclusion, and one way to tackle those issues was through employment and employability. However, little had been done to address the issue of unemployment and labour market reintegration of unemployed Roma under the auspices of the Lisbon Strategy. He also mentioned the economic indicators of the Lisbon Strategy and said that if they were available in full for the Roma population, it would clearly show the plight of that population group in areas such as education, employment, housing and health. A Commission Staff Working Paper of 27 January 2005 estimated that the Roma unemployment rate was between 70 and 90 per cent in countries with significant Roma populations and that the female unemployment rate was over 80 per cent. He concluded by saying that there was no EU policy on Roma. Partnerships and co-operation between Roma representatives, national governments and organizations concerned were essential in order to effectively co-ordinate different efforts and develop needs-based locally connected initiatives.

Ms. Jennifer Tanaka, Deputy Director, Pakiv European Roma Fund, reflected on the recommendation by the OSCE Twelfth Economic Forum that a fund for the economic development of local Roma communities should be established. She said that the experience to date of funds for economic development had shown that the activities had had a marginal impact, as in most cases the support had been/was piecemeal and barely touched the surface of the numerous Roma communities within the region. Instead of improving, the situation at the community level was worsening as the surrounding society moved ahead. She therefore called for increased co-operation between the different programmes and initiatives (OSCE Action Plan, EU National Action Plans for Social Inclusion, UN Millennium Development Goals, Decade Action Plans for Roma Inclusion, and government strategies related to Roma) and institutionalization of a practise of critical reflection of the impact and sustainability of various efforts. Only by having a good common understanding of what was being done, and what worked and what did not, could more sustainable approaches be developed. She concluded by recommending that an eventual OSCE — facilitated fund for economic development should not support a limited number of community projects, but should invest in capacity-building for local Roma Associations and local authorities to help them identify and implement responses that formed an integral part of local administrative arrangements.

Mr. Florin Nasture, Pakiv European Roma Fund, discussed national action plans on employment in the Decade of Roma Inclusion. Addressing the issues of employment and education among the Roma was a key factor in the effort to tackle poverty and the low standard of living among the Roma population. In the context of the European integration

efforts of the governments of Central and Eastern European countries, he presented the Romanian Strategy for Improving the Roma Situation as a case study. Local county offices for Roma had been established, but there was still a lack of real co-operation with other local bodies. Therefore, to ensure the effectiveness of those plans, commitment to their implementation had to be ensured at the highest local-authority level, since many of the issues related to improved access to education and employment required a change in institutional practices as well as the creation of permanent mechanisms which would allow Roma-related issues to be integrated into overall development plans.

Mr. Dave Strupek, a lawyer from the Czech Republic, discussed labour market discrimination and gave examples of recent court cases on discrimination against Roma in access to employment in the Czech Republic. For Roma to take action against labour market discrimination they would need access to affordable legal aid.

Mr. Michal Vašečka, Programme Director and Analyst, Institute for Public Affairs, Slovakia, said that there had not been any Roma in Slovakian political structures since the country's independence, and therefore they were not participating in policy-making relevant to them. He discussed different options for rectifying the situation, from forming a Roma political party to adding Roma candidates to the lists of the majority parties and introducing affirmative action to lower the threshold for Roma to allow them access to the political processes. As progress in those areas was slow, he recommended that there should be a focus on strengthening Roma participation at the local and regional levels, since there had been some positive developments in that respect, exemplified as by an increasing number of villages/towns with Roma mayors and town councillors. He concluded by saying that policies and reforms should focus both on mainstreaming and at the same time on targeting the particular needs of the Roma population.

The interventions by participants underscored the need for improved co-ordination of the different programmes and initiatives. An intervention was made regarding the health standards in camps accommodating Kosovo refugees, and the need to seriously review the conditions there. However, improving living conditions in refugee camps and expanding them should not be seen as the best solutions. The speaker pointed to the critical need for programmes aimed at creating and improving conditions for the possible return of refugees to their homes. The participants were also informed about action that Greece was taking in co-operation with Roma communities to address employment, education and housing issues. For example, school classes specifically addressing the needs of Roma children had been formed; access had been provided to public land for Roma settlements; and a new institutional framework had been set up for financing Roma businesses.

Recommendations:

1. This is a need for improved dialogue and co-operation among all the relevant actors to facilitate joint planning and programmes in order to better take advantage of synergies when developing common policies and strategies. These actors are:

- Roma and Sinti communities;
- States and their relevant national action plans;

- International organizations: As an example of inter-organizational co-operation, the Council of Europe and the OSCE are organizing a joint conference on 20 and 21 October 2005 in Warsaw on the implementation of policies /action plans on Roma, Sinti and Travellers at the local level, with a focus on ways of combating discrimination;
- Public institutions, especially institutions related to education and training;
- Civil society, especially NGOs and the business community.

2. There is a need to improve the situation of Roma and Sinti. National action plans should address the issues of:

- Education and training: enhancement of all activities that can help to bring about the inclusion of Roma and Sinti in all spheres of life;
- Employment and economic initiative (creation of Roma businesses), especially at the local and grass-roots levels;
- Health and housing, in particular the need to legalize the existing informal/illegal Roma settlements;
- Information and communication, especially intra-governmental communication, are needed to achieve coherence in Roma-related policies when a country is a party to various Roma-related international initiatives;
- Adoption of legislation to combat discrimination, and facilitation of access to courts (to fight discrimination in the labour market) and other public institutions and services;
- The member States of the European Union should include an explicit focus on Roma when elaborating their national action plans for social inclusion (2007-2013) in the framework of the Lisbon Strategy, and implementation of such national plans should better interlink the resources of the European institutions with those of regions and local communities.

3. The central goal should be the inclusion and integration of the Roma and Sinti in all spheres of life — economic, political, cultural and social — including facilitation of their participation in mainstream political parties. The OSCE/ODIHR should provide expert input on how mainstream parties can increase the number of Roma as members and as candidates on their electoral lists. The OSCE/HCNM and the ODIHR may continue to elaborate and update their guidelines for enhanced participation of national minorities in the electoral process and provide advice on how Roma, Sinti and other similar groups can increase their electoral participation and how electoral success taking in consideration the multiple sources of vulnerability of such groups, such as territorial dispersion, entrenched social exclusion, the persistence of strong and pervasive negative stereotypes and racially motivated hatred (including among the leaders of political parties and legislators).

Host societies should also improve the inclusion of (im)migrant Roma, while countries of origin should assure non-discriminatory access to legal migration.

4. The participating States need to upgrade the relevant institutional mechanisms and to ensure adequate finance of the existing national programmes and policies, on both annual and multi-year bases. States should keep their commitments, among others, by strengthening their monitoring methodologies and mechanisms and providing accurate information on how to assess and measure the actual impact of their policies on the improvement of the situation of the Roma and Sinti, including efforts to implement the OSCE Action Plan on Roma and Sinti Issues. The ODIHR and OCEEA should enhance their activities aimed at strengthening the organizational capacity of Roma and Sinti associations so that they can become effective partners in implementing Roma-related policies. Under this point, it is recommended that:

5. The inclusion and participation of Roma in programmes should be brought about through the development of partnerships truly reflecting the interests of the target population. In this context, it is recommended that OSCE institutions should consider the possibility of a fund for sustainable development of local Roma communities.

6. Concerned States and international organizations should address the issue of Roma and Sinti refugees and internally displaced persons in crisis and post-crisis situations. In this context, the OSCE may use its institutions and field presences to contribute to finding fair and durable solutions to the current humanitarian crisis of the Roma IDPs who have been living in the refugee camps of northern Mitrovica since the summer of 1999. It will be necessary to involve the families concerned in the negotiations regarding their return and the reconstruction of their destroyed houses and neighbourhood in Southern Mitrovica.

7. The Roma are one of the ethnic groups currently constructing the elements of a national identity. This process should be observed and all sensitive issues discussed; the Roma themselves may consider articulating this identity as a civic and European identity.

8. Programmes and activities for integrating the Roma should target not only the Roma, but the whole population, so as to facilitate inclusion and prevent discrimination, thereby laying firm and sound foundations for a successful and equal integration of the Roma and Sinti.

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25 May 2005

Report of the Rapporteur

**Side event on the Anti-Trafficking Programme:
Presentation of the status of the OCEEA Anti-Trafficking Programme on
Public-Private Co-operation in the Prevention of Trafficking in Human
Beings (ATP) and other anti-trafficking activities**

The side meeting highlighted the first year's accomplishments of the OCEEA's Anti-Trafficking Programme (ATP). Specific commitments by the private sector, both in self-regulation, through the codes of conduct adopted, and in implementation of economic empowerment activities, reflected some of the successes of the ATP.

Mr. Helen Santiago Fink, Senior Economic Affairs Officer and the Anti-Trafficking Programme Manager of the OSCE/OCEEA, underscored the need for greater political and donor commitment in the field of human capital and economic development in countries of origin as well as in that of addressing the demand side of trafficking in countries of destination.

Changes in the patterns and routes of traffickers were presented as having led to an increase in internal trafficking in some countries, e.g., Moldova, a decreasing age modified profile of victims and an increase in destinations outside of OSCE regions. For that reason, a greater focus on multi-sectoral initiatives was needed to address trafficking from the perspectives of government, civil society and the private sector/business community.

A number of concrete activities under the OCEEA's ATP were presented.

One example was the official launch of the Code of Conduct for Prevention of Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation of Children in Tourism in Bulgaria, in early May 2005. The Code of Conduct was signed by 10 Bulgarian tourism stakeholders as well as by official representatives of the State Agency for Child Protection and Animus Association Foundation. Two round tables had been organized ahead of the signing. The Code of Conduct, adapted to address Bulgaria conditions, became a "living document" and a positive example for other tourism stakeholders in the country. Phase II of the Project (commencing in June) would involve training of tourism industry personnel and extension of the Code to other industry members as well as to the Black Sea region.

Another example of successful public-private co-operation, known as the International Business Leaders Forum (IBLF) Youth Career Initiative was presented by Mr. Kurt Strohmayer, General Manager, JW Marriott Grand Hotel, Bucharest. The Youth Career Initiative (YCI) was a vocational training model developed by the International

Business Leaders Forum (IBLF) based in London. The OCEEA had encouraged the IBLF to bring the model to Romania, and had funded a one-year pilot implementation period in Bucharest. The YCI had provided a six-month comprehensive hospitality training course in the five-star Marriott Hotel for six young persons from disadvantaged backgrounds, identified by the local UNICEF office. At the end of the training course, the participants had received a training certificate. Three of them had subsequently been employed by the hotel through normal recruitment procedures; one had been offered a university scholarship to Athens; and the others had decided on their own to pursue other activities. JW Marriott was very satisfied with the pilot programme and would incorporate it into the hotel's operations, with an expanded training programme for ten young persons starting in the autumn of 2005. Mr. Strohmayer had also advocated the project to other colleagues in the hospitality sector, including the managers of the Hilton, Sofitel, and Grand Plaza hotels in Bucharest.

The ATP project on Training for Women in Entrepreneurship and Business Competition in Azerbaijan was presented by a representative of the OSCE Office in Baku, who highlighted the value of development of human capital through training and support to start-up businesses as a preventive strategy, particularly in marginalized areas where most of the men had migrated, leaving women as heads of household and thus making them vulnerable to trafficking.

Planned project activities were presented for the second phase of the ATP, with a greater emphasis on income generation and job creation in countries of origin. It was stressed that extra-budgetary funding was needed in order to continue project implementation. In addition, addressing the demand side of trafficking required greater political and financial commitment.

Ms. Antonia De Meo, Anti-trafficking Officer, OSCE Mission to Moldova, provided an overview of the country's situation, stating that Moldova was not only a country of origin, but also a transit and destination country for trafficking in human beings and sex tourism. Initiatives supporting the development of economic opportunities and employment for women were very welcome and much needed. She supported the proposed project, on Public-Private Co-operation in the Prevention of Trafficking in Human Beings in Moldova, and praised its timeliness and the comprehensive focus on self-regulation, awareness-raising and economic empowerment. A representative of the Italian Consortium of Solidarity (ICS), an identified implementing partner of the project, spoke on the experience of the ICS in Moldova, providing economic opportunities to vulnerable women and former victims, and of the Consortium's intention to canvass the Italian business community to identify potential employers among those companies planning to start up operations in Moldova.

A Japanese representative conveyed the recent commitment assumed by the country's tourism industry in adopting the Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism, as well as its financial commitment to assist child victims of the recent tsunami. Other statements by country representatives applauded all the OSCE's anti-trafficking efforts, while advocating even greater internal co-ordination.

Other OSCE anti-trafficking priorities were presented by representatives of the Anti-Trafficking Assistance Unit and the ODIHR, who outlined their respective activities in the context of the implementation of the OSCE Anti-Trafficking Action Plan. A call was also issued for a closer look at the linkages among migration, forced labour and trafficking.

**DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS, MIGRATION AND INTEGRATING
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26 May 2005

Report of the Rapporteur

**Side event on the presentation of
the Labour Migration Project — Armenia: A practical example of OSCE
field work in the area of labour migration**

The OSCE Office in Yerevan, together with the Delegation of the Republic of Armenia to the OSCE, invited Forum participants to a side event devoted to the presentation and discussion of the Labour Migration Project being implemented in Armenia. The Government of Armenia was represented by Mr. Ashot Yesayan, First Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs; Ms. Hranush Kharatyan, Head of the National Minorities and Religious Affairs Department, Staff of the Government; Mr. Varuzhan Nersessian, Head of the OSCE Division at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Gagik Gevorgian, Member of the State Council on Statistics, National Statistical Service; and the Delegation of the Republic of Armenia to the OSCE led by Ambassador Jivan Tabibian.

Mr. Ashot Yesayan, First Deputy Minister for Labour and Social Affairs, opened the session and expressed the gratitude of the Armenian Government for the invitation to the Economic Forum, and especially for the opportunity to hold the side event on the first phase of the project on labour migration being implemented jointly by the OSCE Office in Yerevan and his Ministry. Mr. Yesayan gave a short overview of the Armenian socio-economic situation and the Government's policies, especially in the area of poverty reduction, with special consideration for stability and security in the country.

Ms. Blanka Hancilova, Democratization Officer at the OSCE Office in Yerevan, introduced the cross-dimensional project on labour migration and its two components: (1) review of migration legislation and the administrative framework; and (2) a nationwide representative sociological survey of households. The project could serve as an example of practical field work in that area, and the Office would be glad to share its experience with other OSCE field presences.

The introduction was followed by presentations of the review of migration legislation and the administrative framework (by Ms. Hana Kabeleova, international expert) and of the results of the nationwide representative sociological survey of households (by Ms. Hancilova).

In the discussion, the following main points were raised:

1. Best practices

What were the best practices, if any? The presenters maintained that, considering how multifaceted the phenomenon of migration was, it might not be possible to identify any “best practices”, but it is possible to identify relevant practices implemented in other countries that had faced similar challenges (for example, Central and Eastern European countries that had considerably revised their migration management since the early 1990s).

2. Protection of human rights, right to privacy, data protection

The report among other things noted the current Armenian practice in the field of data protection, and the author suggested that the legal framework might not sufficiently guarantee human rights. That sparked a lively discussion about the erosion of the right to privacy and other human rights in the context of the fight against terrorism, and it was noted that the right to privacy had been eroded in many countries. The presenters agreed and noted that international human rights commitments and obligations should nevertheless be used as a benchmark and applied everywhere.

3. Other issues discussed included tools for migration management, such as bilateral treaties. It was noted that small countries often did not possess enough real power to protect the rights of their citizens abroad.

4. It was noted that the review of migration legislation and the administrative framework, and the nationwide representative sociological survey of households, might provide a good basis for the development of national policies in the field of migration, yet without adequate follow-up, the expected results, such as harmonization of national legislation, might not be achieved.

It was noted by the Armenian delegation that, while the research was comprehensive, it comprised many observations and conclusions relevant for inward migration, a phenomenon of very limited relevance in Armenia.

The OSCE Office in Yerevan has taken careful note of the comments and remarks of the participants in the side event, and will make an effort to integrate these into the agenda of the Second Workshop on Labour Migration, tentatively planned for October 2005, and into the design of follow-up activities planned for the second half of 2005 and 2006.

Mr. Yesayan expressed the desire of the Armenian Government to pursue the co-operation with the OSCE Office in Yerevan, taking into consideration the recommendations of the 13th Economic Forum.

LOG OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE THIRTEENTH MEETING OF THE ECONOMIC FORUM

Theme: Demographic Trends, Migration and Integrating Persons Belonging to National Minorities: Ensuring Security and Sustainable Development in the OSCE Area

Ref. No.	Date of document	Originator	Title/Content	Lang
I. Opening plenary, Monday, 23 May 2005				
EF.DEL/21/05	22.5.05	European Commission	Keynote Statement by Mr. Vladimir Spidla, European Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities	E/F
EF.DEL/29/05	23.5.05	Croatia	Statement by the Assistant Minister Tomislav Vidosevic	E
EF.DEL/30/05	23.5.05	Czech MFA	Welcoming Remarks by H.E. Pavel Svoboda, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, Czech Republic	E
EF.DEL/31/05	23.5.05	CiO-Slovenia	Statement by Dr. Dimitrij Rupel, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia	E
EF.DEL/32/05	23.5.05	Russian Federation	Statement by Mr. Fedotov, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs	E/R
EF.DEL/33/05	24.5.05	Azerbaijan	Statement by Ambassador F. Ismayilov, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to OSCE	E
EF.DEL/34/05	24.5.05	GUAM	Statement of the GUAM Participating States	E
EF.DEL/35/05	23.5.05	Belarus	Statement by Ambassador Alyaksandr Sychov, Representative of the Republic Belarus to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe	E/R
EF.DEL/48/05	24.5.05	Poland	Statement by H.E. Dr. Piotr A. Switalski, Undersecretary of State, Ministry for Foreign Affairs	E
EF.DEL/55/05	25.5.05	USA	Statement by Ambassador Stephan M. Minikes	E
EF.DEL/60/05	25.5.05	Switzerland	Demographic Trends, Migration and Integrating Persons Belonging to National Minorities: Ensuring Security and Sustainable Development in the OSCE Area: Intervention	E/G
EF.DEL/70/05	26.5.05	Luxembourg/EU	Statement	E
EF.DEL/76/05	7.6.05	Armenia	Statement by Ambassador Jivan Tabibian	E
EF.GAL/14/05	24.5.05	HCNM	Address by Mr. Rolf Ekeus, High Commissioner on National Minorities	E
EF.GAL/15/05	25.5.05	OCEEA	Welcoming Remarks by Mr. Marcin Swiecicki, Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities	E
EF.GAL/16/05 Corr.1	25.5.05	ODIHR	Address by Ambassador Christian Strohal, Director, ODIHR	E
EF.IO/9/05	23.5.05	IOM	Keynote Statement by Mr. Brunson McKinley, Director General of the International Organization for Migration	E
EF.IO/12/05	23.5.05	EEC	Keynote Address by Mr. Grigory Rapota, Secretary General of the Eurasian Economic Community	E/R
EF.IO/13/05	23.5.05	UNECE	Keynote Address by Ms. Brigita Schmoegnerova, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)	E
EF.IO/17/05	24.5.05	CoE	Keynote Address by Mr. Alexander Vladychenko, Director General of Social Cohesion, Council of Europe	E
II. Review of the implementation of OSCE commitments in the economic and environmental dimension: Integration, trade and transport, Tuesday, 24 May 2005				
EF.DEL/38/05	24.5.05	Azerbaijan	Contribution by Azerbaijan	E/R
EF.DEL/39/05	24.5.05	Liechtenstein	Statement	E/G
EF.DEL/45/05	24.5.05	Russian Federation	Statement	E/R

Ref. No.	Date of document	Originator	Title/Content	Lang
EF.DEL/54/05	25.5.05	Czech Republic	Statement in Reply to the Principality of Liechtenstein	E
EF.DEL/56/05	25.5.05	Belarus	Statement by Mr. Denis Sidorenko, Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Belarus to the OSCE	E/R
EF.DEL/71/05	26.5.05	Luxembourg/EU	Statement	E
EF.GAL/9/05	20.5.05	OCEEA	WTO and the OSCE Participating States, Note Prepared for the Review of Implementation of OSCE Commitments in the Economic and Environmental Dimension	E
EF.IO/1/05	11.5.05	UNECE	UNECE Report on Integration, Trade and Transport	E
EF.IO/2/05	22.5.05	UNECE	Presentation by Mr. Abdur Chowdhury, Director, Economic Analysis Division, UNECE; PPP	E
EF.IO/3/5	23.5.05	EBRD	Presentation by Ms. Vanessa Mitchell-Thomson; PPP	E
EF.NGO/22/05	25.5.05	NGO Germany	Keynote Statement by Mr. Michael Harms, German Committee on Eastern European Economic Relations	E
III. Presentation of the activity report by the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, Tuesday, 24 May 2005				
EF.GAL/10/05	24.5.05	OCEEA	Activity Report: June 2004 – May 2005	E
EF.GAL/10/05/ Add.1	22.5.05	OCEEA	Presentation of the OCEEA Activity Report by Mr. Marcin Swiecicki, Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities; PPP	E
EF.GAL/27/05	27.5.05	OCEEA	Statement by Mr. Marcin Swiecicki on the Presentation of the 2004/2005 Activity Report	E
IV. Review of the implementation of commitments in the OSCE economic and environmental dimension: Integration and trade, Tuesday, 24 May 2005				
EF.DEL/47/05	24.5.05	European Commission	Contribution by Ambassador Christian Falkowski, Head of the European Commission Delegation	E
EF.IO/4/05	22.5.05	UNECE	Presentation by Mr. Mario Apostolov, Regional Adviser, Trade Development and Timber Divisi	E
EF.IO/15/05	24.5.05	WTO	Contribution by Mr. Daniel Linotte and Ms. Amalija Pavic, Senior Trade Advisors, Policy and Legal Advice Centre LAC), EU Project/EAR, Commitments within the WTO and the Accession Processes	E
EF.IO/16/05	24.5.05	WTO	Background Material by Mr. Daniel Linotte and Ms. Amalija Pavic; PPP	E
EF.NGO/1/05/ Rev.1	23.5.05	Syngenta International AG	Presentation by Mr. Michael Stopford, Head of Global Public Affairs and Government Relations; PPP	E
V. Review of the implementation of OSCE commitments in the economic and environmental dimension: Transport, Tuesday, 24 May 2005				
EF.IO/11/05	23.5.05	UNECE	Presentation by Mr. Michalis Adamantiadis, Regional Adviser; PPP	E
VI. Session I: Population developments, Wednesday, 25 May 2005				
EF.DEL/49/05	25.5.05	Czech Republic	Presentation by Ms. Vera Ivanovicova, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs; PPP	E
EF.DEL/57/05	25.5.05	Belarus	Statement by Mr. Andrei Popov, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	E/R
EF.DEL/58/05	25.5.05	Norway	Statement by Ambassador Mette Kongshem	E
EF.IO/5/05	22.5.05	IOM	Presentation by Mr. Claus Folden, Co-ordinator, Technical Co-operation Centre, International Organization for Migration; PPP	E
EF.NGO/16/05	24.5.05	NGO	Presentation by Mr. Wolfgang Lutz, Director, Vienna Institute for Demography, Leader, World Population Programme, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis; PPP	E
VII. Session II: Improving economic prospects in countries of emigration, Wednesday, 25 May 2005				
EF.DEL/59/05	25.5.05	Thailand	Intervention	E
EF.DEL/69/05	26.5.05	USA	Background Information by Ms. Ellen M. Thrasher	E
EF.IO/22/05	25.5.05	EBRD	Presentation by Mr. Fernand Pillonel, Head of Office, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Tajikistan; PPP	E

Ref. No.	Date of document	Originator	Title/Content	Lang
EF.NGO/2/05	22.5.05	FINCA	Presentation by Mr. John Fitzgerald, FINCA Samara, Russia Country Director; PPP	E
EF.NGO/3/05	22.5.05	CASE	Presentation by Mr. Roman Mogilevsky, Executive Director, Center for Social and Economic Research (CASE), Kyrgyzstan; PPP	E
VIII. Session III: Environment and migration, Wednesday, 25 May 2005				
EF.DEL/22/05	25.5.05	Tajikistan	Presentation by Mr. R. Latipov, Deputy Chairman of the State Committee on Environment and Forestry, Tajikistan; PPP	E/R
EF.DEL/22/05/ Add.1	25.5.05	Tajikistan	Presentation by Mr. R. Latipov, Deputy Chairman of the State Committee on Environment and Forestry, Tajikistan; PPP	E/R
EF.GAL/11/05	22.5.05	OCEEA	Background paper for Session III of the 13th Meeting of the OSCE Economic Forum	E
EF.NGO/4/05	22.5.05	Fellow, Oxford University	Contribution by Professor Norman Myers, Fellow, Oxford University, United Kingdom	E
EF.NGO/05/05/ Rev.1	25.5.05	LIVES	Presentation by Mr. David Stone, Director. Livelihood and Environmental Security (LIVES) Advisory Group; PPP	E
IX. Session IV: Providing services for migrants, Wednesday 25 May 2005				
EF.DEL/51/05	25.5.05	Albania	Statement	E
EF.DEL/62/05	25.5.05	Azerbaijan	Statement by Mr. Mahammad Maherramov, Deputy Head of the Department for Problems of Refugees, Forcibly Displaced Persons and Migration and for Co-operation with International Humanitarian Organizations of the Cabinet of Ministers	E/R
EF.DEL/63/05	25.5.05	Azerbaijan	Proposal	E
EF.FR/2/05	24.5.05	OSCE Centre in Dushanbe	Report on OSCE/IOM Information Resource for Labour Migrants in Dushanbe, Tajikistan	E
EF.IO/6/05	22.5.05	IOM	Presentation by Mr. Maurizio Busatti, Chief of Mission, International Organization for Migration, Tirana; PPP	E
EF.IO/7/05	22.5.05	IOM	Contribution by Mr. Maurizio Busatti, Chief of Mission, International Organization for Migration, Tirana	E
EF.NGO/15/05	24.5.05	University Washington	Presentation by Ms. Susan Martins, Migration Expert, Georgetown University Washington; PPP	E
X. Session V: Awareness-raising and economic integration in countries of destination, Thursday, 26 May 2005				
EF.DEL/23/05	22.5.05	European Commission	Contribution by Mr. Steve Arnott, Expert, Directorate General Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, Directorate National Employment and Social Inclusion, Monitoring and European Social Fund Operation, PPP	E
EF.DEL/63/05	25.5.05	Azerbaijan	Proposal	E
EF.DEL/65/05	26.5.05	Azerbaijan	Statement by Mr. Mahammad Maharramov, Deputy Head of the Department for Problems of Refugees, Forcibly Displaced Persons and Migration and for Co-operation with International Humanitarian Organizations of the Cabinet of Ministers	E/R
EF.IO/8/05	22.5.05	ICMPD	Presentation by Ms. Ann-Charlotte Nygard, Acting Director, Policy Development, International Centre for Migration Policy Development	E
EF.IO/8/05/ Add.1	26.5.05	ICMPD	Presentation by Ms. Ann-Charlotte Nygard, Acting Director, Policy Development, International Centre for Migration Policy Development; PPP	E
EF.IO/18/05	24.5.05	ILO	Background Information, International Labour Organisation	E
EF.IO/19/05	24.5.05	ILO	Contribution by Mr. Martin Oelz, International Labour Standards Department, International Labour Office	E
XI. Session VI: The informal sector, Thursday, 26 May 2005				
EF.IO/20/05	25.5.05	ICMPD	Presentation by Ms. Alenka Mesojedec-Pervisek, Senior Policy Advisor, International Center for Migration Policy Development	E

Ref. No.	Date of document	Originator	Title/Content	Lang
EF.NGO/6/05	22.5.05	Moscow State University	Contribution by Dr. Irina Ivakhniuk, Senior Researcher, Deputy Director of the Department of Population, Faculty of Economics, Moscow State University "Lomonosov", Russian Federation	E
XII. Session VII: Policies of integration of persons belonging to national minorities, Thursday, 26 May 2005				
EF.DEL/44/05	24.5.05	Latvia	Background Information	E
EF.DEL/66/05	26.5.05	Bulgaria	Statement	E
EF.DEL/67/05	26.5.05	Serbia and Montenegro	Statement by Mr. Milorad Scepunovic, Director of the Directorate for OSCE and CoE	E
EF.DEL/72/05	27.5.05	Estonia	Statement	E
EF.DEL/73/05	27.5.05	Kazakhstan	Statement	E/R
EF.IO/21/05	25.5.05	FAO	Statement by Ms. Maria Kadlecikova, Subregional Representative, Subregional Office for Central and Eastern Europe, Budapest, Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN	E
EF.IO/23/05	26.5.05	CoE	Intervention by Michael Guet, Head of Roma and Travellers	E
EF.NGO/7/05	22.5.05	Ethnic Studies, Slovenia	Contribution by Mr. Mitja Zagar, Director, Institute of Ethnic Studies, Ljubljana, Slovenia	E
EF.NGO/10/05	23.5.05	ECMI	Contribution by Ms. Tove Malloy, Senior Research Associate, European Centre for Minority Issues, Flensburg, Germany	E
EF.NGO/14/05	23.5.05	CRE	Contribution by the Commission for Racial Equality (CRE)	E
XIII. Session VIII: Economic and social integration of persons belonging to national minorities, Thursday, 26 May 2005				
EF.DEL/24/05	22.5.05	Tajikistan	Presentation by Mr. Karomatullo Olimov, State Counsellor of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan and Social Development and Public Relations, PPP	R
EF.DEL/61/05	25.5.05	Switzerland	Declaration and Recommendation	E
EF.DEL/68/05	26.5.05	Azerbaijan	Statement by Mr. T. Rajabov, Head of the International Co-operation Section and Migration Board of the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of the Population	E/R
EF.GAL/25/05	26.5.05	HCNM	Statement by Mr. John de Fonblanque, Director, Office of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities	E
EF.IO/23/05	26.5.05	CoE	Intervention by Mr. Michael Guet, Head of Roma and Travellers Division, DG III Social Cohesion	E
XIV. OSCE as a platform for dialogue and co-operation, Friday, 27 May 2005				
EF.DEL/74/05	31.5.05	CIO-Slovenia	Presentation by Ambassador Boris Frlec, Chairperson of the 13th Meeting of the OSCE Economic Forum	E
XV. Closing plenary, Friday, 27 May 2005				
EF.DEL/75/05	31.5.05	CIO-Slovenia	Concluding Remarks by the Chairperson of the Economic Forum	E
EF.GAL/32/05	8.6.05	OCEEA	Closing Remarks by the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities	E
XVI. Side event with the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation, Tuesday, 24 May 2005				
EF.DEL/46/05	24.5.05	Algeria	Statement	F
EF.DEL/52/05	25.5.05	Italy	The Italian Experience in the European Context	E
EF.IO/14/05	24.5.05	OECD	Presentation by Mr. Jean. Pierre Garson, Head of Non Member Economies and International Migration Division, OECD; PPP	E
XVII. Side event in implementing the Roma and Sinti Action Plan, Tuesday, 24 May 2005				
EF.FR/1/05	22.5.05	OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina	Report on Roma Informal Settlements in Bosnia and Herzegovina	E
EF.GAL/6/05/Rev.1	24.5.05	OCEEA	Draft Agenda	E
EF.IO/24/05	3.6.05	CoE	Intervention by Mr. Miguel Guet, Head of Roma and Travellers Division, Council of Europe	E
EF.NGO/17/05	24.5.05	ERIO	Presentation by Mr. Valeriu Nicolae, European Roma Information Office, Brussels; PPP	E

Ref. No.	Date of document	Originator	Title/Content	Lang
EF.NGO/18/05	24.5.05	Ethnic Studies Slovenia	Presentation by Mr. Mitja Zagar, Moderator, Director, Institute for Ethnic Studies, Ljubljana, Slovenia; PPP	E
EF.NGO/23/05	25.5.05	HCHR in Serbia	National Minorities in Serbia: In Conflict with a State Ethnic Identity	E
EF.NGO/24/05	25.5.05	HCHR in Serbia	Annual Report 2005, Kosovo: The Status Issue	E
EF.NGO/25/05	25.5.05	HCHR in Serbia	Annual Report 2004, Sandzak: Still a Vulnerable Region	E
EF.NGO/26/05	25.5.05	PAKIV	Statement of the PAKIV European Roma Fund	E
EF.NGO/27/05	25.5.05	Romani NGO	Statement of Romani NGO's of France Rromani Baxt, AVER contre le Racisme, La voix des Roms et Ternikano Berno	E
EF.NGO/28/05	25.5.05	CoE	Statement by Mr. Nenad Vladislavljev, CoE Local Consultant for Serbia	E
XVIII. Side event — Anti-trafficking Programme, Wednesday, 25 May 2005				
EF.DEL/26/05	22.5.05	Japan	Japan's Action Plan	E
EF.DEL/27/05	22.5.05	Japan	Contribution by Japan; PPP	E
EF.DEL/40/05	24.5.05	Japan	Background Information	E
EF.DEL/43/05	24.5.05	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Contribution of the Delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina	E
EF.GAL/4/05/Rev.1	20.5.05	OCEEA	Draft Agenda	E
EF.GAL/13/05	24.5.05	OCEEA	Background Information: Implementation Status and Future Plans of the OCEEA Anti-Trafficking Programme on Public-Private Co-operation in the Prevention of Trafficking in Human Beings (ATP)	E
EF.NGO/8/05	22.5.05	Animus Association	Presentation by Ms. Maria Petrova; PPP	E
EF.NGO/20/05	24.5.05	BBLF	Presentation by Ms. Elitsa Videnova, Bulgarian Business Leader Forum; PPP	E
EF.NGO/21/05	24.5.05	IBLF	Presentation by Mr. Kurt Strohmayer, General Manager, JW Marriott Bucharest Grand Hotel; PPP	E
XIX. Side event — Presentation of Labour Migration Project Armenia, Thursday, 26 May 2005				
EF.FR/4/2005	26.5.05	OSCE Office in Yerevan	Presentation of the Labour Migration Project — Armenia	E
EF.GAL/8/2005	19.5.05	OCEEA	Draft Agenda	E
XX. Reports of the rapporteurs				
EF.GAL/17/05	27.5.05	Rapporteur	Draft Report by the Rapporteur of the Review of the Implementation of OSCE Commitments in the Economic and Environmental Dimension: Integration, Trade and Transport Mr. Jörn Beisert, Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany to the OSCE	E
EF.GAL/18/05	27.5.05	Rapporteur	Draft Report by the Rapporteur of the Review of the Implementation of OSCE Commitments in the Economic and Environmental Dimension: Integration and Trade Mr. Denis Sidorenko, Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Belarus to the OSCE	E
EF.GAL/19/04	27.5.05	Rapporteur	Draft Report by the Rapporteur of the Review of the Implementation of OSCE Commitments in the Economic and Environmental Dimension: Transport Ms. Brigitte Waignein, Permanent Mission of Belgium to the OSCE	E
EF.GAL/20/04	27.5.05	Rapporteur	Draft Report by the Rapporteur of the Session I: Population Developments Ms. Jeannette Kloetzer, Economic and Environmental Officer, OSCE Office in Yerevan	E

Ref. No.	Date of document	Originator	Title/Content	Lang
EF.GAL/21/04	27.5.05	Rapporteur	Draft Report of the Rapporteur of the Session II: Improving Economic Prospects in Countries of Emigration Mr. Armand Pupols, Mission Programme Officer, CPC, OSCE Secretariat	E
EF.GAL/22/05	27.5.05	Rapporteur	Draft Report of the Rapporteur of the Session III: Environment and Migration Mr. Craig Weichel, Delegation of Canada to the OSCE	E
EF.GAL/23/05	27.5.05	Rapporteur	Draft Report of the Rapporteur of the Session IV: Providing Services for Migrants Ms. Kimberly Bulkley, Economic and Environmental Officer, OSCE Centre in Tashkent	E
EF.GAL/24/05	27.5.05	Rapporteur	Draft Report of the Rapporteur of the Side Event on Implementing the Roma and Sinti Action Plan Ms. Nina Lindroos-Kopolo, Associate Programme Officer, OSCE/OCEEA	E
EF.GAL/26/05/ Corr.1	27.5.05	Rapporteur	Draft Report of the Rapporteur of the Side Event with the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation Mr. Fabrizio Scarpa, External Co-operation Officer, OSCE Secretariat	E
EF.GAL/28/05	27.5.05	Rapporteur	Draft Report of the Rapporteur of the Session V: Awareness-Raising and Economic Integration in Countries of Destination Mr. Danielius Pivoriunas, Economic and Environmental Adviser, OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina	E
EF.GAL/29/05	27.5.05	Rapporteur	Draft Report of the Rapporteur of the Session VI: The Informal Sector Mr. Johannes Schachinger, European Commission	E
EF.GAL/30/05	27.5.05	Rapporteur	Draft Report of the Rapporteur of the Session VII: Policies of Integration of Persons Belonging to National Minorities Mr. Vincent de Graaf, Legal Officer, Office of the HCNM	E
EF.GAL/31/05	27.5.05	CiO-Netherlands	Draft Report of the Rapporteur of the Session VIII: Economic and Social Integration of Persons Belonging to National Minorities Ms. Bess Brown, Economic Officer, OSCE Centre in Dushanbe	E
XXI. OSCE Background documents and logistic information				
EF.DEL/14/05	18.5.05	Germany	German Report on International Migration — Sopemi 2004	E/G
EF.DEL/28/05	22.5.05	Japan	Japan's Children Support Plan for Tsunami Victims Suffering from the Disasters Caused by the Major Earthquake off the Coast of Sumatra and the Tsunami in the Indian Ocean	E
EF.DEL/36/05	24.5.05	Poland	Ministry of National Education and Sport, Measures by the Ministry of National Education and Sport for the Integration of Migrants	E
EF.DEL/37/05	24.5.05	Poland	Ministry of Interior and Administration, Migration Situation and the Process of Elaborating Polish Migration Policy	E
EF.DEL/41/05	24.5.05	Albania	Emigration as a Developing Component Since its Surviving Stage	E
EF.DEL/42/05	24.5.05	Albania	Minorities in Albania	E
EF.DEL/50/05	25.5.05	Liechtenstein	Country Report by Liechtenstein	E
EF.DEL/53/05	25.5.05	Thailand	Intergovernmental co-operation on temporary migrants	E
EF.DEL/64/05	25.5.05	Kazakhstan	Contribution	R
EF.FR/3/05/ Rev.1	7.6.05	OSCE Mission to Serbia and Montenegro	Contribution, Business Incubators in Serbia and Montenegro	E
EF.GAL/1/05/ Rev.3	22.5.05	OCEEA	Annotated Agenda	E
EF.GAL/2/05/ Corr.1	27.4.05	OCEEA	Introductory Note Addressing the Main Theme of the 13th Meeting of the OSCE Economic Forum	E

Ref. No.	Date of document	Originator	Title/Content	Lang
EF.GAL/3/05	27.4.05	OCEEA	Letter from the Co-ordinator Regarding the Compilation of Existing Policy Solutions	E
EF.GAL/5/05	18.5.05	CIO-Slovenia	Draft Agenda	E
EF.GAL/7/05	19.5.05	OCEEA	Background Materials for the Thirteenth Meeting of the OSCE Economic Forum: Migration Statistics in the OSCE Region; Role of Media in Shaping Public Perceptions of Immigrants	E
EF.INF/1/05	13.5.05	Czech Rep	Information on Applying for Entry Visa to the Czech Republic	E
EF.INF/2/05/ Rev.1	24.5.05	CS	List of Participants	E
EF.INF/3/05	8.6.05	Mr. Gourlan Mr. Nitzsche	Presentation of the Photographers' Exhibition	E
EF.NGO/9/05	22.5.05	NGO	Contribution by Professor Anis Bajrektarevic, IMC — University of Applied Studies, Austria, PPP	E
EF.IO/10/05	23.5.05	IOM	Managing Migration	E/G/ R
EF.NGO/11/05	23.5.05	Sociological Resource Center, Kazakhstan	Contribution by Mr. Aidossov, Integration Economic Migrants from Central Asian Countries into Kazakhstan's Labour Market Avoiding Intolerance and Discrimination	E
EF.NGO/12/05	23.5.05	National Association of Uigurs, Kazakhstan	Contribution by Mr. Nadyrov, Chairman of the National Association of Uigurs	R
EF.NGO/13/05	23.5.05	National Association of Uigurs, Kazakhstan	Contribution by Mr. Nadyrov, Chairman of the National Association of Uigurs	R
EF.NGO/19/05	24.5.05	ALDI	Contribution by Mr. Imamovic	E
PC.DEC/624	29.7.04	CIO-Bulgaria	Place, Date and Theme for the Thirteenth Meeting of the Economic Forum	
PC.DEC/666	7.4.05	CIO-Slovenia	Main Subjects and Organizational Modalities for the Thirteenth Meeting of the Economic Forum	
SEC.GAL/73/05/ Corr.1	7.4.05	OCEEA	Logistic Information	E
SEC.GAL/84/05	15.4.05	OCEEA	Letter Regarding the Compilation of Speeches and Documents, Distributed at the Preparatory Seminars	E