

Launch Seminar of the Mediterranean edition of the Handbook on Establishing Effective Labour Migration Policies

Rabat, 12-13 December 2007

**Venue: Balafrej Conference Center,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation**

AGENDA

Wednesday, 12 December

07.30 – 9.00 **Registration**

09.00 – 10.30 **OPENING SESSION**

Welcoming remarks

- **Ambassador Youssef Amrani**, Director General of Bilateral Relations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Co-operation, Morocco
- **Mr. José Luis Lozano Garcia**, Head of Multilateral Affairs and OSCE Department and Deputy Head of OSCE Chairmanship Task Force, Spain
- **Ambassador Matjaž Kovačič**, Head of the Department for International Organisations and Human Security, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Slovenia (OSCE Chairmanship in 2005)

Launch of the Mediterranean edition of the Labour Migration Handbook

- **Mr. Bernard Snoy**, Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), Vienna
- **Ms. Michele Klein Solomon**, Director, Migration Policy Research and Communications, International Organization for Migration (IOM), Geneva
- **Mr. Mourad Wahba**, Resident Coordinator, United Nations, Morocco (on behalf of International Labour Organization)

Acknowledgement of Presidency and Nomination of General Rapporteur

10.30 - 11.00 **Coffee break**

PLENARY SESSIONS

11.00 – 13.00 **SESSION 1: Economic and Environmental Reasons for migration: push and pull factors**

A review of the various factors driving migration into, across and from countries in the region, notably labour supply and demand pressures, as well as other factors including social and political conditions. Particular attention will be given to the role environmental factors have in contributing to 'push factors' for migrants. The interconnections will be examined between environmental change, desertification, water scarcity, loss of livelihoods, economic performance, and (forced) migration. Recent policies and innovative practices that have improved employment and work prospects will be showcased. Ongoing research initiatives in this area in the Mediterranean region, their methodologies, preliminary results and potential scenarios will also be presented.

Moderator: **Mr. Mohammed Badraoui**, Director of Combating Desertification and Nature Protection, High Commissariat for Water, Forest and Combating Desertification, Morocco

Speakers:

- **Mr. Patrick Taran**, Senior Migration Specialist, ILO, Geneva
- **Mr. Dario Caputo**, Deputy Prefect Ministry of Home Affairs, Department for Civil Liberties and Immigration, Italy
- **Ms. Michele Klein-Solomon**, Director, Migration Policy Research and Communications, IOM, Geneva
- **Mr. Yehia Abdel Kader Zakrya**, Head of Central Department for Communication and Environmental Awareness, Environmental Affairs Agency, Egypt
- **Mr. Tamer Afifi**, Junior Academic Officer, Environmental Change and Forced Migration, United Nations University – Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS)

Rapporteur: **Mr. Philip Reuchlin**, Economic and Environmental Adviser, Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA), Vienna

13.00 – 14.30 **Lunch break**

14.30 – 16.00 **SESSION 2: International Legal Framework for the Protection of Migrant Workers**

Presentations and discussion will review the international standards and recommendations providing a framework for governance of labour migration. Attention will be given to relevant international standards – in particular UN and ILO conventions and OSCE commitments - for strengthening national law and practice on regulating labour migration, in particular to ensure protection of basic human and labour rights of migrant workers and to combat trafficking for labour exploitation. Regional instruments of the Council of Europe, the European Union and the Strategic Framework for a Migration Policy for Africa will also be referenced.

Moderator: **Mr. Metin Tosun**, Expert on Migrant Workers, Ministry of Labour and Social Security, Turkey

Introducers:

- **Mr. Patrick Taran**, Senior Migration Specialist, International Migration Programme, ILO, Geneva
- **Mr. Ryszard Cholewinski**, Migration Specialist, Migration Policy Research and Communications, IOM, Geneva

Speakers:

- **Mr Abdelhamid El Jamri**, Vice President, Committee on the Protection of the Rights of all Migrant Workers and Members of their Families
- **Mr. Andrew Mizzi**, National Secretary, General Worker's Union, Malta

Rapporteur: **Ms. Naima Senhadji**, Programme Administrator, ILO, Morocco

16.00 – 16.30 **Coffee break**

16.30 - 18.00 **SESSION 3: Labour Migration Policies in Countries of Origin**

A range of policy strategies and institutional arrangements cited in the Handbook will be examined, which can assist in improving the scope and efficiency of their regulatory mechanisms and support services: information dissemination, legal migration procedures before departure and services to departing and returning migrants.

Moderator: **Mr. Mustapha Tlili**, Co-ordinator for the Middle East, International Trade Union Confederation

Introducer: **Mr. Nilim Baruah**, Chief Technical Advisor, Regional Migration Programme, ILO Moscow (former Head, IOM Labour Migration Department)

Speakers:

- **Mr. M. Jamal El Jirari**, Chief of Division, Direction of Employment, Ministry of Employment and Vocational Training, Morocco
- **Ambassador Hani Khallaf**, Assistant Minister of Manpower and Migration, Egypt
- **Ms. Carmela Godeau**, Deputy Director, Regional Office for the Mediterranean, Regional Programme Development Officer, MRF IOM Rome
- **Mr. Belhassen Boukhtioua**, Director, Department for Applications and Information Technology, Agency for Technical Cooperation, Tunisia

Rapporteur: **Ms. Laura Lungarotti**, Programme Officer, IOM, Rabat

19.30 - 21.00 **Dinner hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Morocco**

Thursday, 13 December

09.00 – 10.30 **SESSION 4: Labour Migration Policies in Destination countries: regulating labour migration, protecting migrant workers and ensuring social cohesion**

Examination of policy strategies and measures described in the Handbook to improve the scope and efficiency of regulatory mechanisms, institutions and support services of destination countries in admitting migrant workers at all skill levels and in regulating their inclusion in labour markets and host communities. Attention will be given to labour market regulations, migrant worker legal and social protection, anti-discrimination and integration and social security issues as described in the Handbook. New developments and interesting initiatives being taken by the countries in the Mediterranean region will be discussed.

Moderator: **Mr. El Mahfoud Megateli**, Employer, Member of ILO Governing Body (General Confederation of Algerian Enterprises)

Introducer:

- **Mr. Ryszard Cholewinski**, Migration Specialist, IOM, Geneva

Speakers:

- **Mr. Bernardo Manuel Vieira e Sousa**, Director, High Commission for Immigration and Intercultural Dialogue, ACIDI, Portugal
- **Mr. Sharon Glassman**, Senior Advisor to the Director General, Ministry of Immigrant Absorption, Israel
- **Mr. Alex T. Johnson**, Staff Advisor, Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (U.S. Helsinki Commission), United States of America

Rapporteur: **Ms. Ina Jurasin**, Project Assistant, OSCE/OCEEA, Vienna

10.30 – 11.00 **Coffee break**

11.00 – 12.30 **SESSION 5: Gender sensitive labour migration policies**

The significant roles that women play in labour migration and specific risks faced by migrant women will be highlighted. Policy options to ensure that gender aspects of labour migration are mainstreamed into the relevant policies both in countries of origin and destination will be discussed.

Moderator: **Ambassador Antti Rytövuori**, Embassy of Finland to Morocco

Introducer: **Ms. Nina Lindroos-Kopolo**, Economic Governance Adviser, OSCE/OCEEA, Vienna

Speakers:

- **Mr. Fayez Al-Jbour**, Head, Legislation and Conventions Section, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Jordan
- **Ms. Jamila Seftaoui**, Senior Adviser on Gender Issues, OSCE, Vienna
- **Ms. Houria Mchichi Alami**, Professor, University Hassan II, Casablanca, Morocco

Rapporteur: **Ms. Petra Neumann**, Facilitated Migration Specialist, Migration Management Services IOM, Geneva

12.30 – 14.00 **Lunch break**

14.00 – 15.30 **SESSION 6: International Cooperation to Promote Legal Labour Migration and Reduce Irregular Migration**

The discussion will focus on the latest international cooperation mechanisms on labour migration related to the Mediterranean region. Experience will be exchanged on the effectiveness and practical implementation of bilateral labour agreements, enhanced channels for labour circulation, visa policies, sanctions regarding irregular migration and international cooperation to tackle irregular labour migration. Global level agreements such as UN and ILO conventions on migrant workers will also be highlighted.

Moderator: **Mr. Bernard Snoy**, Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, OSCE, Vienna

Introducer: **Mr Nilim Baruah**, Chief Technical Advisor, Regional Migration Programme, ILO, Moscow

Speakers:

- **Mr. Emilio Moreno Tamayo**, Senior Adviser on European Affairs, Directorate General for Immigration, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Spain
- **Mr. Abdelmajid Sahraoui**, Deputy Secretary General, Workers' Trade Union of Arab Maghreb (USTMA)
- **Mr. Kristof Tamas**, Expert, Directorate-General Justice, Freedom and Security, Immigration and Asylum, EC Brussels
- **Senior Representative**, Ministry of Employment, Algeria (tbc)

Rapporteur: **Ms. Nina Lindroos-Kopolo**, Economic Governance Adviser, OSCE/OCEEA, Vienna

15.30 – 16.00 **Coffee break**

16.00 – 17.30 **SESSION 7: Labour migration, employment and development**

This session will discuss the nexus between employment, labour migration and development. It will address employment creation challenges in origin countries, and migrant contributions of skills, labour, knowledge and initiative to progress in destination countries and contributions to origin countries through remittances, return of talent, and development of trade and business initiatives. Concrete models on how to better support the contributions of migration to development, through concrete cooperation mechanisms like regional consultative processes, will be considered. Also, what concrete contributions the Handbook can make to these efforts will be discussed.

Moderator: **Mr. Mohamed Baallal**, Chief of Division of Cooperation, Ministry of Employment and Vocational Training, Morocco

Introducer: **Mr. Ibrahim Awad**, Director, International Migration Programme, ILO Geneva

Speakers:

- **Ms. Maria Angeles Asenjo Dorado**, Director, International Department, National Construction Industry Confederation (CNC), Spain
- **Mr. Kristof Tamas**, Expert, Directorate-General Justice, Freedom and Security, Immigration and Asylum, EC Brussels
- **Mr. Ricardo Cordero**, Senior Expert on Labour Migration and Facilitated Migration, IOM Geneva

Rapporteur: **Ms. Anelise Gomes De Araujo**, Advisor, Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, OSCE, Vienna

17.30 – 18.30 **CONCLUDING SESSION**

Moderator: **Mr. José Luis Lozano Garcia**, Head of Multilateral Affairs and OSCE Department and Deputy Head of OSCE Chairmanship Task Force, Spain

- **Report by the General Rapporteur**
- **Concluding remarks by the partner organizations:**
 - **Mr Ibrahim Awad**, Director, International Migration Programme, ILO
 - **Ms. Michele Klein Solomon**, Director, Migration Policy Research and Communications, International Organization for Migration (IOM), Geneva
 - **Mr. Bernard Snoy**, Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, OSCE
- **Ambassador Youssef Amrani**, Director General of Bilateral Relations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Co-operation, Morocco