



Second day of the Seventeenth Meeting
MC(17) Journal No. 2, Agenda item 8

DECISION No. 5/09
MIGRATION MANAGEMENT

The Ministerial Council,

Recalling and reaffirming the OSCE commitments related to migration, in particular the relevant provisions of the 1975 Helsinki Final Act, Ministerial Council Decision No. 2/05 on Migration and the Ministerial Statement on Migration (MC.DOC/6/06),

Taking into account the Strategy Document for the Economic and Environmental Dimension adopted by the Ministerial Council in Maastricht (2003) and recalling the Thirteenth OSCE Economic Forum,

Taking note of the initiatives and the work of the OSCE in the framework of the Seventeenth OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum “Migration management and its linkages with economic, social and environmental policies to the benefit of stability and security in the OSCE region”,

Acknowledging the increasing importance of and the benefits stemming from effective migration management for the socio-economic development, social cohesion, security and stability in all countries including those of origin, transit and destination, and fully recognizing the human rights of migrants and their family members,

Underscoring the importance of mainstreaming migration policies into economic, social, environmental, development and security strategies and addressing migration management through co-operative, comprehensive and cross-dimensional approaches,

Underlining the need to facilitate legal migration and fight illegal migration,

Bearing in mind the different approaches to migration issues by the OSCE participating States, and drawing on their experiences and best practices,

Stressing the need to deepen dialogue and co-operation at all levels within and between all States, as well as with all relevant stakeholders, including social partners, business community, civil society and academia, to effectively address the opportunities and challenges related to comprehensive migration management,

Confirming that co-operation, dialogue and exchange of good practices and information on migration management issues remain an important component of the OSCE's comprehensive concept of security, supported as appropriate and within the respective mandates, capacities and resources in all three dimensions,

1. Encourages the participating States to continue to work on migration management by:
 - Paying particular attention to addressing the root causes of migration;
 - Ensuring that their national migration practices comply with their respective international obligations and OSCE commitments;
 - Further elaborating and enhancing implementation of comprehensive and effective national migration policies and action plans as appropriate;
 - Improving the collection of comparable data on migration, in order to facilitate dialogue and exchange of best practices at the OSCE level;
 - Fostering co-operation and partnerships between countries of origin and destination, by facilitating effective legal migration schemes, such as circular migration and other forms of voluntary labour mobility programmes, for the benefit of the development of countries of origin and destination;
 - Respecting the human rights of migrants and increasing efforts to combat discrimination, intolerance and xenophobia towards migrants and their families;
2. Encourages the participating States to incorporate gender aspects in their migration policies, noting the recommendations of the OSCE-produced Guide on Gender Sensitive Labour Migration Policies;
3. Calls upon the participating States to enhance migration management by improved policy coherence between migration and economic, social, environmental and security policies, through consultation, partnership and co-operation among governments at bilateral, regional and interregional levels, as appropriate;
4. Encourages the participating States to take necessary measures to minimize negative impacts of the global financial and economic crisis on migrants by intensifying economic co-operation, creating attractive conditions for investment and business development and facilitating the flow of remittances;
5. Tasks the Permanent Council, its informal subsidiary bodies and the OSCE executive structures, in accordance with their respective mandates across all dimensions, within the Organization's comprehensive concept of security and within existing resources to *inter alia*:
 - Provide a broad regional platform for dialogue on migration and security issues, both among OSCE participating States and between participating States and Partners for Co-operation, with the involvement of other relevant stakeholders in full conformity with the OSCE Rules of Procedure;
 - Continue working on gender aspects of migration;

- Assist participating States, upon their request, to improve migration legislation and to elaborate and implement effective national policy frameworks, by providing advice and training, in co-operation with relevant international and regional organizations;
- Contribute to international efforts to assess the possible impact of environmental degradation on migratory pressures, which climate change may magnify, in order to ensure better preparedness in this area;
- Continue to assist the participating States, upon their request, to promote effective migration management, including exchange of best practices, and to facilitate legal migration and fight illegal migration, while paying particular attention to bilateral and multilateral co-operation in this field.