



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

**Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic  
and Environmental Activities**

**Vienna, 12 November 2008**

To: All OSCE Delegations  
Partners for Co-operation  
Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation

Subject: First Preparatory Conference to the 17<sup>th</sup> 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”

Attached herewith is a document consisting of the Consolidated Summary of the **First Preparatory Conference to the 17th 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”, 16 - 17 October 2008, Prague.



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# CONSOLIDATED SUMMARY

FIRST PREPARATORY CONFERENCE TO 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

PRAGUE, 16-17 OCTOBER 2008

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### **Introduction**

The First Preparatory Conference to the 17<sup>th</sup> 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” - was held on 16-17 October 2008 in Prague. The Prague Conference was organised by the incoming Greek Chairmanship of the OSCE and the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA), with the support of the Government of the Czech Republic and the OSCE Prague Office.

An Introductory Note as well as a “Background Issues for Discussion” paper was circulated together with the Agenda in order to introduce the topics of the Conference (SEC.GAL/184/08/Rev.1).

The Conference was opened by Mr. Tomáš Pojar, First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic, Mr. Ilkka Rentola, Co-ordinator for Migration Policy in the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland, OSCE Chairmanship, Mr. Theodoros Skylakakis, Secretary General for International Economic Relations and Development Co-operation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Greece, OSCE Chairmanship for 2009, and Mr. Bernard Snoy, Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities. Mr. Snoy and Ambassador Mara Marinaki, Permanent Representative of Greece to the OSCE, addressed the concluding session.

Over 180 participants, official representatives from OSCE participating States, International and Non-Governmental Organizations, the Business Community and the Academic Community, as well as OSCE Field Offices, OSCE Secretariat and Institutions, attended the Conference and engaged in discussions. Expert speakers presented their inside knowledge and their views, thereby stimulating the discussion in each session.

Numerous documents and presentations were circulated. A list of these documents is included as an annex in the Consolidated Summary.

### **Structure of the Conference**

The Conference consisted of an opening session, seven plenary working sessions and a concluding debate. The sessions were dedicated to the following topics:

- Session I: Migration context and trends in the OSCE region (and the link with economic development, environmental degradation and security)
- Session II: Management of legal migration
- Session III: Protection of migrants in countries of origin, transit and destination, including gender aspects
- Session IV: Circular migration and return policies
- Session V: Border management co-operation to facilitate labour mobility and combat illegal migration
- Session VI: Combating criminal networks, smuggling of migrants and trafficking of human beings
- Session VII: Prospects for closer inter-state and regional co-operation to develop comprehensive, effective and secure migration management approaches

## **Conclusions and suggestions**

The First Preparatory Conference confirmed the relevance of the theme selected for the 17<sup>th</sup> OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum process - “Migration management and its linkages with economic, social and environmental policies to the benefit of stability and security in the OSCE region”. The debates in Prague added more information and knowledge on the topics under discussion thus contributing to defining more clearly the possible role of the OSCE.

Many recommendations for further consideration by the OSCE Economic and Environmental Committee and the OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum were put forward. Detailed overviews of the discussions and the conclusions of each session are presented in the Rapporteurs’ Reports section of this Consolidated Summary.

Some of the key preliminary conclusions of the Conference are summarized below.

Migration is a global phenomenon and an increasingly complex one, having differing impacts on various countries and regions. Therefore, effective migration management can only be sustained through partnerships and co-operation between destination, transit and origin countries, both bilaterally as well as at the regional and international levels.

Migration policy approaches between countries and regions should be more coherent. Holding regular meetings between migration policy makers from origin, transit and receiving countries is useful.

The dialogue and co-operation among OSCE participating States, international and regional organizations, and other stakeholders, including the civil society and business community should be enhanced. For example, Governments should consider consulting the private sector, among other things, on improving the link between labour market needs for foreign workers (needs assessments) and migration policy. An improved link should help to better address the discrepancies between labour market requirements for different skill sets and current admission policies in countries of destination and also have a positive impact on reducing irregular labour migration. The dialogue and co-operation between governmental and civil society actors should be as well enhanced across the region.

The OSCE could in particular help in stimulating political will as it is well placed to provide a platform for continued dialogue on how to strengthen co-operation in order to develop effective migration policies and practices.

The need for high quality data, statistics and their subsequent analysis was highlighted as an essential tool for informed and good policy making as well as policy impact assessment. Migration policy formulation should start from the correct assessment of economic realities, also including forecasts of labour market needs. Countries should also seek to share data and statistics and to produce more comparable data. Generating more comparable data would require agreeing on common data collection standards. The OSCE could serve as a platform for promoting the desirability of better migration information and raising political will to improve and strengthen current data collection practices.

Discussions of the Conference also referred to the need to promote and support a wider ratification of migration related international and regional legal instruments and their effective implementation. The importance of effectively implementing the recommendations and guidelines of the international conventions at both the national and the local level was stressed.

It was also emphasized that co-operation between destination, transit and origin countries should be oriented towards both encouraging and regulating legal migration and discouraging illegal migration.

With regard to facilitating legal migration and improving legal migration channels, the issue of regulation of the work of recruitment agencies was comprehensively discussed. The need for enhanced co-operation between labour and employment agencies - public and private, national and foreign – was emphasized.

In that connection, it was suggested that the OSCE, in co-operation with other partner organizations, could promote and facilitate the exchange of best practices as well as capacity-building activities for government officials, social partners, recruitment agencies and civil society to develop and implement more effective migration management policies that would help in countering illegal migration.

It was also repeatedly stressed that special attention should be paid to providing migrants and potential migrants with adequate information on legal migration channels, requirements, and other support services, i.e. through the establishment of migrants' information centres, pre-departure orientation and labour attachés. Here the co-operation between origin, transit and destination countries plays a crucial role.

Recent developments on circular migration policies were also discussed. The OSCE could be instrumental in facilitating the sharing of experience concerning the development and implementation of circular migration programmes in its region. It can also promote good practice exchange in regional and bilateral labour agreements. Future meetings of the Forum process could discuss this issue in more detail as well as provide a platform for sharing experiences related to return and the signing of readmission agreements.

Illegal activities such as trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants perpetrated by criminal networks should be firmly countered. Increased co-operation is needed in this field and in particular in areas such as: effective management of borders; inter-agency co-operation; inter-governmental co-operation; and joint cross-border investigation teams. The Integrated Border Management concept could be promoted as an effective border management tool. The OSCE should continue its engagement in this area. Noting the potential security implications of illegal migration and smuggling, the Forum process could further facilitate sharing of experience and promoting international standards on building effective systems to fight and dismantle criminal networks. The links with money-laundering activities should be explored.

The rights of migrants and their protection, including the gender aspects, were other important elements touched upon in Prague. The protection of the human rights of migrants, especially for the most vulnerable groups such as children, women and undocumented migrants, should be prioritized in the overall migration management process. Required amendments based on the provisions of international instruments should be introduced in national legislations.

The issues of environmentally-induced migration and the need for more research in this area were also mentioned during the Prague Conference. The OSCE could contribute to awareness-raising of environmentally induced migration, its possible stability and security impacts and further research needs in its region.

The discussions also touched upon the close link between development and migration. The root causes of migration need to be tackled together by origin and destination countries, namely through the promotion of economic growth and good governance, employment creation,

eradication of poverty and protection of human rights. Improved socio-economic conditions and opportunities in countries of origin encourage voluntary return and make reintegration support programmes easier to implement with success. The potential development impact of migration in origin countries, through an effective use of migrants' remittance was also raised.

All in all, the Prague Conference reconfirmed that the OSCE, based on its comprehensive mandate and existing experience, is well placed to mobilize political will, promote multilateral dialogue, work closely with other relevant partner organizations and stakeholders, including the private sector and civil society, encourage participating States to undertake the necessary steps that will contribute to the implementation of existing norms, standards, effective practices and commitments in this increasingly challenging field of migration management.

### **The way forward**

The key challenges related to improving migration management, namely improving the channels for legal migration and reducing illegal migration and combating organized criminal activities related to international migration, will receive further attention in the following meetings of the 17<sup>th</sup> OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum process, in particular in the first part of the Forum.

According to the PC Decision No. 857, the 17<sup>th</sup> OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum is to be held in two stages - on 19 and 20 January 2009 in Vienna; and from 18 to 20 May 2009 in Athens.

A Second Preparatory Conference, focusing mainly on the interconnections between migration policies and economic, social, environmental and security policies, and how policy cohesion can be promoted, will be organized in spring 2009.

It is expected that the Economic and Environmental Committee also discusses the preliminary conclusions and suggestions stemming from the Prague Preparatory Conference, in order to streamline the preparatory process for the Forum and identify appropriate follow-up actions.

### **Annexes**

A number of annexes - *Agenda, List of Participants and Log of Contributions* - have been attached to give you a more complete picture of the Prague Conference. For further reading, please note that background documents from this conference can be found on the OSCE web site under - [http://www.osce.org/conferences/eef17\\_prep1.html](http://www.osce.org/conferences/eef17_prep1.html) - or requested at the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities ([gabriel.leonte@osce.org](mailto:gabriel.leonte@osce.org) or [andrea.gredler@osce.org](mailto:andrea.gredler@osce.org)).

Further information on the activities of the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities and the Economic and Environmental Forum process can as well be found on the OSCE Website: [www.osce.org/eea](http://www.osce.org/eea).

## **Opening Statement**

**Mr. Ilkka Rentola,  
Co-ordinator for Migration Policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Finland,  
OSCE Chairmanship**

Minister Pojar,  
Secretary General Skylakakis,  
Mr. Moderator,  
Distinguished delegates,

On behalf of the Finnish OSCE Chairmanship I would like to express my appreciation to the Government of Czech Republic for hosting this first Preparatory Conference for the 17<sup>th</sup> OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum.

I would also like to thank the incoming Greek Chairmanship and the OSCE Secretariat for preparing this meeting and International Organisation for Migration (IOM) for making a very comprehensive background document that lists key migration policy issues to be discussed. It is our challenge during the process to identify most relevant issues that would be further studied and complemented.

Ladies and gentlemen,

With globalisation and demographic changes we are facing a new era of international mobility. The number of persons living outside their country of birth has been growing and will grow. In Europe population is aging and there is a growing imbalance of demand and supply of labour. This is also the case in the OSCE region.

In a time of global networks and internet people can easily get access to information on labour market opportunities. The question is how disciplined and managed the movement of people will be and are we able to minimize the negative effects of migration.

This requires partnerships and cooperation among the governments. The cooperation should be for benefit of the countries of origin, transit and destination but we should not forget the migrants themselves that often are in vulnerable situations.

A major change in migration policy thinking has taken place, namely the shift from primarily reducing migratory pressure to a more balanced approach guided by better understanding of all aspects of migratory flows, making migration and mobility positive forces for development and giving greater consideration to the positive impact of migration also to the economic development.

This new policy direction has had its implications also to national migration policies for example Finland adopted in 2006 a Governments Migration Policy programme with a stronger emphasis on labour migration and active recruitment.

In the OSCE Chairmanship programme Finland has emphasised continuity, coherence and coordination. These concepts are very important also in the context of migration. Continuity in a sense that the process should be based on what has been achieved up to now and that the future Chairmanships would follow-up and be committed, especially in terms of implementation of the political commitments agreed.



With regard to coherence of the OSCE approach and actions, it is important not to perceive migration only as an economic issue but as a cross-cutting one that has a link to the other dimensions of the OSCE. And with regard to coordination, we, of course, mean both internal, within the organization and the participating States, and external, with other relevant international organizations.

Ladies and gentlemen,

OSCE can serve as an excellent and unique forum for extending the migration dialogue among the governments and the civil society and we are looking forward to participating in the process. Let me use this opportunity for wishing good luck for Greece for their challenging task as the incoming Chairmanship and express our willingness to give our full support.

Thank you.

## **Opening Statement**

**Mr. Theodoros Skylakakis**

**Secretary General for International Economic Relations and Development Cooperation,  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Greece, OSCE Chairmanship for 2009**

Mr Chairman  
Ladies and gentlemen,  
Distinguished guests,  
Dear friends,

It is a great pleasure to be able to attend this Conference, as a representative of Greece, which holds the incoming OSCE Chairmanship. The theme of this Conference deals with an issue of great interest for Greece, migration and its linkages with socioeconomic and environmental policies. Being the special representative of the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs on climate change issues, I would like to contribute to the incoming discussion, by focusing on the environmental dimension of migration. I will try to highlight some main points and then I would be glad to hear the distinguished participants' views on the subject.

Furthermore, here in Prague, we can revisit the conclusions of the recently organized Conference by the UN University in Bonn, concerning the environmentally forced migration and the interplay between migration policies and climate change issues.

We all know quite well that climate change, apart from its obvious environmental impacts, constitutes one of the greatest social and economic challenges - if not threats - that the international community has to deal with, now and in the years to come, with significant influence on migratory patterns.

Things are further complicated by the changes to the world's socioeconomic environment due to the developing world economic crisis. The recently achieved high global growth rate is very difficult to sustain in a world with far less credit than before. This will have long term impact on the further development of certain countries, which are already vulnerable to climate change.

So, the possible combination of climate change and slower growth could urge an even larger number of people to leave their countries and seek a safer environment, than previously estimated.

Climate change is already occurring and today we are witnessing small population movements directly or indirectly connected to it. Of course, climate alone may seem unlikely to be the sole or the most important "push factor" in migration decisions. However, climate change induced droughts, floods, wildfires, extreme weather events and natural disasters are likely to further intensify pre-existing stresses in vulnerable regions, such as food insecurity, water scarcity, reduced agricultural production, unequal access to resources, breakout of epidemics and spreading of diseases. This sort of challenges may gradually lead to degradation of infrastructure, weakening of institutions and even put forward a threat to peace and security by compounding the propensity for violent conflict.

The predictions on the number of the people that might be affected in this process vary tremendously. Between 25m to 1b in the next 40 years, while the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has suggested an estimation of 150 million people that will move till 2050 due to climate change. So, today we are not able to predict even the order of magnitude of climate change induced migration. Not only because of the scientific uncertainties but also due to the unmet policy challenges posed by climate change. Moreover, scientists tell us that there is a tipping point beyond which climate change can have catastrophic impacts and cause cataclysmic migratory movements. So even if the issue is long term, the stakes are high both on the research needed for more accurate predictions and on the mitigation and adaptation efforts needed to minimize this possibly nightmarish prospect. The impossibility to securely predict where a climate change disaster will strike next, as well as the difficulty to pinpoint the itinerary of moving affected populations, calls for collective preparedness, especially in the wider region of the OSCE participating States. Climate change is, by far, the most important environmental challenge for migratory movements in the next decades.

The migration of large numbers of people can have significant social and environmental repercussions not only for the areas of origin, but also at the areas of destination and the travel routes in between. The stresses created - especially when we are talking about unprepared and unassisted migration - can ignite conflicts that magnify the negative effects of the migration itself. Taking all these into consideration, we must have in mind that the wider Eurasian area might be heavily influenced, by possible, environmentally forced, migratory movements, in the years to come. This may happen, not only directly, as Central Asia and Southern Mediterranean are considered to be two of the most vulnerable regions, in terms of climate change impacts, but also indirectly, as climate change will continue to hit sub-Saharan Africa and South and Southeast Asia, where a lot of people are already moving, due to natural disasters. It is more than obvious, that if we pass the "tipping point", in terms of unpredictable and destructive climate change impacts, then we could expect massive migratory inflows, from these vulnerable regions, following already existing migratory routes, into the OSCE area.

The issue of climate change and its interplay with migratory flows is high on the agenda of a few countries as well as of certain international organizations, including the United Nations, the International Organization for Migration of course, and the European Union. It is important, however, to further pursue the relevant debate in the appropriate international fora, such as the Global Forum on Migration and Development - the next one will as you know take place in Athens in 2009 - and the IPCC.

We should also address the growing need to shape the appropriate policies which can meet this challenge. Environmentally induced migration sets new questions, in terms of both international and national law, especially for those who are moving due to a situation of an unexpected emergency. This is an issue that will emerge as the relevant scientific discussion has already started. However we should not forget that the majority of the moving populations are usually internally displaced and that it is always difficult to make sure whether the motives are environmental or socioeconomic or a combination of reasons that is difficult, close to impossible to unbundle.

Ladies and gentlemen,

The financial crisis our planet is currently facing has demonstrated that long-term prosperity cannot be taken for granted. It requires preparedness and the ability of collective responses. This highlights the key role that the OSCE can and should play in the area of the second dimension, towards promoting good governance and raising environmental awareness amongst the 56 participating States.

At this stage, allow me to bring to your attention, that in Greece we have gained a valuable experience both in emigration and immigration over the years; an experience that has taught us that migration is above all a matter of human relations, closely linked to the social and economic structures both of countries of origin and destination. It is precisely this deep knowledge that Greece wishes to share by selecting migration management as the theme of this Conference. This choice follows a series of relevant Greek initiatives. For example, the Greek Chairmanship of the Human Security Network was aimed at the impact of climate change on vulnerable groups like environmentally induced migrants.

Finally we are shaping, in co-operation with the IOM, a program concerning the mobilization of immigrants from developing countries that live in Greece in development assistance programs in their home countries. We intend to use our development assistance funds and remittances to co-finance projects in the countries of origin and promote social work and the creation of businesses together - and with the help - of our immigrants. Both in Africa and in selected OSCE countries.

Greece, having placed the environmental dimension high on the agenda of the 2009 OSCE Greek Chairmanship, will have the honour to welcome you all, ladies and gentlemen, in Athens on May 18-20 2009 for the second segment of the 17th Economic & Environmental Forum.

Having said that, I would like to thank you for your attention and I hope that we will have the opportunity to hold a fruitful discussion during this Conference.

## **Opening Statement**

**Mr. Bernard Snoy**  
**Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities**

Mr. Chairman,  
Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure to welcome all of you to the First Preparatory Conference to the 17<sup>th</sup> Economic and Environmental Forum. I also wish to express my warmest thanks to our Czech hosts and to the OSCE Prague Office for all the efforts they have put into the preparations of this Conference.

I would also like to thank the incoming Greek Chairmanship of the OSCE for the co-operation and support provided during the preparations for this meeting.

Furthermore, let me to express my gratitude to all the high-ranking guests and participants for joining us here in Prague to take part in our deliberations. I am particularly pleased about the considerable participation from partner international organizations, NGOs and representatives of the business and academic community, who joined us at this Conference. We look forward to continuing the productive co-operation with all the stakeholders, and we would like to reiterate our conviction that achieving concrete results is only possible through further co-operation and joint action.

My warmest thanks and appreciation also go to our colleagues in the OSCE field presences for their tireless efforts and the valuable contribution they bring each year to the Economic and Environmental Forum process. They play an important part by identifying local needs, working closely with their host countries, and developing and implementing follow-up activities.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The incoming Greek Chairmanship of the OSCE proposed “Migration management and its linkages with economic, social and environmental policies to the benefit of stability and security in the OSCE region” as the theme of the 17<sup>th</sup> EEF. The chosen theme could not have been more pertinent, given the security challenges stemming from the surge in migratory flows and the increasing urgency to find adequate migration policy responses. A comprehensive approach is needed to better address the opportunities as well as deal with the challenges of international migration more effectively.

Throughout the 17<sup>th</sup> EEF process, we will underline the importance of good governance in migration policies, as well as the need for enhanced co-operation between destination, transit, and origin countries, both bilaterally and at the regional level. The goal will be to foster comprehensive, effective, and secure migration management approaches that will enhance the developmental impact of migration and avert the potential negative consequences of ineffective migration management.

In line with the increased complexity of migration management, the OSCE has to address migration in a more comprehensive manner, utilizing its cross-dimensional character, which looks at migration management from a political, economic, environmental and human rights perspective.

In this endeavour, we can build on the dialogue established under the Slovenian Chairmanship in 2005 when the 13<sup>th</sup> Economic Forum process discussed “Demographic Trends, Migration and Integrating Persons belonging to National Minorities: Ensuring Security and Sustainable Development in the OSCE Area”. As you know, based on that Forum’s recommendations, the Decision Nr. 2/05, on Migration, was adopted at the Ljubljana Ministerial Council Meeting in December 2005.

*Inter alia*, that decision recognizes that all States should adopt effective national frameworks in order to manage migration, and underlines that migration is inherently a transnational issue requiring co-operation between States. It also acknowledges that the OSCE could contribute in this context, by facilitating dialogue and co-operation between countries of origin, transit and destination in the OSCE area, as well as the OSCE Partners for Co-operation, and by working in synergy with international bodies having a specific focus on migration.

Let me also remind you that subsequently my Office developed together with the IOM and the ILO a “Handbook on Establishing Effective Labour Migration Policies in Countries of Origin and Destination”, which was issued in May 2006. The Handbook was later translated into Russian, in its CIS version. A Mediterranean edition was produced in 2007 in Arabic and English and launched at a seminar in Rabat.

The Handbook emphasizes the need for a comprehensive approach to successfully addressing labour migration management and serves as an outstanding example of OSCE’s efforts to facilitate governments’ work to improve their policies in this field through the exchange of information, best-practices, dialogue and consultation. Also, the Handbook contributed to building stronger partnerships between the OSCE, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the International Labour Office (ILO). I am confident that this partnership will continued also in the context of next year’s Forum.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me now briefly refer to the substance and the proceedings of this First Preparatory Conference to the 17<sup>th</sup> Economic and Environmental Forum

This Conference, which is the start of the preparatory process, will focus on a number of key issues related to improved migration management, namely improving the channels for legal migration and reducing illegal migration and combating the illegal activities associated with it.

Effective migration management, including good governance and bilateral and regional co-operation in the field, are key prerequisites for achieving our common goals. The combination of comprehensive policy instruments and control mechanisms is another key element in effectively addressing these challenges. It is clear that a comprehensive and cross-dimensional approach, reflecting the spirit and substance of the OSCE principles and perspectives, is the most adequate response to such challenges.

I hope you found useful the supporting documents we have circulated ahead of the meeting, the Agenda as well as the Background Issues document that has been prepared by the IOM in close co-operation with my Office. The document aims at identifying the key issues expected to be covered under each topic and thereby should serve as helpful guidance to delegations, experts and other participants in their preparation for the discussions of the Conference

Session I will deal with the migration context and trends in the OSCE region. In this session we shall focus on the linkages with economic development, environmental degradation and security. The fundamental issues highlighted here should facilitate the discussions that will follow later during the Conference.

Session II will deal with the management of legal migration, focusing on the labour market balances in countries of origin and destination; in this context, the discrepancies between policies targeted at high-skilled and low-skilled labour migrants will be an important issue.

Session III - Protection of migrants in countries of origin, transit and destination, including gender aspects - will highlight the legal commitments of participating States, the national and international norms and standards applying to migration management, including, *inter alia*, the regulation of employment agencies and combating illegal recruitment practices and exploitative working conditions.

Session IV will deal with circular migration and return policies, emphasizing once more the importance of enhanced co-operation and dialogue between origin and destination countries.

Session V - Border management co-operation to facilitate labour mobility and combat illegal migration - will be a helpful addition to the cross-dimensional approach to migration management, addressing this indispensable aspect of good migration management through inter-agency co-operation between the relevant authorities of participating States.

Session VI will focus on combating criminal networks, smuggling of migrants and trafficking of human beings. We should try to identify ways to tackle such challenges and address the negative outcomes of ineffective migration management.

Finally, Session VII - Prospects for closer inter-state and regional co-operation to develop comprehensive, effective and secure migration management approaches - will discuss the lessons learned and opportunities for regional as well as international co-operation leading to successful migration management approaches.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I encourage you to use these two days efficiently, to engage in a genuine free flowing and action oriented dialogue. I am looking forward to hearing our distinguished keynote speakers and then the comments and interventions from the floor. I am looking forward to an interactive and enriching dialogue.

Thank you for your attention.

## RAPORTEURS' REPORTS

### **Session I – Migration context and trends in the OSCE region (and the link with economic development, environmental degradation and security)**

**Moderator:** Ms. Michele Klein-Solomon, Director, Migration Policy, Research and Communication, International Organization for Migration (IOM)

**Rapporteur:** Mr. Robert Mangham, Economic, Environmental and Regional Officer, OSCE Presence in Albania

Session I was designed to provide a back drop to subsequent discussions of the Conference. The presentations and the discussion that followed highlighted five principal issues:

- The importance of obtaining reliable data and statistics, and its subsequent analysis, on the topic of migration as a basis for policy formulation;
- The need for dialogue and collaboration between countries, regional bodies and institutions to understand the issues of migration;
- Ensuring coherence in migration policies between countries and regions;
- The capacity to manage migration as a global phenomenon taking into account the complexities of the topic and its differing impact on respective countries/regions.
- The importance of co-operation between countries and institutions.

The first speaker, **Mr. Francisco M. Bataller, Deputy Head, Coordination and Analysis, Directorate General External Relations, European Commission**, focused on key migration trends in the EU area. He outlined recent migration trends that have contributed to shaping migration policy towards the development of a European Immigration Pact. These included a shift in attitude towards migration, now viewed as a crucial component for strengthening European competitiveness. The speaker emphasized that in order to maximize the potential economic benefits of migration and protect migrant workers the EU needed a common migration and asylum policy, and a global approach to migration with collaboration between the EU and regions/countries of origin to facilitate coordination, information exchange, harmonize policies, etc.

Mr. Bataller drew attention to the five pillars of the EU migration policy: promoting legal migration; integration of migrants; protection; discouraging irregular (illegal) migration; and migration and development (how to discourage illegal migration through support to countries of origin).

**Ms. Irina Ivakhnyuk, Senior Researcher, Deputy Director of the Department of Population, Faculty of Economics, Lomonosov Moscow State University, Russian Federation**, presented the key migration trends in the post-Soviet region. She drew attention to migration trends within the CIS region highlighting that the existing migrant flows reflected complex social, economic, linguistic, cultural and other factors that were crucial to understand and to predict future trends and inform policy decisions. Since 1991 some 20 million persons have left their country of origin within the CIS thus highlighting the scale of movements involved. The speaker pointed to countries such as Georgia where substantial migration took place to destinations outside the CIS, and the Baltic countries where dynamics were influenced



by the EU membership thus demonstrating the great variation between individual countries depending on circumstances.

The speaker outlined the benefits of migration for both countries of origin and destination and emphasized that the Russian Federation was by far the largest recipient country in the CIS region. The speaker cited remittance volumes sent back to the Republic of Kyrgyzstan which in 2007 reached 1 billion USD, some 20-30 % of that country's GDP. Remittance was thus an important support for keeping families from poverty, supplementing social security systems and providing capital for SME development.

**Dr. Theodore Katsas, Legal and Scientific Consultant, Hellenic Migration Policy Institute,** made a presentation highlighting the linkage between migration and economic development, the effects on countries of origin and destination, and the issues of illegal migration. In the EU countries migrants were largely skilled and filled gaps in the labour market. Migrants were often younger than the indigenous population, with few dependents, and migrants paid taxes to the host government and contributed to social security systems, etc. The economic benefits to the receiving country could thus be substantial and such considerations shaped policy decisions and often override public concerns over perceived negative aspects of immigration. The speaker stated that remittance flow from North to South reached the level of 200 billion Euro in 2006 illustrating its importance for policy makers.

Further on, the speaker outlined several areas where remittance flows could be made easier, safer and utilized more effectively for leveraging credit, and highlighted the importance of the Diaspora in creating regional links to assist migrants with factors impacting their welfare and ease of movement. The speaker also drew attention to the issue of illegal migration and presented a detailed definition.

Mr. Katsas concluded that the EU policies should be formed on mutual benefits and co-operation, and emphasized the importance of providing channels for return via incentives.

**Mr. Pier Rossi-Longhi, Technical Co-operation Specialist for Europe and Central Asia, IOM,** focused his presentation on key policy options available to promote benefits of migration. He focused upon aspects of migration policy and issues that needed to be considered during its formulation.

The speaker emphasized the importance of sound statistics for informing policy makers of migration trends in countries/regions. The speaker illustrated what migration policy was and what should come from it, emphasizing that its most important component was the clarification of institutional linkages with clearly defined organizations, administrative relationships between different institutions, etc. Migration policy influences a wide range of issues with a direct bearing for migrants, e.g. civil registry, travel documents, visa agreements, labour quotas, re-admission policy, remittances, etc. In terms of choices facing policy makers the speaker highlighted examples of different options regarding migration policy formulation, e.g. micro or macro approaches, open or closed door policy, and state vs. human security considerations.

The speaker ended the presentation by outlining four broad areas that needed to be considered by policy makers: regulatory realities, political discourse, economic realities, and social side effects.

The last speaker of the session, **Mr. Fabrice Renaud, Associate Director of the United Nations University Institute for Environmental and Human Security, Bonn, Germany,** spoke about environment - related migration and how to prepare for it. The speaker opened the

presentation by highlighting the current state of the debate on migration and environmental influences.

Environmental change was increasingly influencing migration patterns. Numerous global reports supported this statement but concrete data was scarce with wide fluctuations on existing and projected numbers of environmental migrants (i.e. 24 million currently, and 700 million by 2050). Such inconsistencies were not helpful for informing policy. The speaker cited examples of migration patterns in Central Asia but stressed that it was impossible to state the extent to which environmental factors played a part except to say that they were significant.

The speaker outlined work by international institutions in defining an “Environmental Migrant” and presented associated environment-triggered migration flows. Mr. Renaud called for an international Convention to protect environmental migrants, the need for more research to better understand the dynamics of environmental disasters and the longer term impact of climate change. He highlighted that the poorest often cannot move from affected areas and introduced the concept of "tipping points" that push communities over the brink.

**During the discussion**, one intervention focused on the wide variation of figures in the final presentation on environmental migrants, i.e. 25 to 700 million. The participant stressed that it would be difficult to promote environmental migration as a priority for policy makers and governments unless more reliable and concrete data could be collected. He highlighted that this could be an important area for the OSCE, i.e. facilitating events that promote research and analysis of results on the environmental migration theme.

A delegation drew attention to the problem that faced its country related to continuing flows of illegal migrants from sub-Saharan Africa. Migrants were arriving illegally having paid substantial sums to middle men – criminal organized gangs. In terms of size the problem was a growing one: in 2008 the number of illegal immigrants reached 2,300 already (significantly higher than in 2007) and their number now represented 0.6% of the population. The inflows of illegal migrants now outstripped the country’s birth rate. The representative called for urgent attention from other participating States to help address the problem of illegal migration via criminal gangs.

## **Session II - Management of legal migration**

**Moderator:** Mr. Almabek Demessinov, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the OSCE

**Rapporteur:** Ms. Nina Lindroos-Kopolo, Economic Adviser, Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

The moderator opened the session by saying that finding effective and appropriate policies that facilitate legal migration and discourage irregular migration were critical issues for the countries in the CIS region. He looked forward to the discussion on labour market discrepancies, assessment of labour needs, job-matching and how to coordinate these with admission policies.

**Mr. Jean-Christophe Dumont, Principal Administrator, Non-Member Economies and International Migration Division, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)**, spoke about recent trends and main challenges in managing labour migration. His presentation was based on the latest findings of the OECD International

Migration Outlook 2008. He said that immigration into the European OECD countries had shown a strong increase in recent years, due to the impact of the EU enlargement and the removal of transitional restrictions on new accession countries citizens as well as to the increased migration from third countries. Demographic changes, labour market demand and large economic differentials were key pull factors for migration movements. Among the OECD European countries, Ireland, Spain and Switzerland showed the highest immigration rates.

He also pointed out that there was a growing convergence between demand-driven and supply-driven immigration policies for employment and he gave the example of the newly introduced points system by the UK that allowed a migrant to enter the UK without a ready job offer. He then talked about four basic principles to bear in mind when trying to introduce more effective labour migration management: labour market needs were not only temporary needs; labour market needs were not only for highly-skilled workers; immigration was not only labour migration, but in fact family migration continued to dominate inflows of permanent-type immigration in many OECD countries; and migration alone could not alleviate the impact of population ageing and labour market shortages.

He said that migration policies of many destination countries were focusing on attracting high-skilled workers and international students needed in particular sectors requiring innovation and specialization. Particular attention needed to be paid to the concerns of origin countries, in terms of damaging brain drain effects on their economic development. He also highlighted the issue of managing low-skilled labour migration. He said that there was a current and expected future demand for foreign labour in sectors where low-skilled employment was overrepresented and that some of that demand was of longer-term nature. The current policy dialogue regarding low-skilled migrant workers was mainly concentrated around provision of temporary migration options such as circular migration. Here he cautioned that temporary migration should only be used for temporary labour needs and more permanent solutions would have to be found for longer-term needs of lower-skilled workers.

Regarding entry of family members, he said that in order to attract highly-skilled foreign workers, countries needed to accept accompanying family members and allow them the right to work. He concluded by underlining the need for careful regular assessments of labour market needs as an essential element of labour migration programmes. That would help to determine the provision of work permits and entry possibilities for both high and low skilled migrant workers, and would go beyond the traditional dichotomy of highly skilled/permanent migration and low-skilled/temporary migration. Migration policy should be flexible and there was no “one size fits it all” policy.

**Mr. David Chico Zamanillo, Senior Adviser to the Secretary of State for Immigration and Emigration, Ministry of Labour and Immigration, Spain,** said that international migration was a reality that would persist as long as there were wealth and development differentials between various regions. Spain had changed from being an origin country to being a destination country with a current foreign population of 10 per cent. He underlined the close link between development and migration and said that Spain had recognized the importance of working together with origin countries to tackle the root causes of migration, *i.e.* through employment creation, eradication of poverty, promotion of economic growth and good governance. He called for action at global level to address these issues and said that security today required a broader focus that goes beyond traditional approaches. Dialogue and concerted governance at national as well as international levels were needed in order to achieve an orderly management of migratory flows. He thought that the OSCE with its multilateral co-operation and cross-dimensional approach to security could provide an invaluable platform to address these issues.

Further on, he mentioned the work being conducted in the European Union and said that Spain supported the design of an integral policy of immigration in the European Union and in this context specifically mentioned the Global approach to Migration (December 2005) and the European Pact on Immigration and Asylum (October 2008). He then emphasized that Spanish migration policies were based on a balanced, global and coherent approach that promotes legal migration, combats irregular migration (fight against organized crime and smuggling of migrants, and strengthening border control) and supports development efforts of origin and transit countries. As part of that policy Spain had entered into a number of bilateral agreements regulating labour migration flows with a number of origin countries including Romania and Morocco. He highlighted three specific characteristics of these agreements: the attempts to match labour demand with labour supply; the involvement of non-governmental stakeholders in the selection and recruitment of workers; and information on legal migration opportunities. He concluded by underlining the role of the OSCE in improving migration governance that he saw as a strategic factor of development and peace.

**Mr. Bahriddin Jabborov, Director, State Agency on Social Protection, Labour and Migration, Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, Tajikistan,** talked about the legislative framework on migration that Tajikistan had put in place since its independence due to significant Tajik migration, in particular to the Russian Federation and Kazakhstan. In 2001, Tajikistan ratified the UN Convention on Protection of Rights of All Labour Migrants and Members of Their Families. A new national programme on external migration of Tajik citizens for 2006-2010 has recently been adopted by the Government, where special attention was paid to social and legal protection. The Government had also entered into bilateral agreements with the Russian Federation, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan to improve the legal and social protection of Tajik migrants.

He also added that labour migration issues had been transferred from the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection to the Ministry of the Interior since 30 November 2006. The Ministry of Interior had set up a National Agency on Migration that worked with destination countries and relevant international organizations on legal protection of Tajik migrants abroad and on regulating labour migration. In this vein, the Ministry of Interior had opened a representative office in Russia to help Tajik migrants.

He underlined that the Government was working on combating illegal migration and was looking into different mechanisms of immigration control. He concluded by acknowledging that trafficking in human beings was a major challenge that needed to be addressed at both national and international levels and that Tajikistan had put in place new laws to combat trafficking in human beings. He also called for the media to be more involved in informing the public of the dangers of trafficking in human beings.

The **Moderator** underlined the urgency in addressing illegal migration. He said that the bilateral labour agreement between Tajikistan and the Russian Federation could serve as an example of addressing the issues of legal migration, migrants' protection and illegal migration.

**Ms. Sophie Nonnenmacher, Migration Policy Specialist, International Organization for Migration,** focused her presentation on two issues, namely: the need to improve the link between labour market and employer needs assessments and migration policy; and the need to address the discrepancies between labour market requirements and policies for high skilled and lower skilled migrant workers. She pointed out some of the difficulties associated with assessing the need for foreign labour such as the difficulty in predicting demand and assessing the number of foreign workers needed. Destination countries used different policy tools to assess that demand, such as: quota systems, labour market tests, occupational shortage lists, and levying

fees on employers for their hiring of foreign workers. Countries of origin on their part used tools such as: research to assess supply, fact finding missions to destination countries, and information gathered by their labour attachés, embassies or honorary consuls. She suggested that the assessment of labour market needs could be further improved through increased internal policy coherence between different ministries (employment, education, migration, etc.) in both countries of destination and origin. She also said that matching demand and supply would benefit from stronger international co-operation between employment and recruitment agencies.

She underlined the importance of increased co-operation between Governments and the private sector to identify market needs and ensure that policy makers were more aware of the requirements of the private sector. Employer organizations could play an important role in combating irregular migration and illegal employment as they were in the position to inform employers and migrant workers of the legal employment procedures and sanctions for illegal employment. She concluded by reiterating the need for greater co-operation between countries of origin and destination to find more balanced job matching approaches that would take into consideration labour market needs, the social and political factors of destination countries, as well as brain drain concerns of origin countries.

During the discussion time a representative of Georgia said that visa facilitation was a priority and that his country was currently negotiating a readmission agreement with the European Union. He also talked about the EU-Georgia Mobility Partnership that was under development and said that this would form a good basis for future management of labour migration between Georgia and the EU.

#### **Main points made during the session:**

- Labour migration policies (work permits and admission possibilities) need to be better linked to regular assessments of labour market demand of both highly skilled and low-skilled foreign workers as the existence of significant irregular migration seems to indicate a disconnect between labour market demand and admission policy responses.
- Governments should consider including the private sector in identifying market needs for foreign workers. Employer organizations can play an important role in combating irregular migration and illegal employment as they can inform employers and migrant workers of the legal employment procedures and sanctions for illegal employment.
- A close link exists between development and migration. Migration can only be reduced by destination and origin countries working together to tackle the root causes of migration, that is through employment creation, eradication of poverty, promotion of economic growth, good governance and protection of human rights.
- Supporting legal and safe migration management and combating illegal migration are priorities of both destination and origin countries and require co-operation at national, regional and international level.
- To improve migration management there is a need for capacity building support to government officials and other relevant stakeholders.
- Orderly management of migratory flows requires greater international and regional dialogue and concerted governance at national as well as international level. Finding more effective solutions to migration management is also part of a broader security and stability focus. The OSCE, with its cross-dimensional approach to security, could provide an invaluable platform to address such issues in its regional context.

### **Session III - Protection of migrants in countries of origin, transit and destination, including gender aspects**

**Moderator: Mr. Don Flynn**, Chairman, Platform for International Co-operation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM)

**Rapporteur: Ms. Ovsanna Babayan**, National Programme Officer, Democratization Programme, OSCE Office in Yerevan

**Mr. Patrick Taran, Senior Migration Specialist, International Migration Programme, International Labour Organization**, mentioned that migration was a key issue in economic development. Development gains from regulated migration and protection of migrant workers should be prioritized. A human rights based approach should be applied in migration strategies and policies. The key challenges and problems that migrants often faced and that should be properly addressed were xenophobia, exploitation, violation of rights, etc. The ILO's international instruments on labour migrants (such as the ILO Conventions of 1949, 1975 and 1990) provided a comprehensive framework of labour migrants' rights protection. The lack of coherent policy, realistic legislative foundation, and competent administrative institutions as well as the poor coordination were the key obstacles for effective labour migration management.

Concluding, Mr. Taran emphasized a number of issues and made some recommendations that would also be instrumental towards the implementation of the OSCE commitments in the field of migration, namely:

- There was a need to promote and support a wider ratification of the migration related legal instruments and their effective implementation;
- The international organizations should provide technical support to their member States to help them build the capacity of relevant agencies and improve implementation of effective practices;
- National policies, legislation and corresponding structures should be put in place in origin countries to ensure protection of their citizens from abuses throughout the labour migration process.

**Ms. Maria Ochoa-Llido, Head of Migration and Roma Department, Directorate General of Social Cohesion, Council of Europe**, stressed the importance of co-operation between destination and origin countries and in that regard highlighted the usefulness of starting a political dialogue. She also touched upon the cross-dimensional character of migration management and the need to exchange experiences. She then emphasized that the protection of migrants' human rights should be reflected in every section of a migration strategy and policy. As international treaties on migration which were legally binding for both sending and receiving countries were not very popular, long term and "soft" approaches would be needed to have that messages accepted. Closer co-operation between various international and regional organizations such as the CoE, the EU, the CIS, the IOM, the OSCE, the ILO, etc. was essential and would help achieve and consolidate positive results.

Further on, Ms. Ochoa-Llido said that the integration of migrants and the equal treatment of immigrant and resident population should also be prioritized in the societies.

At the end of her statement, she drew the following conclusions:

- Given the decentralization tendencies in many countries, it was essential that the recommendations and guidelines of the international conventions were also

- effectively implemented at the local level. Therefore, not only the central Governments but also the local authorities should be involved in the process.
- The co-operation and coordination among all the actors involved in migration management in the receiving, transit and origin countries should be strengthened.

**Ms. Tatiana Petrova, Head, Division of Employment Policy and Labour Migration, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, Ukraine**, briefed the participants on the steps taken by the Ukrainian Government towards improving migration management in general and the protection of migrants' rights in particular. Ukraine had drafted a comprehensive Concept of Migration Policy. Further analysis of the status of implementation of internationally recognized standards should be done. The legal regulation of the work of recruitment agencies was comprehensively presented.

**Mr. Toktosun Sabyrov, Deputy Chairman, State Committee on Migration and Employment, Kyrgyzstan**, focused on the regulation and management of migration in his country. Kyrgyzstan was primarily a sending country for Russia and Kazakhstan. He pointed out that the lack of reliable data on migrants was a problem. He then stressed that the close co-operation with the key destination countries helped Kyrgyzstan address some of the challenges related to migrants' rights violations.

Some migrants become irregular because of the complicated and time-consuming procedures of registration for temporary labour migrants. Another challenge in the labour migration management area was ensuring proper social protection for economic migrants. These problems should be addressed through amendments and revision of the national legislation of receiving states, as well as through inter-agency agreements. Regular meetings of the migration policy makers of origin and receiving countries were quite helpful. The CIS countries had worked already on developing coordinated policies and approaches in areas such as: selection, testing, professional and language trainings for potential migrants.

Following the speakers' presentations, a participant referred to the OSCE-IOM-ILO Handbook on Labour Migration which was a very helpful tool, and added that it would be as well useful and indeed timely to come up with a paper on the ratification and implementation by the OSCE participating States of the key international agreements and conventions on labour migration and migrants' rights protection. Some steps might be taken by the OSCE to have such a paper ready even by the upcoming January meeting in Vienna and initiate a discussion on what should be done to improve the situation. Further on, the adoption of these legal instruments could be promoted in the countries that have not yet signed these agreements. Also, a summary paper/analysis on the main findings, results and proposed follow-up actions to recently organized international or regional migration meetings and/or published studies on migration related issues would be useful. That exercise would assist in better exchange of information and experiences, learning from and promoting best practices. Mr. Taran (ILO) added that there were some countries that recently adopted comprehensive national legislation in the area of migration management and that could also serve as good practices. The ILO would encourage such an approach.

Throughout the Session the speakers and participants prioritized the protection of the human rights of migrants, especially for the most vulnerable ones (children, women, undocumented migrants) in the overall migration management process. Also, the ratification and implementation of the international key instruments aimed at the protection of migrants' rights and the need to introduce required amendments in national legislations was stressed.

## **Session IV - Circular migration and return policies**

**Moderator: Ms. Shelly Han**, Policy Adviser, Commission on Security and Co-operation in Europe/Helsinki Commission, United States of America.

**Rapporteur: Ms. Anna Platt**, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, United Kingdom.

**Mr. Sergiu Sainciuc, Deputy Minister of Economy and Trade, Republic of Moldova**, started the discussion by emphasising the impact that migration processes had on the socio-economic situation in Moldova, highlighting in particular the noticeable labour shortages at present and the associated security implications that these could bring. It was important to recognize that migration could have both positive and negative implications. He went on to identify four key trends and recommendations for further action for the OSCE participating States.

Firstly, the need to develop effective mechanisms for the control of migration flows. A new Act on labour migration had been adopted in Moldova which included provisions on labour and immigration including regulation of the temporary employment of Moldovan citizens at home and abroad.

Secondly, that co-operation with destination countries was critical. The Moldovan government had initiated this through a mobility partnership with the EU and Mr. Sainciuc encouraged other non-EU states to look to forge similar agreements.

Thirdly, it should be noted that remittances were often a positive effect of migration and that the maximum value of these could be realized through measures such as reducing the transfer charges and combining them with other financial resources. For example, in 2007, more than 1 billion dollars worth of remittances were sent to Moldova providing up to 35% of its GDP.

Lastly, readmission agreements were extremely valuable in terms of securing returns but also in helping to counteract the trafficking of human beings and the organized crime. Moldova had concluded Readmission Agreements with several EU countries.

**Mr. Vitaliy Yakovlev, Head, Readmission Department, Federal Migration Service, Russian Federation**, highlighted the importance of migration issues to the OSCE and the challenges to the security of the participating States posed by the organised crime associated with illegal immigration. Readmission Agreements were a central component of policy making in this area and in that regard policy coherence between ministries and international co-operation was critical to its success. He then presented the Readmission Agreement between the Russian Federation and the European Union in which the priority was the establishment of a visa free regime.

Mr. Yakovlev said he understood the concerns of the EU Member States, primarily as countries of destination, but that he would like them to be more active in the setting up of Readmission Agreements with non-EU countries. He also appealed to the CIS States to share information and best practice on the formation of returns and readmission agreements and thanked those that had already done so. In setting up such agreements, he highlighted the need for uniform procedures between parties and gave the example of standardized interviewing procedures. In the Russian Federation new laws had been drafted to pave the way for the implementation of new agreements, and negotiations were currently ongoing with Vietnam, India and other non-OSCE countries. Extending the geography of readmissions agreements, Mr. Yakovlev believed, would lead to greater international co-operation in combating illegal migration and organized crime related to it.



**Mr. Mike Bisi, Deputy Co-ordinator, Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Consultations on Migration, Asylum and Refugees**, began by addressing the question of how circular migration and returns interacted and suggested that as a starting point one could look at who benefits from such processes. The four interested parties - the migrant, the country of origin, the country of destination and the employer - could all “win” if the system worked as it should, *e.g.* facilitating brain circulation rather than brain drain. There was a belief amongst some governments that circular migration could be used as a policy tool to combat illegal migration, offering temporary and legal migration opportunities for those who might otherwise seek to migrate illegally.

In addressing returns and readmission policies, Mr. Bisi emphasised that there was no one policy to fit all. However, in common to all policies should be that no person was returned unless they were not in need of international protection and had no right to remain on that territory. The rationale behind the enforcement of returns was firstly the respect for national sovereignty, secondly as a component of a balanced migration/asylum system, and lastly the need to ensure that such a system was credible in the public’s eyes. In order to implement such policies there was a need to secure political will and the necessary policy coherence across government. Co-operation between countries of origin and destination was key; it was not enough simply to secure the departure from one country, they must be readmitted at the other end and for that reason communication and a relationship of trust was needed. Barriers to returns existed both in terms of practicalities, such as proving an individual’s identity, securing travel documentation and arranging their travel, and the wider political relationships.

Addressing the issue of formal readmission agreements, Mr. Bisi noted that there was no requirement under international law that they be formed but rather that they establish a formal procedure whereby the obligation of countries to receive back their own nationals could be formalised. Increasingly, readmissions clauses were found within visa and trade agreements. Indeed, the nature and geography of readmissions agreements had changed over time with such agreements now being increasingly signed with Middle Eastern, Asian and African countries, reflecting the changing dynamic in migration routes and the shifting political landscape.

Technology was key to strengthening co-operation and dialogue both on circular migration policies and returns agreements. For example, biometrics would mean that it was easier to access information on individuals and to prove their identity where that was contested, thus helping to secure their readmission. It was also necessary to understand the differing positions of other states as well as identifying common ground and concerns upon which to build. Ultimately, a sustainable system should be the aim, bringing with it in turn the security and stability that was sought within the region and beyond.

During discussion one participant noted the impact that globalization was having upon migration trends and stressed that increasingly tackling illegal migration was a challenge for all.

Another participant emphasized that with illegal migration often comes organised crime, for example people trafficking, drugs smuggling and terrorism. The associated security risks to countries were clear. He also emphasized the need for increased co-operation between the EU and non-EU States both bilaterally and multilaterally in order to secure returns and forge readmissions agreements.

One delegation noted the particular problems faced by transit countries and asked Mr. Bisi to comment on returns to these countries as compared to return to the country of origin.

Mr. Bisio replied that preference should be given to return to the individual's country of origin and therefore readmissions agreements to these countries should be given priority. There were many subsisting agreements that were not currently fully functioning and international fora were not currently addressing these issues. He suggested that this was an area the OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum could further consider.

One participant went on to emphasise that the notion of circular migration was central to the European Pact on Migration which was due for adoption that day at the European Council. The Pact would serve as a politically binding document giving freedom to the EU countries to choose their own policies within a commonly agreed framework. Mobility partnerships were a useful tool within the Pact and the participant encouraged States to consider developing such partnerships.

One delegation went on to share its experience with voluntary returns working in co-operation with the International Organisation for Migration. In providing a package of reintegration support, returns were more likely to be sustainable thus encouraging stability in the region. It was important to recognize the particular needs of vulnerable groups such as women and unaccompanied children when assessing what support they would require on return.

Finally, one delegation noted that readmissions agreements effectively act as a deterrent to those considering illegal migration routes. In seeking the returns of migrants, it was the determination of their nationality and identity that posed the greatest barrier.

The moderator concluded by noting that many issues had been raised, highlighting the need for effective policies on returns. As governments moved forward in considering circular migration policies, it would be important to consider what the end goal was and how this fits into countries' broader economic policies. Circular migration needed to be a balanced partnership meeting the needs of everyone involved.

#### **Key areas for the OSCE to take forward:**

- Noting the potential security implications of illegal migration/immigration crime, the Economic Dimension could act as a useful discussion forum for states to share their experiences relating to returns and the signing of readmission agreements;
- Possibility of producing a guide to the drafting of readmission agreements, standard clauses, etc;
- Actively encourage dialogue between states spanning the spectrum of origin, transit and destination, increasing understanding of common problems and agendas and thus facilitating the political will to drive forward the signing of returns and readmissions agreements;
- Countries to consider the insertion of readmission clauses into trade and other bilateral and multilateral agreements as a way of incentivizing sending countries to receive back their nationals;
- Receiving and transit States to consider the use of reintegration support packages to encourage the voluntary return of migrants and the sustainability and possible development opportunities that this can offer;
- Countries should seek to share data and statistics where possible in order to develop a more informed picture of the changing migration flows and the effects that economic downturn may have;
- Countries to consider the use of circular migration policies to encourage “brain circulation” and participate in dialogues surrounding the construction and use of such policies;

- Utilize the forthcoming meetings of the Economic and Environmental Forum process to discuss particular areas of concern to the participating States that have been identified, such as the unique position of transit countries and the needs of vulnerable groups within mixed migration flows.

### **Session V – Border management co-operation to facilitate labour mobility and combat illegal migration**

**Moderator: Mr. Henry Bolton**, Senior Border Issues Adviser, Borders Unit, Conflict Prevention Centre, OSCE Secretariat

**Rapporteur: Mr. Yaroslav Yurtsaba**, Office of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine  
Speakers:

**Mr. Michael Tschanz, Director, Intergovernmental Dialogues and Research, International Centre for Migration Policy development (ICMPD)** described border management co-operation as a means to facilitate labour mobility and combat illegal trafficking. He stressed that it was important to introduce an integrated border management system which would allow having a joint strategy and working plans, sharing information and ensuring co-operation at all levels. The speaker elaborated on three levels of co-operation: intra-service, inter-agency, and international co-operation. This multi-layer co-operation, according to the speaker, was necessary to achieve border management goals which were boiled down to prevention of illegal crossings, facilitation of movements of goods and services and contribution to security.

**Mr. Richard Ares Baumgartner, Strategic Development Officer, Frontex**, described the activities of Frontex - an organization which dates back to 2005 and coordinates operational border security co-operation between the EU member States. Frontex was a model among border management authorities in the area where rules on the crossings of external borders have been harmonized. Mr. Baumgartner focused on migration management linkages with economic, social and environmental policies. The general approach of Frontex to migration management was based on the idea of integrated border management (IBM). The three components of IBM - according to Mr. Baumgartner – were: a common corpus of legislation, operational co-operation and solidarity. The speaker underlined that the harmonized legislation alone could not be viewed as a solution to effective border management. Joint operations and pilot projects, training and capacity building for border guards, risk analyses, border security-related research and development were essential parts of the IBM approach to the border management. Subsequently, Mr. Baumgartner went on to describe how various elements of IBM interplay and why it was important to address border management keeping in mind all these elements.

**Mr. Franz Prutsch, Project Manager, IOM Office in Azerbaijan**, shared the main outputs of the project on the establishment of the integrated border management model at the Southern borders of Azerbaijan.

One of the key elements of IBM, as the speaker stressed, was inter-agency co-operation. This co-operation was described in the presentation and illustrated with concrete examples of the project implementation. The project's main goal was to facilitate legal cross-border movements and prevent illegal activities at the border crossing points. The project brought together various governmental agencies (customs, border police, coastal guards, etc.) which through collaborative efforts increased security at border crossing points, reduced waiting periods, did away with duplications and excessive paper work which impacted positively local economic development.

As Mr. Prutsch emphasized, a comprehensive and effective border management system was not possible without co-operation at all levels (local, regional, central). The essential element of the project's success lied in its self-sustainability potential as the project beneficiaries took the full ownership of the project from the very beginning.

**Lt. Col. Murad Nagiyev, Senior Officer, International Relations Department, State Border Service**, gave an overview of Azerbaijan's border security concept and the role of IBM in fulfilling this concept. The speaker expressed an appreciation of the Azerbaijani Government for the implementation of the project on the establishment of the integrated border management model at the southern borders of Azerbaijan. Initially, customs and border guards were the only beneficiaries of the project. Then, in 2006 the State Migration Service was set up which embraced functions of various agencies that dealt with migration issues and became the central governmental body tasked with migration management. The project demonstrated in practice how inter-agency co-operation works to solve migration-related issues. This pilot project could be replicated on the other segments of the Azerbaijani border, according to Mr. Nagiyev.

A number of issues were also raised during the **general discussion** that ensued. It was stressed that the need to share information in the context of collaborative efforts to effectively manage borders might not always be an easy task due to data protection, security considerations, privacy rights, etc. It was pointed out also that border management has two aspects which have to be compromised: the need to step up security and facilitate the border crossings.

#### **Key suggestions for possible OSCE action:**

- Integrated Border Management concept should be promoted as an affective border management tool;
- The importance of inter-agency as well as inter-governmental co-operation in the context of border management should be further emphasized to facilitate border crossings;
- The sustainability of border-management projects should be ensured through the inclusion from the very inception of all potential stake-holders, including civil society and full project ownership by the beneficiaries.

### **Session VI - Combating criminal networks, smuggling of migrants and trafficking in human beings**

**Moderator: Dr. Khalid Koser**, Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP)

**Rapporteur: Ms Despina Touratzof**, Economic Programme Officer, OCEEA/OSCE

The moderator, **Dr. Khalid Koser**, pointed out that the struggle against criminal networks involved in smuggling of migrants and trafficking in human beings (THB) attracted great consensus from all stakeholders and left no room for division between countries of origin and destination or between civil society and Governments. Despite good progress over the last years in terms of adopting strong normative frameworks, demonstrating political will and increasing capacity, there is still a lot to be done to cover discrepancies. The real challenge is implementation.

**Ms. Ruth Pojman, Deputy Coordinator, OSCE Office of the Special Representative for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings**, noted the importance of addressing THB in this context as one of the most complex challenges faced by the OSCE participating States. She stressed that, even though in the OSCE countries most trafficked persons identified were migrants, trafficking was not necessarily related to migration. Its purpose was exploitation, which manifests itself in many forms such as sexual exploitation, labour exploitation in agriculture, construction, etc. Since labour market and employer needs in countries of destination could not always be satisfied through regular movements, criminal networks took advantage of unregulated situations and organized irregular movements in order to satisfy the demand for cheap and unprotected labour. The speaker emphasized the critical need to differentiate between smuggling and THB. Victims of trafficking should not be treated as illegal migrants facing deportation. The focus should be less on blaming the victims but investigating the crime so that the perpetrators were punished. The effectiveness of anti-trafficking efforts depended significantly upon the prioritization of challenges at the national level, on the well functioning of victim identification and assistance systems, on awareness of the causes and consequences of THB and on the quality of coordination between all stakeholders. Ms. Pojman emphasized the constructive role of the OSCE in duly addressing the complexity of THB due to its geographical diversity as well as its unique cross dimensional approach to comprehensive security. The OSCE Special Representative serves as a catalyst for anti-trafficking action at the highest political level.

**Mr. Samir Rizvo, State Coordinator on Anti-Trafficking, Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH)** described the experience and progress made by BiH in its struggle against organized crime, as part of the coordinated response of the Western Balkans countries to the significant social and economic consequences of conflicts and of the transition process. The Western Balkans have become attractive for transit of illegal immigrants from Africa and Asia towards Western Europe. Weak authorities and security systems, inadequate legal frameworks but also unemployment and poverty were some of the factors that contributed to the creation as well as to the expansion of organized crime to new forms of criminal acts such as organized prostitution, THB and smuggling of migrants. In the case of BiH, efforts had focused in recent years on the adoption of a National Anti-trafficking Strategy and the relevant Action Plan in 2001, followed by the establishment of the State Coordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and illegal migration in 2003. As a result of a multidisciplinary approach, of the adoption of adequate legislative and institutional mechanisms as well as of the support provided by International Organizations and NGOs, BiH is now among the countries that demonstrate positive trends in the suppression of THB. However, Mr. Rizvo underlined that, despite the progress made, THB remained present, altering its shape and adapting to the circumstances. He mentioned in this respect the rise of internal trafficking within BiH and the special way it was being carried out as a new challenge for the law enforcement agencies in the field of the identification of victims, and especially of minors. The importance of intensifying investigations and prosecution of THB offences for a purpose other than sexual exploitation, such as forced labour and organized begging, was also stressed. The speaker emphasized the need for co-operation between all relevant stakeholders. He particularly mentioned the coordinated response of all countries in the Western Balkans and underlined the productive co-operation with the OSCE and other International Organizations as well as the bilateral support provided by foreign countries. He stressed the importance of joint actions and suggested that countries should act under the auspices of OSCE in order to achieve common standards and coordinate their activities in the combat of THB.

**Dr. Georgia Papagianni, Assistant Legal Advisor, Special Legal Service for EU Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Greece**, provided an overview of the way Greece addressed prevention and combating of THB. Her presentation included key elements of the national

legislative framework in place, initiatives that could serve as best practices and recommendations based on the experience of Greece. Due to its relatively high standard of living, its status as an EU Member State and its geographical position, Greece is a country of destination and transit with victims coming mainly from Eastern Europe and the Balkans. Recognizing the importance of prevention and combat of THB, it had adopted a comprehensive approach. Consistent with the existing international and European standards, its current legislation, included innovations that, *inter alia*, were related to the inclusion of THB in the list of crimes where Greece may exercise universal jurisdiction, the seizure and confiscation of property assets deriving from THB as well as provisions on protection and assistance to the victims. Special attention has been placed on the close co-operation between State stakeholders and NGOs. The approach followed at legislative level as well as with regard to the activities at institutional level was based on the so called “3 P approach” - Prevention, Protection of victims and Prosecution of perpetrators. Emphasis was also given to the strengthening of coordination at national level and co-operation with third countries. Recommendations highlighted, *inter alia*, the need for introduction of a comprehensive legislative and institutional framework, the integration of prevention into all co-operation programmes with countries of origin, the need to strengthen investigation and prosecution, the targeted training of law enforcement authorities, the stepping up of initiatives aiming at the reintegration of victims and the increase of public awareness.

**Mr. Benedikt Welfens, Deputy to the National Member for Germany, EUROJUST,** introduced participants to the basic powers of EUROJUST, as a mechanism of judicial co-operation and coordination in relation to combating international organized crime. The aim of EUROJUST was to deal effectively with serious crime, particularly when it was organized and involved two or more Member States. Mr. Welfens underlined the necessity to act in such a context in order to speed up action against these crimes, to join efforts in order to deal more effectively and improve the level of investigations and to avoid lengthy and uncertain procedures such as the ones related especially to Mutual Legal Assistance and Extradition Arrangements. Statistical information was provided covering the period between 2004-2008 on THB cases per year and per country as well as examples of cases where EUROJUST successfully assisted all relevant national authorities working in the specific cases to effectively coordinate their efforts. It was clarified that EUROJUST intervened only when there was a specific request received on behalf of the interested country. Coordination involved judges and sometimes policemen, with the aim of exchanging information, make arrests and, if possible, get back the illegally obtained assets from the criminal activities. Effective fight against THB and illegal migration was connected to the efforts towards improving the exchange of information, following the already existing rules of Mutual Legal Assistance and making use of all relevant European agencies, such as EUROJUST, EUROPOL, OLAF as well as the European judiciary network.

The issues raised by the speakers generated a lively exchange of comments from the audience.

The representative of the Platform for International Co-operation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM) raised the issue of the co-operation with the civil society, noting the dissatisfaction that was constantly reported about the subordinate position the civil society had in this partnership and the late stage at which it was brought into the anti-trafficking action. What was less developed was the capacity of the civil society to play a role in the identification of victims of trafficking. He also wondered about the adequacy of the legal framework to prosecute the offence of forced labour as a free standing issue, commenting that in most jurisdictions forced labour was not an offence on its own. It was essential not only to improve judicial co-operation but the legislation on forced labour as well.

One delegation referred to the legal international framework in the context of the CoE Convention as an example of comprehensive legislation which applied to all forms of trafficking. It stressed the need of strengthening administrative capacity in the area of identification of victims, through an in-depth training of all relevant actors working in the field. He added that it was essential to provide unconditional assistance to victims and to ensure compensation. The setting up of a recovery and reflection period was highlighted as an element that enhanced the chances of the victim to co-operate with the authorities. It was also preferable to use the term “trafficked person” rather than the term “victim” because the latter emphasizes the vulnerability aspect.

Another participant raised the problem of international adoption. He recalled statistics on the situation in a specific country, where in recent years over a 1.000 children have been annually given for international adoption, 90% out of which were Roma. He underlined that, where international adoption was well administered, it was a legitimate child welfare measure, but where this was not the case then it might be more a kind of child trafficking. This aspect deserved serious consideration.

One participant thought that it was not clear all the time whether the protection of victims of trafficking overrules migration policy or whether migration law takes priority over protection. He referred in this respect to the EU Directive which provided for a short term residence permit for victims of trafficking. The point made from the panel was that the launching of the mechanism provided by the Directive depended on the willingness of the victim to co-operate. The right provided was for the short term and dependent on specific criteria. The participant also wondered whether the acceptance of universal jurisdiction by a specific country would create problems in its participation in EUROJUST. In replying, the point was made that despite the fact that universal jurisdiction might lead up to cases of conflict of jurisdiction, it was preferable than facing situations of complete lack of jurisdiction. In any case there were private international law rules facing such kind of conflicts.

A delegation argued that efforts should focus more on policies in the destination countries, since not enough was being done and wanted to hear more on the potential of OSCE’s involvement in that respect.

Another delegation required more information on the way participating States worked and trained their staff dealing with migration.

A further delegation asked for some clarification on the mandate of EUROJUST and if it could potentially co-operate with Regional Organizations such as the SECI Centre to Combat Crime which brings together both EU and non EU members.

## **Session VII – Prospects for closer inter-state and regional co-operation to develop comprehensive, effective and secure migration management approaches**

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

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

The session's moderator, Bernard Snoy, started by outlining the main objective of the discussions, namely to contribute to the identification of the OSCE role in promoting comprehensive and effective approaches to migration and enhancing co-operation efforts in that regard.

The first speaker, **Mr. Jean-Christophe Peaucelle, Technical Advisor, Ministry for Immigration, Integration, National Identity and Co-development, France/EU Presidency**, presented the European Pact on Immigration and Asylum, adopted the day before by the European Council. He started by referring to the developments within the EU over the past decades, such as the creation of an area of free movement, the policy coordination efforts, the adoption of common policies, rules and international commitments by the member States, the Schengen Agreement, the establishment of agencies such as Frontex and Eurojust, the adoption of the Global Approach to Migration in December 2005, etc. In that context, the need was felt at the EU level to go even further and giving a new impulse to the common policy in the area of migration and asylum. All these development were based on the perception of the same challenges. Migration was needed for economic and demographic reasons and policies in this field should aim at enhancing the mutual benefits for countries of origin, transit and destination as well as for the migrants themselves. At the same time, related security aspects became more and more complex and required an integrated response. All these led to an "intellectual revolution" in the way we look at migration.

The European Pact on Immigration and Asylum, initially proposed by France, was now endorsed by the whole EU. Mr. Peaucelle stressed that the Pact was not an international agreement or a directive but a political gesture, a document adopted at the highest level, representing a commitment to follow a certain policy. Through the Pact, countries committed to one another, to their citizens as well as to the third countries. The pact was not legally binding but would have to be implemented by the member States.

The speaker presented then the chapters of the Pact:

- Organize legal immigration to take account of the priorities, needs and reception capacities determined by each member State, and to encourage integration;
- Control illegal immigration, in particular by ensuring that illegal immigrants return to their countries of origin or to a transit country;
- Make border controls more effective;
- Construct a Europe of asylum;
- Create a comprehensive partnership with countries of origin and of transit to encourage the synergy between migration and development.

Concluding, Mr. Peaucelle described the Pact as fair, comprehensive and balanced. He emphasized that a balance was sought between continuity and new ideas, between ambition and realism, between state sovereignty and the principles of solidarity and co-responsibility, as well as between the political and technical levels.

**Mr. Amanjol Nurseitov, Director of Department, Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Population of the Republic of Kazakhstan**, emphasized at his turn the importance of migration management in order to maximize the benefits that migration could bring. He then referred to the situation of his country, which was not only a country of destination for migrants from Central Asia but also a transit country. The speaker continued by outlining some recent developments, in particular as far as the co-operation with other countries in Central Asia, the Russian Federation and Ukraine was concerned. He also focussed on issues such as return, links



with the Diasporas, human resource development, redistribution of production forces, the rights of migrants and the particular needs of the more vulnerable categories of migrants.

Mr. Nurseitov highlighted that migration management approaches should provide for a certain degree of flexibility in order to respond to the needs of the labour market and should be developed towards ensuring a balanced economic development of a country.

At the end of his presentation Mr. Nurseitov referred to the co-operation with the EU in the areas of labour migration and employment as well as fighting illegal migration. He described a number of successful projects. Finally, he stressed the interest in expanding the co-operation with Europe.

Following the two presentations a NGO representative had an intervention focussed on the use of migrants' remittances for economic development and presented the results of a recent study financed by the ADB. The need to facilitate the transfer of remittances, to open new channels, to build bilateral and regional co-operation in this area and to conduct more surveys and assessments was emphasized. These issues should be discussed in more detail in future meetings of the Forum process.

Further on, a number of delegations made statements supporting the need for closer regional and inter-regional co-operation in the area of migration management. Some questions were also posed regarding some provisions of the European Pact on Immigration and Asylum, in particular the prospects for the establishment of a European asylum support office. The EU Presidency representatives responded that the Commission was expected to make some proposals in that regard and also informed that the full text of the Pact had been circulated.

One participant emphasized the importance of co-operation and partnership at all levels including among various international organizations. The conference was useful in that regard and co-operation should continue. Strengthening synergies and enhancing coordination among organizations would help countries as well.

A country representative also referred to the EU Pact which was a comprehensive instrument of migration management. Implementation tools should be developed and operationalized as soon as possible. It furthermore emphasized the role of different levels of co-operation towards effective migration management. Regarding the possible role of the OSCE, it could focus on areas such as mobility partnership, supporting regional co-operation initiatives, *i.e.* in the Black Sea region, and in promoting the linkages between migration and development.

Another representative asked if there was already a Russian translation of the EU Pact, as that would be very useful for countries and migration practitioners and specialists in the CIS region. The European Commission representative said that a translation would be done in the near future.

Another participant said that the conference raised awareness on the importance of reliable migration statistics and indicators. In that regard, an interesting follow-up area would be to work towards developing statistical information and data harmonization. The OSCE could serve as a platform for co-operation and together with IOM could develop and disseminate a template of migration statistics that would be used by countries, providing thus a comparable format and facilitating regional migration reports.

## **Closing Statement**

**Mr. Bernard Snoy**  
**Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities**

Dear Ambassador Marinaki,  
Distinguished Participants,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I said in my opening remarks that I believed that selecting “Migration management and its linkages with economic, social and environmental policies to the benefit of stability and security in the OSCE region” as the theme for the next year’s OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum was a wise decision. Now, after two days of intensive and stimulating debates, I can say that this initial perception is definitively confirmed. This first preparatory Conference shed new light on the ways we should approach migration management and on the ways in which our organization, the OSCE, could bring its contribution in this area.

Migration is a complex phenomenon, a growing challenge, and a very topical one. This is particularly why many organizations and many countries have started in recent years to pay increased attention to this phenomenon and to its effective management. The OSCE makes no exception. And, indeed, as a political organization, which has a comprehensive approach to security, it should not and it can not afford to be an exception.

I was very pleased over the last days to hear interesting information on various undertakings by partner organizations. Without attempting to be exhaustive, I wish to mention the developments at the EU level and the European Migration Pact, the OECD International Migration Outlook 2008 which was recently published, the work within the framework of the Intergovernmental Consultations on Migration, Asylum and Refugees (IGC), the recent Council of Europe Ministerial Meeting in Kyiv, or the Conference on Migration, Environment and Social Vulnerability, organized by the United Nations University, which I had the pleasure to attend last week in Bonn. I would also like to pay tribute and thank the representatives of IOM, ILO and ICMPD, Eurojust, Frontex, for updating us on their work and for making concrete proposals for possible future co-operation with the OSCE. I was equally pleased to listen to presentations and interventions by numerous representatives of OSCE participating States - such as Spain, Malta, the Russian Federation, Moldova, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Romania, Georgia, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, to name just a few - who shared with us recent policy developments in their countries.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Migration flows are increasing within the OSCE region but also from outside. International migration is not a new phenomenon and there are many factors that trigger it. But, it was repeatedly emphasized that economic and environmental push and economic pull factors are becoming increasingly prevalent. The lack of economic opportunity at home and the income discrepancies are among the key factors that determine migration nowadays. As well, environmental push factors may grow in importance in the near future. For these reasons it is very relevant to discuss migration issues in the context of the Economic and Environmental Forum.

Furthermore, migration has the potential of bringing important benefits for both sending and receiving countries.

Remittances transfers represent important parts of the national GDP in many countries of origin, up to 20-30 % in Kyrgyzstan, for example, or in Moldova, where the 1 billion USD remittances transfers represent 35 % of GDP, being thus an important support in alleviating poverty, supplementing social security etc. Migration is linked with development and there is a need for projects in countries of origin to provide better job opportunities to reduce push factors and make better use of remittances for investment purposes and SME development. In Moldova, for example, only 5-7 % of remittances go into initiating of private business.

In destination countries migrants fill gaps in the labour market and, if they are in a regular situation, pay taxes and contribute to welfare systems.

If we take these economic considerations into account, then it becomes evident that labour migration policy should be an integral component of strategies to strengthen competitiveness, both in countries of origin and destination.

The economic benefits to both sending and receiving countries can be substantial and they can be substantiated if the migration policy is geared towards maximizing them. Adopting the right policies is of key importance. As well it is crucial that institutional linkages and inter-agency co-operation are established and clearly defined.

As I mentioned also in my opening statement, the OSCE, following the 13th EEF in 2005, jointly with IOM and ILO, developed the Handbook on Effective Labour Migration Policies. In the light of the discussions we had here in Prague, we feel encouraged to make further use of this instrument. We could develop training modules to operationalize the Handbook and use them as training materials to strengthen the capacity of government officials, social partners, recruitment agencies and civil society to more effectively deal with labour migration management. Such activities will also, ultimately, support good governance.

We could also develop co-operation with the Council of Europe and others in the field of economic migration and development, through the promotion of integrated approaches, capacity building, setting up of research and analysis mechanisms for policy making.

Migration policies should start from the correct assessment of economic realities. It is crucial to understand the phenomenon and its push and pull factors and try to estimate and predict the future trends in migration. Policy decisions should be then based on such assessments, on reliable and concrete data. The estimation of labour market needs is an essential element. Here the dialogue and the involvement of the private sector is extremely relevant and we should strive along the next stages of the EEF process to involve more the private sector organizations in our deliberations.

The OSCE, jointly with IOM and others could promote the importance of collection of migration statistics and information for policy making. We should promote improved cooperation with employers and data collection for better matching of demand and supply for foreign labour and adaptation of admission policies accordingly. In particular the policies for lower skilled labour migrants deserve special attention, as there is a significant, but often not recognized, market demand.

Furthermore, we could promote best practices in foreign labour agreements at bilateral and regional levels, such as a new generation of agreements which promote migration and development, return and reintegration and migrants' rights.

It was also pointed out that some migrants may become irregular because of the complicated and time consuming procedures. This is yet another element that I want to emphasize - policies and procedures should be simple, clear and transparent.

It was emphasized that the migration policies of receiving countries (such as the Russian Federation or the EU) have a major influence on the policy developments across the region. There is an increased recognition that the co-operation between countries/regions of origin and destination should be strengthened, in order to ensure coordination, information exchange and policy harmonization. This co-operation should start with the identification of mutual benefits. Countries of origin, transit and destination should engage in a political dialogue. Showing political will is the most important first step. Holding regular meetings between migration policy makers from origin, transit and receiving countries is useful. This international co-operation should be oriented towards both encouraging and regulating legal migration and discouraging illegal migration.

Some speakers emphasized that circular migration can be used as a policy tool to reduce pressure from illegal migration and some positive examples were provided. We have also heard that readmission policy is an important part of the whole migration process. The development of well functioning readmission agreements can strengthen inter-state co-operation and help to introduce visa-free regimes. Readmission agreements may also play a role in combating illegal migration and trafficking in human beings. They can give credibility to national labour migration policies. There are important developments between the EU and Russia. The Russian Federation called for CIS countries to also contribute to these efforts and maybe the OSCE could provide support to these processes.

While there is no “one policy fits all” scenario, I believe that the issues of circular migration, return and readmission policies deserve a careful further examination and that it should remain on the agenda of this EEF process. The OSCE could in particular help in creating political will to implement effective return policies and reintegration.

As well, as we were reminded from the very start of this conference, environmental change is more and more influencing migration patterns as it creates major push factors. Numerous global reports and research support this statement. I would also like to recall in this regard the Report of the Panel of Eminent Persons prepared under the Slovenian Chairmanship in 2005, which suggested that the OSCE, within the economic and environmental dimension, could play a role in raising awareness and addressing environmentally induced migration. The OSCE itself was pleased to have the opportunity to contribute, along with the UNU, to researching environmentally induced migration patterns in Central Asia.

There may be a need for more research to better understand the dynamics involved and the longer term impacts, the linkages between environmental change, degradation and disasters on the one hand and migration on the other hand. Together with the UNU and other interested parties, as well as with local researchers, we could continue such research activities, help networking and the dissemination of knowledge, and also promote political awareness of environmentally induced migration and of its possible stability and security impacts. An interesting proposal was made regarding the development of a mechanism/convention for the protection of environmental migrants. We should definitively consider it carefully.

We were reminded that border management should play both a prevention and a facilitation role. The OSCE adopted the Border Management and Security concept, which provides a framework for co-operation which encompasses all three dimensions. The OSCE should strengthen its co-operation with other relevant organizations and use its platform for dialogue as well as its

political role. Existing activities of a capacity building nature that our organization is conducting and facilitating in a number of countries should be continued.

In order to tackle organized crime, it is essential to adopt an integrated approach and establish close co-operation between police officers, investigators and prosecutors. The OSCE role could be in facilitating training of law enforcement and immigration authorities on combating criminal networks related to migration and trafficking, as well as on detect criminal networks and money laundering practices. The example presented by the representative of Malta is very relevant - substantial sums are paid to criminal network which facilitate smuggling and illegal migration. This money may later on be used for other criminal purposes. There is an urgent need to address this problem. At the same time, we should increase public awareness in origin, transit and destination countries regarding the nature and practices of these criminal networks. When combating criminal networks related to trafficking in human beings, the OSCE could promote a victim-oriented approach in the adoption of a comprehensive legislative framework.

Protecting the rights of migrants and establishing information systems on the existing legal channels and the risks associated with illegal migration was another important recommendation we can extract from the Conference deliberations. In this regard, the ratification of relevant international conventions as well as the development of national legislation in line with international standards should be promoted. International organizations could also provide technical support.

When speaking about the rights of migrants we should also pay attention to the successful reintegration of returned migrants. This is also an important element of sound migration policies. The website that Armenia set up to provide information to returnees is a good example in that regard.

An area where the OSCE could do further work is raising awareness of the need for gender sensitivity in labour migration policies and for special attention to the more vulnerable categories of migrants, such as women.

A suggestion was made to compile information on signed and ratified international and regional legal instruments related to migrants. While this undertaking is a key part of the review of implementation of commitments and of the report the ILO kindly agreed to prepare for the Athens Forum in May, we should explore with our ILO partners, as suggested, the feasibility of having such information available already for the Vienna Forum in January.

Another suggestion referred to the preparation, before of our next meeting, of a summary/analysis of the findings and conclusion of recent meetings and documents on migration. This could be useful in order to identify the possible OSCE role and opportunities for co-operation.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Before concluding my intervention I would like once again to thank all those who contributed to the success of this conference: the moderators and speakers, the rapporteurs, the representatives of OSCE participating States, of partner international organizations, civil society, etc., my colleagues in the OSCE Secretariat (Anti-Trafficking and Border Units), in other OSCE Institutions (ODIHR), as well as in the OSCE field presences, the interpreters, the Czech Government, the OSCE Office in Prague and the staff of my Office.

Thank you. I wish you a safe trip back home.

## **Concluding Statement**

**Ambassador Mara Marinaki**  
**Permanent Representative of Greece to the OSCE**

Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Dear Colleagues,

It is a great pleasure for me to make some concluding remarks concerning the First Preparatory Conference to the Seventeenth OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum, which was held here in Prague, at the beautiful premises of the Czernin Palace and marked the first phase of the 17<sup>th</sup> Economic and Environmental Forum.

I would like to state, first of all, that the discussions conducted here have strengthened our conviction that the selected theme contributes to consistency, continuity and coherence the main priorities of the Finnish CiO in the OSCE's work in the second dimension. This Conference in Prague has built upon decisions already made under the Slovenian Chairmanship in 2005, as well as on follow-up activities and recommendations of various Economic and Environmental Fora in the past years.

The proceedings of this First Preparatory Conference have, in our view, reconfirmed that the OSCE is well placed to mobilize political will, promote multilateral dialogue, work closely with other relevant partner organizations and stakeholders, encourage participating States to undertake the necessary steps that will contribute to the implementation of the existing norms, standards, and commitments in this increasingly challenging field of migration.

Effective migration management encourages legal migration that brings benefits to the economic and social development of both sending and receiving countries while improving the living conditions of millions of migrants and it also safeguards against potential security challenges. Yesterday and today we have attested a series of positive examples on how best to manage legal channels for migration, including circular migration. Such good practices could and should be further promoted.

Illegal activities such as trafficking of all kinds, smuggling, etc., perpetrated by criminal networks, should be firmly countered. Increased co-operation is needed in this field and I believe that the joint effective management of borders and the inter-agency co-operation plays a key role in this regard. The OSCE should continue its engagement in this area.

The issue of environmentally-induced migration was also mentioned during our debates. This increasingly important topic will receive further attention in the following meetings of the 17<sup>th</sup> EEF process.

The rights of migrants and their protection, including the gender aspects, were other important elements we touched upon here in Prague.

Effective migration management can only be sustained through partnerships between destination, transit and origin countries, both bilaterally and at the regional level. We should together envisage innovative policies and joint mechanisms, inter *alia* in the area of border management, common data systems, as well as enhanced co-operation between labour and employment agencies, networks of migrant information and resource centres.

Sound circular migration and return policies would also facilitate and encourage legal migration, while maximizing the positive contributions migrants make to the economic, political, and social spheres both in their countries of origin and of final destination.

One of the main conclusions we can draw from the Conference is that good migration management can be achieved through a combination of comprehensive policy instruments and control mechanisms. We have to adopt a comprehensive and cross-dimensional approach. That is, in fact, the spirit and substance of the OSCE principles and falls within the perspective both of the current and the incoming OSCE Chairmanships.

All these subjects were touched upon over the last two days, and I would like to take this opportunity to highlight some of the key recommendations:

1. strengthening awareness-raising of environmentally induced migration and its possible stability and security impacts in the OSCE region;
2. promoting and facilitating capacity-building activities for government officials, social partners, recruitment agencies and civil society to develop and implement more effective migration management policies and counter irregular migration practices;
3. enhancing co-operation to develop comprehensive, effective and secure migration management approaches at all levels, among OSCE Participating States, international and regional organizations, including through the involvement of civil society and business community;
4. providing a platform for continued dialogue on how to strengthen co-operation in order to develop effective policies and practices for return, repatriation and reintegration; exchange best practices on border management that facilitates labour mobility; and promoting international standards on building effective systems to fight criminal networks active in the areas of human-trafficking and money-laundering.

Let us carry forward the momentum established here, in Prague, to the next step of the Forum process which will take place in Vienna on 19-20 January 2009. The Vienna Forum, I am confident, will consolidate the results we have achieved here in Prague and I warmly invite all of you to take an active part.

Moreover, the 17<sup>th</sup> EEF will also expand on this topic by looking at the interconnections between migration policies and economic, social, environmental and security policies, how they impact each other, and how policy cohesion can enhance the developmental impacts from migration. These sub-themes will be examined more in-depth during the second phase of the preparatory process.

Within this framework, the incoming Greek Chairmanship looks forward to an ongoing and substantial exchange of views with all Participating States, which has already been launched this year, under the hospices of the current Finnish Chairmanship, and will be continued and further elaborated next year with a view to addressing the challenges to security in a comprehensive manner, reflecting the spirit and the substance of the OSCE principles. The Prague Conference provided an opportunity to renew the dialogue on migration management not only among the Participating States, but, also, with other relevant partner organizations and stakeholders. Moreover, the key issues identified during this Conference could be further elaborated and developed during the next phases of the 17th Economic and Environmental Forum Process, and especially, at the Vienna Economic and Environmental Forum.

Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Before concluding, I would like, first of all, to thank all the keynote speakers whose presentations have given the necessary stepping board for a very fecund debate, all the moderators for their efforts to stimulate a result-orientated discussion, as well as the rapporteurs and interpreters for their valuable work. All of you, through your joint efforts, gave a strong impetus to the 17<sup>th</sup> Economic and Environmental Forum process.

Furthermore, I would like to express my warmest thanks to our traditional host, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic and I would like to express once again our gratitude to the Czech hosts for providing this beautiful venue for the First Preparatory Conference to the 17<sup>th</sup> OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum.

Last but not least, I am especially thankful to the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, Mr. Bernard Snoy, and his team for their invaluable assistance and support provided to the incoming Greek Chairmanship throughout the preparations of the 17<sup>th</sup> Economic and Environmental Forum. Since it is the last Conference, within the context of the Forum process, attended by Mr. Snoy in his current capacity, I would like to congratulate him personally for his successful contribution to the fostering and enhancement of the scope of the Economic and Environmental Dimension and wish him every success in his future endeavours. Moreover, I would like to thank the OSCE Conference Services and the team of the OSCE Prague Office for the excellent organization of this event.

In our effort to intensify the dialogue on this important theme within the OSCE, as well as with other relevant partner organizations and stakeholders, we have received a strong support along the preparatory process for this conference from a number of other international organizations. We are looking forward to continuing this co-operation and we want to assure our partners that the OSCE is committed to achieving concrete and ambitious results. Joining forces is definitively the key to success.

Last but not least, let me express my gratitude to all of you, representatives of the OSCE Participating States, Partners for Co-operation, the OSCE Secretariat and Field Presences, International Organizations, Non-governmental Organizations as well as members of the academic community and representatives of the business community.

Looking forward to seeing you all in Vienna and Athens





## Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic  
and Environmental Activities

Vienna, 16 October 2008

### 17<sup>TH</sup> 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”

#### **FIRST PREPARATORY CONFERENCE**

Prague, 16-17 October 2008

*Conference Venue: Czernin Palace, Loretánské nám. 5, 118 00 Prague 1*

### AGENDA

#### Thursday, 16 October 2008

09.30 - 10.00            **Opening Plenary Session** (open to Press)

**Mr. Tomáš Pojar**, First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic

**Mr. Ilkka Rentola**, Co-ordinator for Migration Policy, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland, OSCE Chairmanship

**Mr. Theodoros Skylakakis**, Secretary General for International Economic Relations and Development Co-operation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Greece, OSCE Chairmanship for 2009

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

10.00 – 11.30            **Session I – Migration context and trends in the OSCE region (and the link with economic development, environmental degradation and security)**

Topics:

- (a) Key migration trends in the OSCE region
- (b) Contributions of migration – both legal and illegal - to economic development
- (c) Key migration policy options in the OSCE region
- (d) Impact of environmental degradation, including disasters, on migration

**Moderator: Ms. Michele Klein-Solomon**, Director, Migration Policy, research and Communication, International Organization for Migration (IOM)

**Rapporteur: Mr. Robert Mangham**, Economic, Environmental and Regional Officer, OSCE Presence in Albania

Speakers:

- **Mr. Francisco M. Bataller**, Deputy Head, Coordination and Analysis, Directorate General External Relations, European Commission (*topic a*)
- **Ms. Irina Ivakhnyuk**, Senior Researcher, Deputy Director of the Department of Population, Faculty of Economics, Lomonosov Moscow State University, Russian Federation (*topic a*)
- **Dr. Theodore Katsas**, Legal and Scientific Consultant, Hellenic Migration Policy Institute (*topic b*)
- **Mr. Pier Rossi-Longhi**, Technical Co-operation Specialist for Europe and Central Asia, IOM (*topic c*)
- **Mr. Fabrice Renaud**, Associate Director of United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security, Bonn, Germany (*topic d*)

## Discussion

11.30 – 12.00 Coffee break

12.00 – 13.30 **Session II – Management of legal migration**

Topics:

- (a) Types of and channels for legal migration with a focus on labour
- (b) Assessing labour market and employer needs in both countries of origin and destination with a view toward job-matching and co-ordination with admission policies/programmes
- (c) Addressing the discrepancy between the needs and policies/programmes for high skilled as opposed to lower skilled labour migrants

**Moderator: Mr. Almabek Demessinov**, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the OSCE

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

Speakers:

- **Mr. Jean-Christophe Dumont**, International Migration Policies Department, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (*topics a / b / c*)
- **Mr. David Chico Zamanillo**, Senior Advisor to the Secretary of State for Immigration and Emigration, Ministry of Labour and Immigration, Spain (*topic a*)
- **Mr. Bahriddin Jabborov**, Director, State Agency on Social Protection, Labour and Migration, Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, Republic of Tajikistan (*topic a*)
- **Ms. Sophie Nonnenmacher**, Migration Policy Specialist, IOM (*topics b / c*)

## Discussion

13.30 – 15.00 Lunch break

15.00 – 16.30 **Session III - Protection of migrants in countries of origin, transit and destination, including gender aspects**

Topics:

- (a) International norms and standards applying to migration management
- (b) Ratification and implementation of national and international legal commitments
- (c) Regulation of employment agencies and combating illegal recruitment practices (effective employer sanctions for breaches of legislation) and exploitative working conditions
- (d) Information on legal migration channels/requirements and other support services

**Moderator: Mr. Don Flynn**, Chairman, Platform for International Co-operation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM)

**Rapporteur: Ms. Ovsanna Babayan**, National Programme Officer, Democratization Programme, OSCE Office in Yerevan

Speakers:

- **Mr. Patrick Taran**, Senior Migration Specialist, International Migration Programme, International Labor Organization (ILO) (*topic a*)
- **Ms. Maria Ochoa-Llido**, Head of Migration and Roma Department, Directorate General of Social Cohesion, Council of Europe (*topic b*)
- **Ms. Tatiana Petrova**, Head, Division of Employment Policy and Labor Migration, Ministry of Labor and Social Policy, Ukraine (*topic c*)
- **Mr. Toktosun Sabyrov**, Deputy Chairman, State Committee on Migration and Employment, Kyrgyzstan (*topic d*)

## Discussion

16.30 – 17.00 Coffee break

17.00 – 18.30 **Session IV – Circular migration and return policies**

Topics:

- (a) Temporary and circular migration policies and their linkages with return migration
- (b) Achievements and challenges from the perspective of origin, transit and destination countries
- (c) Policies, practices and agreements for return and repatriation
- (d) Ways to further strengthen co-operation and dialogue between origin and destination countries

**Moderator: Ms. Shelly Han**, Policy Adviser, Commission on Security and Co-operation in Europe/Helsinki Commission, United States of America

**Rapporteur: Ms. Anna Platt**, Migration Desk Officer, Migration Directorate, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, United Kingdom

Speakers:

- **Mr. Sergiu Sainciuc**, Deputy Minister of Economy and Trade, Republic of Moldova (*topics a / b*)
- **Mr. Vitaliy Yakovlev**, Head, Readmission Department, Federal Migration Service, Russian Federation (*topic c*)
- **Mr. Mike Bisi**, Deputy Co-ordinator, Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Consultations on Migration, Asylum and Refugees (IGC) (*topics c / d*)

## Discussion

19.00            **Reception hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic**

## Friday, 17 October 2008

09.30 – 11.00            **Session V – Border management co-operation to facilitate labour mobility and combat illegal migration**

Topics:

- (a) Border management to facilitate legal migration and discourage illegal migration
- (b) Co-operation experiences and new developments
- (c) Inter-agency co-operation at the border

**Moderator: Mr. Henry Bolton**, Senior Border Issues Adviser, Borders Unit, Conflict Prevention Center, OSCE Secretariat

**Rapporteur: Mr. Yaroslav Yurtsaba**, Office of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine

Speakers:

- **Mr. Michael Tschanz**, Director, Intergovernmental Dialogues and Research, International Centre for Migration Policy development (ICMPD) (*topic a*)
- **Mr. Richard Ares Baumgartner**, Strategic Development Officer, Frontex (*topic b*)
- **Mr. Franz Prutsch**, Project Manager, IOM Office in Azerbaijan (*topic c*)
- **Lt. Col. Murad Nagiyev**, Senior Officer, International Relations Department, State Border Service, Azerbaijan (*topic c*)

## Discussion

10.00 – 11.30      Coffee break

11.30 – 13.00            **Session VI – Combating criminal networks, smuggling of migrants and trafficking in human beings**

Topics:

- (a) Co-operation areas and measures in combating smuggling of migrants and trafficking in human beings - national and inter-state police, border guards and other law enforcement agencies
- (b) Exchange of experience on good practices and effective policies in combating criminal networks
- (c) Inter-state judicial co-operation, implementation of controls and penal sanctions
- (d) Joint cross-border investigation teams to dismantle facilitators' networks

**Moderator: Dr. Khalid Koser**, Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP)

**Rapporteur: Ms. Despina Touratzof**, Economic Programme Officer, OCEEA/OSCE

Speakers:

- **Ms. Ruth Pojman**, Deputy Co-ordinator, Office of the Special Representative for Combatting Trafficking in Human Beings, OSCE Secretariat (*topic a*)
- **Mr. Samir Rizvo**, State Co-ordinator on Anti-trafficking, Bosnia and Herzegovina (*topics a / b*)
- **Dr. Georgia Papagiannis**, Assistant Legal Advisor, Special Legal Service for EU Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Greece(*topic b*)
- **Mr. Benedikt Welfens**, Deputy to the National Member for Germany, Eurojust (*topics c / d*)

## Discussion

13.00 – 14.30     Lunch break

14.30 – 16.00         **Session VII – Prospects for closer inter-state and regional co-operation to develop comprehensive, effective and secure migration management approaches**

Topics:

- (a) Elements guaranteeing regional co-operation
- (b) Successful migration management approaches
- (c) Lessons learned and recommendations from previous sessions
- (d) The way ahead and the role of the OSCE. Co-operation with other national and international actors

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

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

Speakers (*to cover all/or a selection of topics: a, b, c, d*):

- **Mr. Jean-Christophe Peaucelle**, Technical Advisor, Ministry for Immigration, Integration, National Identity and Co-development, France/EU Presidency
- **Mr. Amanjol Nurseitov**, Director of Department, Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Population of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

## Discussion

16.00 – 16.30     Coffee break

16.30 – 17.00     **Closing session**

**Mr. Bernard Snoy**, Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities  
**Ambassador Mara Marinaki**, Permanent Representative of Greece to the OSCE

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## LOG OF CONTRIBUTIONS

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| Document ID & database number  | Date     | Author                                       | Title  | Language         |
|--|----------|--|--|------------------|
| <b>Opening Plenary Session</b>   |          |  |  |                  |
| 1  | 16.10.08 | Czech Republic                               | <i>Statement. Mr Tomáš Pojar</i> , First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic  | English          |
| 2<br>CIO.GAL/159/08  | 16.10.08 | Finland/<br>OSCE<br>Chairmanship             | <i>Statement. Mr Ilkka Rentola</i> , Co-ordinator for Migration Policy, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland, OSCE Chairmanship   | English          |
| 3  | 16.10.08 | Greece/<br>Incoming<br>OSCE<br>Chairmanship  | <i>Statement. Mr Theodoros Skylakakis</i> , Secretary General for International Economic Relations and Development Co-operation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Greece, OSCE Chairmanship for 2009   | English          |
| 4<br>SEC.GAL/193/08  | 16.10.08 | OSCE<br>OCEEA                                | <i>“Migration Management and its Linkages with Economic, Social and Environmental Policies to the Benefit of Stability and Security in the OSCE Region.” Mr Bernard Snoy</i> , Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities  | English          |
| <b>Session I- Migration context and trends in the OSCE region (and the link with economic development, environmental degradation and security)</b> |          |  |  |                  |
| 5 (ppt)  | 16.10.08 | EU/EC  | <i>“The EU Approach to Migration from Eastern and South-Eastern Europe and Central Asia.” Mr Francisco M. Bataller</i> , Deputy Head, Coordination and Analysis, Directorate General External Relations, European Commission   | English          |
| 6  | 16.10.08 | Lomonosov<br>Moscow<br>State<br>University   | <i>“Migration Management and its Linkages with Economic, Social and Environmental Policies to the Benefit of Stability and Security in the OSCE Region.” Ms. Irina Ivakhnyuk</i> , Senior Researcher, Deputy Director of the Department of Population, Faculty of Economics, Lomonosov Moscow State University, Russian Federation | English, Russian |
| 7  | 16.10.08 | Hellenic<br>Migration<br>Policy<br>Institute | <i>“Exploring the Links Between Economic Development and Migration.” Dr Theodor Katsas</i> , Legal and Scientific Consultant, Hellenic Migration Policy Institute  | English          |

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| 8 (ppt)   | 16.10.08 | IOM  | “Key Migration Policy Options in the OSCE Region.” <b>Mr Pier Rossi-Longhi</b> , Technical Co-operation Specialist for Europe and Central Asia, IOM   | English          |
| 9   | 16.10.08 | United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security | “Impact of Environmental Degradation, Including Disasters, on Migration.” <b>Mr Fabrice Renaud</b> , Associate Director of United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security, Bonn, Germany  | English          |
| <b>Session II – Management of legal migration</b>   |          |  |   |                  |
| 10 (ppt)  | 16.10.08 | OECD   | “Managing Labour Migration: Recent Trends and Main Challenges.” <b>Mr Jean-Christophe Dumont</b> , International Migration Policies Department, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development  | English          |
| 11  | 16.10.08 | Spain  | “Types of and Channels for Legal Migration.” <b>Mr David Chico Zamanillo</b> , Senior Advisor to the Secretary of State for Immigration and Emigration, Ministry of Labour and Immigration, Spain   | English          |
| 12  | 16.10.08 | Tajikistan   | “State Migration Policy in Republic of Tajikistan.” <b>Mr Bahriddin Jabborov</b> , Director of the State Agency on Social Protection, Labour and Migration, Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, Republic of Tajikistan  | English, Russian |
| 13 (ppt)  | 16.10.08 | IOM  | “Assessing Labour Market and Employers Needs with a View Toward Job Matching, and Addressing the Discrepancies Between Needs/Policies and Programmes for Highly Skilled and Lowly Skilled Migrants.” <b>Ms Sophie Nonnenmacher</b> , Migration Policy Specialist, IOM | English          |
| <b>Session III - Protection of migrants in countries of origin, transit and destination, including gender aspects</b> |          |  |   |                  |
| 14  | 16.10.08 | ILO  | “International Norms: the Essential Foundation for Effectively Regulating Migration.” <b>Mr Patrick Taran</b> , Senior Migration Specialist, International Migration Programme, International Labor Organization (ILO)  | English          |
| 15  | 16.10.08 | Council of Europe  | “Protection of Migrants in Countries of Origin, Transit and Destination: the View Point of the Council of Europe.” <b>Ms Maria Ochoa-Llido</b> , Head of Migration and Roma Department, Directorate General of Social Cohesion, Council of Europe                     | English          |

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| 16   | 16.10.08 | Council of Europe  | <i>“8th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers Responsible for Migration Affairs: Kyiv, 4-5 September 2008: Economic migration, social cohesion and development: towards an integrated approach. Final Declaration.”</i>                    | English          |
| 17   | 16.10.08 | Ukraine            | <i>Contribution. Ms. Tatiana Petrova, Head, Division of Employment Policy and Labor Migration, Ministry of Labor and Social Policy, Ukraine</i>  | Russian          |
| 18   | 16.10.08 | Kyrgyzstan         | <i>Contribution. Mr Toktosun Sabyrov, Deputy Chairman, State Committee on Migration and Employment, Kyrgyzstan</i>   | Russian          |
| <b>Session IV – Return policies and readmission agreements</b>   |          |                    |  |                  |
| 19   | 16.10.08 | Moldova            | <i>Statement, Mr. Sergiu Sainciuc, Deputy Minister of Economy and Trade, Republic of Moldova</i>   | Russian          |
| 20 (speaking notes only, no document provided)   | 16.10.08 | Russian Federation | <b>Mr. Vitaliy Yakovlev</b> , Head, Readmission Department, Federal Migration Service, Russian Federation  |                  |
| 21   | 16.10.08 | IGC                | <i>“Circular Migration and Return Policies and Practices.” Mr. Mike Bisi, Deputy Co-ordinator, Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Consultations on Migration, Asylum and Refugees (IGC)</i>  | English          |
| <b>Session V – Border management co-operation to facilitate labour mobility and combat illegal migration</b> |          |                    |  |                  |
| 22   | 17.10.08 | ICMPD              | <i>“Border Management and Co-operation to Facilitate Labour Mobility and Combat Illegal Migration.” Mr. Michael Tschanz, Director, Intergovernmental Dialogues and Research, International Centre for Migration Policy development (ICMPD)</i> | English          |
| 23   | 17.10.08 | Frontex            | <i>“Migration Management and its Linkages with Economic, Social and Environmental Policies to the Benefit of Stability and Security in the OSCE Region.” Mr. Richard Ares Baumgartner, Strategic Development Officer, Frontex</i>              | English          |
| 24   | 17.10.08 | IOM                | <i>“Establishment of Integrated Border Management Model at the Southern Borders of Azerbaijan.” Mr. Franz Prutsch, Project Manager, IOM Office in Azerbaijan</i>   | English          |
| 25 (ppt and written contribution)  | 17.10.08 | Azerbaijan         | <i>“Co-operation Between Azerbaijan and EU within the Framework of New Neighborhood Policy.” Lt. Col. Murad Nagiyev, Senior Officer, International Relations Department, State Border Service, Azerbaijan</i>                                  | English, Russian |

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|--|----------|---------------------------------------|--|---------|
| 26   | 17.10.08 | EC Tacis                              | <i>“Establishment of Integrated Border Management at the Southern Borders of Azerbaijan.: General Project Overview for the Years 2007/2008.”</i>   | English |
| 27   | 17.10.08 | EC Tacis                              | <i>“The European Commission’s Tacis Programme 1991-2006: A Success Story.”</i>   | English |
| <b>Session VI – Combating criminal networks, smuggling of migrants and trafficking of human beings</b>   |          |                                       |  |         |
| 28 (hold posting on website)   | 17.10.08 | OSCE Secretariat                      | <i>“Migration Management and its Linkages to Economic, Social and Environmental Policies to the Benefit of Stability and Security in the OSCE Region.”</i> <b>Ms. Ruth Pojman</b> , Deputy Co-ordinator, Office of the Special Representative for Combatting Trafficking in Human Beings, OSCE Secretariat | English |
| 29 (ppt and written contribution)  | 17.10.08 | Bosnia and Herzegovina                | <i>“Challenges Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and Smuggling of Migrants - Lessons from Bosnia and Herzegovina.”</i> <b>Mr. Samir Rizvo</b> , State Co-ordinator on Anti-trafficking, Bosnia and Herzegovina   | English |
| 30   | 17.10.08 | Greece/<br>Incoming OSCE Chairmanship | <i>“Prevention and Combat of Trafficking in Human Beings: A Greek Perspective.”</i> <b>Dr. Georgia Papagianni</b> , Assistant Legal Advisor, Special Legal Service for EU Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Greece   | English |
| 31 (ppt)   | 17.10.08 | Eurojust                              | <i>“Joint Investigation Teams: The Role of Eurojust Supporting JITs and the Fight Against Serious Crime.”</i> <b>Mr. Benedikt Welfens</b> , Eurojust Deputy to the National Member   | English |
| <b>Session VII – Prospects for closer inter-state and regional co-operation to develop comprehensive, effective and secure migration management approaches</b> |          |                                       |  |         |
| 32   | 17.10.08 | France/<br>EU Presidency              | <b>Mr. Jean-Christophe Peaucelle</b> , Technical Advisor, Ministry for Immigration, Integration, National Identity and Co-development, France/EU Presidency  |         |
| 33   | 17.10.08 | Kazakhstan                            | <b>Mr. Amanjol Nurseitov</b> , Director of Department, Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Population of the Republic of Kazakhstan  |         |
| 34 (ppt)   | 17.10.08 | Public Policy Research Centre         | <b>Dr Meruert Mahkmutova</b> , Public Policy Research Centre, Republic of Tajikistan   | English |



| <b>Closing Session</b>         |          |   |   |                   |
|--------------------------------|----------|---|---|-------------------|
| 35                             |          | OSCE<br>OCEEA                           | <i>Concluding Remarks: Mr. Bernard Snoy</i> , Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities  | English           |
| 36<br>PC.DEL/854/08            | 17.10.08 | Greece                                  | <i>Concluding Remarks. Ambassador Mara Marinaki</i> , Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Greece to the OSCE   | English           |
| <b>List of Participants</b>    |          |   |   |                   |
| 37                             | 17.10.08 |   | <i>Final List of Participants.</i>  | English           |
| <b>Agenda</b>                  |          |   |   |                   |
| 38<br>SEC.GAL/157/08/Re<br>v.2 | 14.10.08 |   | <i>Draft Agenda: 17th OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum: First Preparatory Conference, 16-17 October 2008.</i>  | English , Russian |
| <b>General Contributions</b>   |          |   |   |                   |
| 39                             |          | Centre for Environmental Uzbek Migrants | <i>“Ecological Migration: Priorities, Problems and Possible Solutions.” Ms Dina Bulesheva</i> , Centre for Environmental Uzbek Migrants Support, Republic of Kazakhstan | Russian           |
| 40                             |          | Tajikistan                              | <i>Contribution. Mr Rustam Latipov</i> , Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan   | Russian           |
| 41                             |          | Tajikistan                              | <i>“Water Resources of Tajikistan.” Mr Shaf oat Nazifov</i> , Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan                            | Russian           |
| 42                             |          | Tajikistan                              | <i>“Labour Migration and its Regulation.” Mr Odinakhoja Saidov</i> , President Executive Machinery  | English, Russian  |
| 43                             |          | Tajikistan                              | <i>Contribution. Mr Shukur Shukurov</i> , Migration Service of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan   | Russian           |
| 44                             |          | Public Policy Research Centre           | <b>Dr Meruert Mahkmutova</b> , Public Policy Research Centre, Republic of Tajikistan  | English, Russian  |
| 45                             |          | Georgia                                 | <i>“Current Status on Conclusion of Visa and Readmission with the EU-Member States.” Georgia</i>  | English           |
| 46                             |          | Bosnia and Herzegovina                  | <i>“Migration Management in the Labour Market of Bosnia and Herzegovina.”</i>   | English           |
| 47                             |          | Council of European Union               | <i>“European Pact on Immigration and Asylum.” Council of European Union</i>   | English           |
| 48                             |          | Council of European Union               | <i>“Conclusions from 15-16 October Meeting.” Council of the European Union</i>  | English           |
| 49                             |          | Albania                                 | <i>“Border Management Co-operation to Facilitate Labor Mobility and Combat Illegal Migration.” Department of Border and Migration of the Republic of Albania</i>        | English           |