



Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe



Federal Ministry for
European and International Affairs

Vienna, 9 December 2009

Regional Conference

“Migrant Investment, Return and Economic Reintegration for Development in the South Eastern Europe and Central Asia Regions”

VIENNA, 10-11 December 2009

Venue: Suite Hotel Kahlenberg, Kahlenberg

AGENDA

Thursday, 10 December

08:00-08:30 Bus transport from Hotel Bellevue to the Conference Venue

08:15-09:00 Registration (conference venue)

09:00-09:30 ***OPENING SESSION – at Ball Saal –***

Welcoming remarks by:

- **Ambassador Elisabeth Tichy-Fisslberger**, Director of the Legal and Consular Section, Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs, Austria
- **Mr. Ioannis Pediotis**, Minister Counsellor, OSCE Greek Chairmanship
- **Mr. Goran Svilanovic**, Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities
- **Mr. Andreas Halbach**, Chief of Mission, International Organization for Migration, Vienna

MORNING SESSIONS

The results of the financial crisis on migration and specific consequences in Countries of Origin and how to address the negative impacts

Speakers' presentations followed by Questions and Answers

09:30-10:30 SESSION 1: Crisis – one year old: the impact on migration policies and development

- Assuming that the economic downturn could worsen with more immigration, many countries have adopted restrictive immigration policies to protect their labour, thus indirectly increasing the risk of irregular migration, if not trafficking in human beings.
- While considering adoption of restrictive measures, countries should try to keep regular labour migration channels open. In particular, inter-state co-operation should continuously be maintained, and can play a core role in promoting migrants' economic role in their country of origin.
- Exchange of information and experience on policies and programmes put in place to facilitate economic reintegration of returning migrants and stimulate employment creation.
- The potential impact of the crisis on social stability.

Moderator: **Ms. Irena Omelaniuk**, Senior Policy Adviser, IOM and Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD)

Speakers:

- **Ms. Nicole Martin**, Counselor, International Affairs and Mutually supportive development service, Ministry of Migration, Integration, National Identity and Mutually Supportive, France
- **Mr. Sergiu Sainciuc**, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family, Moldova

Questions & Answers

10:30-11:00 Coffee break

11:00-12:00 SESSION 2: Crisis – one year old: the impact on migrants and their propensity to save – *at Ball Saal* –

- The impact of the financial crisis on migrants' income and their savings.
- The impact of revised migration policies on migrants' status and their ability to save.
- What do migrants usually plan for their savings.

Moderator: **Mr. Igor Veleviski**, Advisor, Investor Servicing Department, Agency for Foreign Investments, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Speakers:

- **Ms. Irina Lukashova**, Senior Researcher, CASE-Kyrgyzstan and **Mr. Joomart Ormonbekov**, Senior Programme Assistance, OSCE Centre in Bishkek
- **Mr. Nikolay Gusman**, President and Chairman of the Board, Russlavlbank, Russian Federation

- **Mr. Sayfiddin Odinaev**, Union of Tajik Diaspora in Russian Federation

Questions & Answers

12:00-13:00 **SESSION 3: Crisis – one year old: the impact on Diaspora investment and remittances – at *Ball Saal* –**

Presentation of recent research in SEE on the development impact of migration related financial flows and investment:

- Besides the remittances' decrease due to the global crisis, there seems to be a lack of confidence in the existing banking systems at home influencing migrants' decisions to send remittances through formal channels or investing in the Countries of Origin (CoO).
- Identifying key legal and other barriers to attracting migrant investments and financial transfers using financial institutions in CoO.
- Increasing the attraction of utilising savings in Countries of Destination (CoD) for investment in CoO.

Moderator: **Mr. Goran Svilanovic**, Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

Speakers:

- **Ms. Susanne Wegl**, Manager, Austrian Development Bank, Austria
- **Mr. Nicolaas de Zwager**, Director, International Agency for Source Country Information, Austria
- **Mr. Luca Barbone**, Director, Poverty Reduction and Economic Management, Europe and Central Asia Region, World Bank

Questions & Answers

13:00-14:30 Lunch

Presentation of the Joint Migration and Development Initiative of the EC and UN and opening of the exhibition by **Ms. Ninane Gwenaëlle**, Focal Point for EC/UN Joint Migration and Development Initiative (JMIDI)

AFTERNOON SESSION

ROUND-TABLE PANEL on “The Diaspora’s economic development potential and how to increase the impact in Countries of Origin”

Panellist in interaction with the audience will be discussing issues in preparation for the Working Groups

14:30-16:00 Round-table panel – at Ball Saal –

- The role of Government Institutions (CoO) in building an Investment Environment of Confidence, a Favorable Diaspora Policy and Effective Economic Reintegration Programmes for returning migrants.
- The role of Central Banks in facilitating the Diaspora's Impact on Economic Development in SEE and CA through regulations that would cater to cross-border investment.
- The role of Commercial Banks in spurring long-term Development through Diaspora Investment in SEE and CA by the provision of adequate products for migrants.
- The role of Migrant Associations in linking Savings and Development in CoO.
- The possible role of International Organisations in facilitating the Diaspora's Impact on Economic Development in SEE and CA.

Moderator: **Ms. Corinna Milborn**, Journalist (2008 European Journalist Award for Excellence in Journalism) and author of several books on migration related issues, Austria

Panelists:

- **Mr. Sergiu Sainciuc**, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family, Moldova
- **Mr. Rainer Münz**, Head of Research, Erste Bank Austria
- **Mr. Nikolay Gusman**, President and Chairman of the Board, Russlavlbank, Russian Federation
- **Mr. Redo Shpetim**, Albanian Diaspora Vienna, Austria
- **Ms. Irena Omelianuk**, Senior Policy Adviser, IOM and GFMD
- **Mr. Pedro De Vasconcelos**, Programme Coordinator, Financing Facility for remittances, IFAD

16:00-16:30 Coffee break

16:30-17.45 Briefings on Round-table discussions and issues to be discussed in Working Groups – at Ball Saal –

16:30-16:45 Working Group 1: Government role - mainstreaming migration into national development strategies in CoO and CoD

- State financial incentives for attracting investments into CoO
- Ways to prevent discrimination against local investors
- Promoting circular migration without loss of residence status in CoD

Facilitator: **Ms. Irena Omelaniuk**, Senior Policy Adviser, International Organization for Migration, Global Forum on Migration and Development

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

16:45-17:00 Working Group 2: The role of Central Banks - facilitating reinvestment of diaspora communities

- Cross-border banking regulations
- Liquidity for CoO economies and affiliate banks

Facilitator: **Mr. Aleksandar Pinkulj**, Senior Advisor, Economic Analyses and Research Department, National Bank of Serbia

Rapporteur: **Ms. Amaia Sotes Linares-Rivas**, Economic Affairs Officer, OCEEA

17:00-17:15 Working Group 3: Commercial Banks' products for migrants in CoO

- Links to state supported interest rates
- Migrant Trust Funds

Facilitator: **Mr. Pier Rossi-Longhi**, Head of the Technical Liaison and Development Unit, IOM Vienna and **Mr. Fabio Mucci**, Senior economist, Unicredit Group

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

17:15-17:30 Working Group 4: Migrant Associations – Outreach and Communication with Diaspora on CoO investment benefits

- Trust building
- Better information about profitable investment opportunities

Facilitator: **Mr Muhtarbek Omurakunov**, Diaspora Association, Kyrgyzstan

Rapporteur: **Mr. Ruslan Urasalin**, Economic Affairs Officer, OCEEA

17:30-17:45 Working Group 5: The role of International Organisations in supporting economic revitalisation and employment generation through Diaspora engagement and return of qualified nationals with investment capacity

Facilitator: **Mr. Alexey Stukalo**, Deputy Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, OCEEA

Rapporteur: **Ms. Tanja Dedovic**, Project Development Officer, IOM Vienna

19:00 Dinner hosted by the Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs of Austria, at the Heuriger Fuhrigassl-Huber, Neustift am Walde
(departure of the transfer bus at approx. 18:15)

Friday, 11 December

MORNING SESSION

Parallel Working Groups

09:30-12:30 **Five Working Groups:** each working group will consist of a mixed group of representatives from the banking institutions, the governments, international organizations, and research and migrant associations –*In separate rooms–*

1. Mainstreaming migration into national development strategies in CoO and CoD by increasing the attractiveness of saving and investing in CoO - *Ellipse 2* -
2. Central Banks facilitating reinvestment of migrant communities through targeted cross-border banking regulations - *Kahlenberg* -
3. Commercial bank products in CoOs for non resident nationals – specifically targeted at migrants - *Ellipse 1* -
4. Migrant outreach/Communication with Diaspora on investment benefits in CoO - *Josefsberg*
5. International organizations supporting economic revitalisation and employment generation through diaspora engagement and return of qualified nationals with investment capacity - *Ball Saal* -

12:30-14:00 Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

Reporting, discussion and way forward

14:00-16:00 **Reports of the Working Groups – at Ball Saal –**

Moderator: **Ms. Désirée Schweitzer**, Deputy Head of Mission, Permanent Mission of Austria to the OSCE, Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs

Reports by Working Group Facilitators

Discussion

16:00-16:30 **Conclusions**

- **Mr. Alexey Stukalo**, Deputy Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, OCEEA
- **Mr. Pier Rossi-Longhi**, Head of the Technical Liaison and Development Unit, IOM Vienna