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# CONSOLIDATED SUMMARY

**SECOND 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**

**TIRANA, 16-17 MARCH 2009**

**OFFICE OF THE CO-ORDINATOR OF OSCE ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Second 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 March 2009 in Tirana. The Conference was organised in close co-operation by the Greek OSCE Chairmanship and the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA), with the support of the Government of Albania and of the OSCE Presence in Albania.

The Conference was opened by H.E. Mr. Bujar Nishani, Minister of Interior of Albania, Mr. Alexandros Tsiatsiamis, Special Secretary for the Development of International Programs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Greece, OSCE Chairmanship, Mr. Goran Svilanovic, Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, as well as Ambassador Robert Bosch, Head of the OSCE Presence in Albania. H.E. Mr. Nishani, Mr. Svilanovic, and Ambassador Louis-Alkiviadis Abatis, Deputy Head, OSCE Task Force, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Greece, OSCE Chairmanship, 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.

A list of documents and presentations circulated at the Conference is included as an annex in the Consolidated Summary. They can also be found on the OSCE web site under - [http://www.osce.org/conferences/eef17\\_prep2.html](http://www.osce.org/conferences/eef17_prep2.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)).

Thematically, the Tirana Conference covered the following topics:

- Linkages between migration management and economic, social and environmental policies
- Migration and economic development
- Social policy issues linked with migration management
- Environment and migration

A Concept Note (SEC.GAL/35/09) was circulated together with the Annotated Agenda in order to introduce the topics of the Conference.

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. The Concluding Remarks by Ambassador Louis-Alkiviadis Abatis, Deputy Head of the OSCE Task Force, Greek OSCE Chairmanship, and by Mr. Goran Svilanovic, Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, also provide an indication of the meeting's outcome.

All these issues will receive further attention during the second part of the 17<sup>th</sup> OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum, which, according to the PC Decision No. 857, will be held from 18 to 20 May 2009 in Athens. A Concept Note indicating possible follow-up areas and activities for the OSCE will be circulated to delegations ahead of the Athens Forum.

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 Remarks by**

**H.E. Mr. Bujar Nishani, Minister of Interior of Albania**

Distinguished participants,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Albanian Government allow me to welcome you and to express my particular satisfaction for attending and opening this very important Conference.

I would like to express my gratitude for the participation of honoured representatives in this Conference, to discuss today in Tirana, issues that this Conference presents. I would also like to greet International Organisations, Civil Society and business and Academic Community for attending this Conference.

A special thank goes to OSCE, Greek chairmanship and Mr. Alexandros Tsiatsiamis, the management of this Conference, for having organised and prepared the so comprehensive platform and documents for this Conference.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The theme of this Conference “Migration Management and its linkage with economic, social and environmental policies to the benefit of stability and security in the OSCE region” is an issue of very interest for this forum and it is of special importance for Albania.

With the globalisation and demographic changes we are facing a new area and dynamic movement of international peoples.

This theme addresses one of the most important issues for the region and for Albania which for years has been facing migration challenges, establishing in this way a very strong experience which has taught us the migration is a complex and multidimensional problem.

Migration will remain our common challenge and this is why this forum is going to identify the most relevant issues to be analysed.

The first preparatory Conference of this forum confirmed that proper steps to enforce existing norms, standards and commitments can be achieved only through the political will, enhance of dialogue and closer co-operation with the partner organisations.

Effective migration management encourages legal migration which along with improvement for the migrants’ standard of living bears social and economic impacts not only for the origin country but also for the destination and transit country. As the result, migration management is effective and stable through the partnership among destination, transit and origin countries, at the regional level and bilateral one.

Illegal activities and all types of trafficking, committed from criminal networks must be attacked. Improvement of channels for the legal migration and reduce of illegal migration shall attack all illegal activities with linkage to this phenomenon. To this regard, joint

effective border management and inter institutional cooperation play a very important role. In this framework Albania is implementing the strategy and its action plan for the integrated border management, including demands for the State Police new law.

Altogether, we should establish new policies and common mechanisms regarding border management aspects, common data bases and other aspects related to migration such as: reduce of poorness, social welfare, security, affect of migration to the environment, employment, education, integration and social re - integration, etc.

Continuous qualitative and quantitative analysis is a very important tool for the decision making. Formulation of migration policies should be realised upon correct evaluations on the economic reality including predictions on the labour trade needs.

Effective migration management will be realised through a good combination of comprehensive political tools and mechanisms for control. We should adapt a comprehensive, cross dimensional and up to date approaches, always responding to existing challenges. These approaches should focus on migrants' rights and protection. This would enable us to avoid, in time, negative consequences from non effective migration management.

This two days Conference will analyse, in details, the above mentioned issues. It will analyse the co-ordination between migration, economic, social, and environmental and security policies and the way how the cohesion of these policies increases the impact for development as the result of migration.

Financial crises that we are facing today create a context where the long term welfare cannot be considered as such. We have to be prepared to jointly react to any challenge.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Concluding my speech, I would once again like to thank OSCE, for acting, in an excellent manner, as a forum for the expansion of dialogue between the Government and civil society, on migration issues. I would like to express the strong will of the Albanian Government for participation and active support to this process.

I wish you good success and also wish that these two days of this Conference will bring us effective and productive discussions that can be translated to an operational reality, in order to achieve required outcomes from standards.

## **Opening Remarks by**

**Mr. Alexandros Tsiatsiamis, Special Secretary for the Development of International Programs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Greece, OSCE Chairmanship**

Excellencies,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

On behalf of the Greek OSCE Chairmanship for 2009, it is my personal great pleasure to welcome you all to this Second Preparatory Conference of the 17<sup>th</sup> Economic and Environmental Forum on “Migration management and its linkages with economic, social and environmental policies to the benefit of stability and security in the OSCE region”.

The Greek Chairmanship is convinced that the topic of this year’s Economic and Environmental Forum does not only stem from and rely on the mandate given to the OSCE, but also proves to be essential for the future course of the OSCE’s second dimension. Indeed, the Forum addresses a number of topical and burning issues, while concurrently building on outcomes and conclusions drawn in previous OSCE Forums.

On behalf of the Greek Chairmanship I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the successful conduct of the first part of the 17<sup>th</sup> Forum, which was held earlier this year in Vienna. The first segment of the Forum concentrated on improving migration governance and focused on promoting legal migration channels and reducing illegal migration through a combination of comprehensive policy instruments and control mechanisms. The benefits of legal migration and the negative impact of illegal migration were analyzed. The main challenges in effective migration management across the OSCE region were reviewed. By drawing from numerous examples and experiences from participating States and international experts it became clear that effective migration management requires strong policies and legislative and institutional frameworks to facilitate legal migration and to provide a tough stance against illegal migration and other related criminal activities. As we experienced, attention also needs to be given to the need for gender sensitivity in migration management.

The discussions during the Forum process so far did not leave a doubt on the necessity to promote synergy between countries of destination, transit and origin, in order to develop more flexible, coherent and comprehensive migration management policies. Stressed numerous times, it is of utmost importance for OSCE participating States to mitigate the negative aspects, but to also not forget the benefits of migration and the advantages that are associated with it. Among key recommendations we learned about the significance of data collection, processing and harmonization, the need to design migration programs as well as the importance to understand and follow the effects of remittances on development.

With this in mind, let us now continue the 17<sup>th</sup> Forum process with this second preparatory conference. After discussing the frameworks of migration management, the next step foresees addressing another key element of this complex phenomenon. In today’s era of unprecedented human mobility the need for a comprehensive view on the impact of migration on the economy, social life and the environment for countries of origin, transit and destination, is urgent. Properly managed migration can not only benefit migrants, but also promote economic prosperity and development in the OSCE region. Moreover, it is closely



linked with social policies and impacts on the environment. Despite the strong linkages of these issues, most countries have been elaborating on these public policies separately. There is a clear need for a more coherent implementation of economic, social and environmental policies in the OSCE region.

In this regard let me draw your attention to two major world-spanning and key influencing factors: first, the current global financial crisis, and second, the phenomena of climate change. The Greek Chairmanship strongly urges OSCE participating States to not only to be aware of their security impacts but also to use fora such as this Conference to include such considerations into jointly elaborated recommendations for future works in the area of migration.

Although the depth and extent of the global financial crisis cannot be fully predicted at this stage and it affects OSCE participating States on different levels and in different intensities, it is nearly certain that the crisis is expected to lead to a considerable downswing in the global economy. Among the group of most aggrieved victims of deteriorating economies are migrant workers. They face exacerbated problems, such as higher risk of job losses, reduction in wages and they are likely forced to return to countries of origin. Some other consequences might be the decline in remittances flows and the adoption of more restrictive immigration policies. However, let us not lose sight of the positive forces of migration. Adequately regulated migration flows can conceivably contribute to an easing of tense economic situations.

Similarly, global climate change and deteriorating environmental condition stand in direct connection with migration patterns. The importance to address these cross-cutting topics within the framework of the OSCE becomes clear when considering the consequences of environmental degradation and decreases of productivity. Environmental degradation does not only cause the movement of people, but migration flows also effects surrounding ecosystems. Having in mind the mandate of the OSCE we shall particularly be aware of the security implications of this development.

Excellencies,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

During this Second Preparatory Conference we will build upon Prague's and Vienna's conclusions and recommendations and will emphasize on the need to strengthen the linkages between migration and key public policies so as to ensure stability and security in the OSCE region. We aim at discussing long-term economic policies that encourage good governance, attract investment and ameliorate the business environment. In this context we will also touch upon issues such as the re-integration of returning migrants into domestic markets, Diaspora involvement in the economic development as well as ways and means for effective co-operations between destination and origin countries through co-development programmes.

As for the linkage of migration with social policy issues the Greek Chairmanship is looking forward to discussing mechanisms to protect and promote the rights of migrant and their social empowerment. The session dedicated to this topic will also address the social costs of migration, social welfare and social security. In that regard, we should emphasize the need for co-operation between governments and social partners, nationally as well as bilaterally and at the regional level.

The debate on the interrelations between environment and migration and the effects on the security and stability for the OSCE region is expected to raise awareness on the potential implications of environmentally induced migration and should also lead to the elaboration of possible responses and actions.

The OSCE's unique setting allows for an open platform for dialogue and co-operation. It facilitates the exchange of best practices and expertise. Moreover, it provides a political podium on comprehensive security issues that brings together the governments of the OSCE participating States, the Asian and Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation as well as representatives of regional and national social partners, relevant non-governmental and international organizations. This wide participatory approach deepens and enriches the discussions.

The main objective of the Conference is to formulate concrete recommendations for the OSCE on how to address the aforementioned issues, in particular under the influence of the current economic crisis and given the implications of the global climate change.

We believe that now is the time for proving the core assets and qualities of our Organisation: in-depths co-operation among its participating States and its partners, up-to date and highly substantial discussion and the elaboration of concrete and long-term political recommendations.

Our objectives for this coming two days are ambitious, and set as high as the Chairmanship's expectations for this preparatory conference. Yet, as the Greek philosopher Aristotle formulated already about 2400 years ago: "First, have a definite, clear practical ideal; a goal, an objective. Second, have the necessary means to achieve your ends: wisdom, materials, and methods. Third, adjust all your means to that end."

To that effect, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, the Greek Chairmanship is very much encouraged by the strong interest of all the participants meeting here in Tirana and in the course of the Forum process, and confident that the active co-operation of OSCE participating States and our collaboration with experts from other international organizations contribute to the succeeding of our aim.

Let me, on this point, express my warm thanks and appreciation to all the speakers as well as moderators, commentators and rapporteurs who have accepted our invitation to the Forum. I would also like to take the opportunity to thank the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, Mr. Svilanovic, and his Office for their excellent work, their dedication and their support in organizing this Forum. I also wish to deliver a special thank to the Government of Albania for taking the initiative to host this Conference.

Excellencies,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

In closing and referring back to Aristotle, I wish us all the wisdom necessary to further successfully elaborate on this year's theme of the Forum. I am looking forward to seeing the development of the OSCE's methods in addressing migration management and its linkages with economic, social and environmental policies to the benefit of stability and security in the OSCE region. Thank you for your attention.

**Welcoming Remarks by**  
**Mr. Goran Svilanović**  
**Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities**

Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Distinguished participants,

On behalf of my Office, I am pleased to welcome you to the second part of the Preparatory Conference being held here in Tirana. I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the Government of Albania for hosting this important event.

Furthermore, I am pleased to see such a wide representation from OSCE participating States, International Organizations, the private sector, as well as representatives from academia and NGOs. I look forward to an active exchange of experience and expertise.

In fact, this is why we have gathered here: to exchange ideas as well as learn from our collective experience related to migration management, and its linkages and interdependencies with economic, social and environmental policies. Better policy coherence would maximize the benefits of migration while mitigating the negative consequences for both countries of origin and destination.

Migration is an integral part of today's economy. The OSCE area alone, in 2005, was home to about 115 million migrants that represents 9.5% of the population of the OSCE countries. A sizeable number are engaged in economic activities, which has allowed for significant social and economic advancement in both destination and origin countries in the OSCE area. We have also seen in many countries a "feminization of migration".

Migration movements, as we know, are mainly due to the globalization of our economies, increased economic cooperation and the reduction of barriers to movements; labour force decline as a result of demographic change in developed countries and demand for foreign labour in specific sectors as well as large income and employment opportunity differentials between countries. As these factors are of longer term nature, it is generally expected that international migration will continue and therefore to maximise the positive socio-economic effects, it is important to find effective and cooperative migration management policy solutions.

The OSCE participating States have politically committed themselves to advance economic, social and political cohesion in the OSCE region for the benefit of our collective security. This includes commitments also in the area of migration and more specifically related to protection of migrants and migrant workers, optimizing the benefits of migration, mitigating the adverse impact of migration and fostering cooperation between destination, transit and origin countries. The Forum process of the Second Dimension provides one platform within the OSCE framework where issues related to these commitments can be openly discussed and information shared with the overall objective of strengthening the collective security and stability in the OSCE area.

However, our need for collective stability and security should not be overshadowed by the challenges of the global financial crisis and the economic downturn. To stem any rise in discrimination and xenophobia directed towards migrants in our societies, we need to raise awareness through public discourse that migration has become an integral part of our global economic environment and that it generally contributes to economic growth and social development. We must fight against any negative perception of migrants only “taking jobs” and “being a strain on the social welfare system”. In times like these, it is important to pay particular attention to human and labour rights as well as the status of migrants and their families, both legal and illegal.

As the underlying factors to international migration are long-term and the economic downturn can be expected to further deepen the economic divergence between developed and developing countries, regular migration channels should remain open or be further developed in order to avoid increased irregular migration. The foreign labour demand may momentarily be suppressed, but it is guaranteed to rebound with economic recovery. Actions that would send migrants home in large numbers could also have a damaging effect on origin country development through drastic cuts in remittance incomes, even further compounding the negative effects of the economic downturn. Therefore, it may be prudent to find more flexible and mutually beneficial solutions to bridge the downturn period. When economic activity starts to pick up again, migrant labour may in fact contribute to faster economic recovery.

To facilitate OSCE participating States in their efforts to deal with the economic downturn, we could discuss what the OSCE as an organization could do in the area of economic development. For example, we could support our field presences in their work with the host governments on trying to find solutions to the negative impact of the crisis on national economies. With the drastic cut in foreign direct investment and increased competition for financial resources, it has become vital to create conditions that encourage business development. This could include helping returning migrants to set-up self-employment opportunities.

Environment and security is an integral part of the Second Dimension’s activities and our migration management dialogue would be incomplete if we did not address the environmental factors related to migration

There are widely varying estimates of the number of people who will be affected by environmentally induced migration. Environmental factors such as climate change and environmental degradation are gradual. Therefore, it is harder to determine their direct effects on migration as they are often interlinked with economic opportunities and lack of social cohesion and conflicts. Although more research still needs to be conducted, there is a general acknowledgement that environmental disasters, environmental degradation, prolonged draughts and water scarcity have a multiplier effect on other migration drivers.

In this Preparatory Conference we could consider the role of the organization in the promotion of good practices and in the co-ordination of research studies in order to increase knowledge regarding migration flows brought about by environmental circumstances and how these might affect the OSCE area.

In the current climate and with the issues at hand, I strongly believe, that there is urgency for us to come together and to discuss common issues concerning migration management and to

find solutions that are mutually beneficial, fair and equitable as well as sustainable. For this we need political will and open dialogue.

This includes stepping-up efforts to: improving policy cohesion between migration management, economic development and environmental policies; encouraging legal migration and combating illegal migration by balancing facilitation and prevention measures; understanding the demand and supply of labour markets; creating conditions for improved economic development and co-operation; facilitating integration of migrants in host societies and their reintegration on return; and improving their protection.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Before I close, I would like to bring to your attention the recent publication *Gender and Environment: A Guide to the Integration of Gender Aspects in the OSCE's Environmental Project*. This Guide was produced in cooperation between my Office and the Gender Section. For those interested in the publication there will be a Question-and-Answer session during the afternoon coffee break in the ONUFRI Room.

Finally, I would like to reiterate that the main objective of the Preparatory Conference is to formulate specific recommendations for the OSCE to follow-up on and carry forward to the final stage of the Forum process, the Athens Economic and Environmental Forum in May.

Once again, let me wish you fruitful and lively discussions!

Thank you.

## **Opening Remarks by**

### **Ambassador Robert Bosch, Head of the OSCE Presence in Albania**

Mr. Minister, Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, let me once more wish you all a very good morning.

It gives me great pleasure on behalf of the OSCE Presence in Albania to welcome you all here in Tirana and to the opening session of the 17<sup>th</sup> Economic and Environment Preparatory Forum. In the beautiful Albania of which some of you have yesterday seen something already.

I should, first of all, like to thank the Albanian authorities for organizing this important event. That Tirana was chosen by the Greek Chairperson-in-Office is a clear tribute to the proven organizational ability of the Albanian public administration to organize such important events.

The fact that many of you have undertaken lengthy journeys to be with us here today is a clear indication of the importance that the governments and other international institutions represented today attach to the theme of this event.

Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, I would like to take this opportunity this morning as the Head of Presence in Albania to focus a little more on the topic of "migration" for Albania, which is here more emigration, and the links of this emigration to the economy and on daily life.

I believe that the issue is of key relevance given that some 700,000 Albanians work abroad, particularly in Greece and Italy, where they all perform an important and much needed function in the respective national economies.

Recent statistics suggest that the remittances sent back by these workers amounted to around 700 million Euros in 2008.

Not only is this revenue a major source of investment for stimulating domestic businesses here in Albania, it is also an important support for basic subsistence for many poor households, especially in the rural areas, for single mothers, for pensioners and for other vulnerable groups.

As we all know, global economic events are changing rapidly and, even since the launch of the current theme at the first preparatory conference in Prague back in October 2008, the face of the world's economy has changed in ways that we would not have believed possible even back then.

Indeed, many now contend that for countries such as Albania, the effects of the global downturn are now very slowly beginning to be felt, albeit in a limited form, the falling level of remittances and with some migrants even returning home.

These developments can but have a negative effect on the social welfare systems in source countries. We also know that during times of economic crisis there is an increased risk of a correlated increase in activities of concern to the OSCE, such as an increase in crime, in trafficking of illicit goods and human beings, and deterioration in security. As Minister Nishani has outlined before the Albanian authorities will do everything possible to see to it that this will not happen.

As for Environment protection, I believe that when societies undergo social and economic turmoil natural resources are most at risk from unsustainable exploitation.

Warnings about the danger posed by climate change, for instance, tend to fall often on the 'deaf ears' of both the public and policy makers.

For these reasons, the timing of this conference – if we are honest, by de-fault could not be more timely for sharing experiences about the changing patterns of migration and for the urgent need to formulate appropriate policies to manage the resulting impacts.

Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, in thanking the Albanian authorities once again for hosting this important and timely event, I would like to wish you a very successful and constructive two-day forum.

I hope you will be able to identify concrete issues that can be brought forward to the main conference to be held in Athens in May.

Lastly, I also want to also wish you a very pleasant stay in Tirana.

Thank you very much.

## RAPPORTEURS' REPORTS

### **Introductory Session I: Linkages between migration management and economic, social and environmental policies**

**Moderator: Mr. Pier Rossi-Longhi**, Technical Co-operation Specialist for Europe and Central Asia, International Organization for Migration (IOM), Vienna

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

In his opening remarks **the Moderator, Mr. Pier Rossi-Longhi**, pointed out that, when talking about the linkages between migration management and other policies several aspects have to be taken into consideration. Policy versus migration management, the legal angle, the administrative set up as well as the enforcement aspect were mentioned in this respect. Cohesion in the OSCE region was something all participating States strive for but before good co-operation could be established between countries, work should first start at a national level. The interagency co-operation, covering both control and facilitation angles of migration management, was a key element. The Moderator stressed the importance of the improvement of investment, through supporting the private sector and especially establishing linking up the banking sector. Reference was made to the difference in the amounts between diaspora savings and remittances. The real objective of the migrant was not to send remittances but to save in the long term and built up capital. The way this capital could be channelled in order to improve investment back home was an area of interest, where the banking sector would have more to say. The bilateral labour agreements were mentioned as an important part of labour migration and investment, an area that should be further explored.

**Mr. Luca Barbone**, Director, Poverty Reduction and Economic Management, Europe and Central Asia Region, World Bank, gave an overview on the approach of the World Bank in tackling migration and development while addressed some of the more burning issues at this time as well as trying to reflect on how the exigencies of the short-run crisis could be addressed in a way that does not counter the medium-run agenda that both countries of origin and destination were pursuing. It was difficult to present thoughts about the policy of migration and development due to the dramatic changes of the last 6 months as well as the very little information on migration available for the moment. The speaker presented the top 10 migration corridors for Europe and Central Asia (ECA) stressing that the stock of immigrants within the region was about 6.5% of the population while the stock of emigrants was a bit higher, about 10%, and unevenly distributed among countries. USA and Europe attracted a large portion of migrants. About 60% of the ones emigrating from the region remained within the region, with Russia being the largest absorber but it also was a large contributor. Talking about the developmental aspect of migration, the speaker emphasized its contribution to the economic growth of the sending countries through the increased availability of foreign exchange. In addition, remittances were seen as effective means in reducing poverty. Taking into account they represented a large percentage of GDP in several ECA countries, one of the key issues in relation to the financial crisis was the severe vulnerability of some countries in connection to the growth of remittances; this was becoming one of the biggest risks in addition to the large amount of population that started to return.



Economic benefits derived also through investment in human capital. Migrants, irrespective of their status, did contribute also to the economic efficiency of receiving countries, through, for example, increased labour supply, where populations decline and job creation through migrant entrepreneurship. On the aspect of key costs related to migration, there was a need to think how to frame a policy within risks. Apart from a series of macroeconomic considerations, the social costs had to be taken into account, such as social exclusion and effects on the families left behind. Talking about the crisis, it seems that the events of the past months have dramatically changed the environment. Disturbing phenomena seem to be appearing which require attention. One of them was the breakdown of the well established relationship between remittances and crisis in sending countries. It was pointed out that what makes the current financial crisis different was that for the first time decline was global and simultaneous. Some of the effects mentioned in connection to migration and the countries of the region were: the unprecedented recession in industries which depend on migrants' participation, particularly in the construction services; a tremendous devaluation of currencies in all across the region; and a serious decline that a number of countries face in remittance flows.

The speaker stressed that, in terms of what could be done, the response in the short-run should not lose track of the medium-term agenda of the countries. A short term response should focus on the protection of the vulnerable. He specifically mentioned that managing the issue of remittances should be seen in connection with the social protection aspect. In this respect the World Bank was envisaging in the next months to go through financial packages with the help of the IMF and the EU, special attention would be given to safeguarding the safety nets. Prevention of discrimination and facilitation of the re-entry of migrants, where necessary, were elements to be taken also needed serious consideration. The speaker underlined the need to address the crisis following a coordinated response, while keeping in mind at the same time that the debate on the medium-term issues should be kept beyond the aspect of emergency since for a series of reasons migration would return to the agenda.

**Mr. Patrick A. Taran**, Senior Migration Specialist, International Migration Program, International Labour Office, presented the perspective of ILO on the impact of the financial crisis on migrant workers. Migrants tend to be among the workers most hard hit by economic downturns, employed often under, or not well, regulated conditions and become victims of xenophobia. According to estimates of the 2009 Global Employment Trends Report issued by ILO, in 2009 there would be a severe increase of unemployment, compared to 2007, by a range of 18 to 30 million workers. Some of the major impacts of the current crisis mentioned were linked to the following: migrants were rendered unemployed disproportionately; the ones employed faced reductions in wages and less access to social safety net support; the unemployed ones were not generally returning home and were compelled to find work in abusive conditions; they faced hostility. Remittances were substantially declined and there were fewer options for those returning from abroad.

In trying to put labour migration in a context and linking it to the crisis, the speaker put an emphasis on its positive aspects to host societies and their economic development. Migration serves as an instrument to adjust the skills, age and sectoral composition of labour markets. He insisted on the vulnerability of migrants who were often perceived as exploitable, especially when it comes to irregular ones. This was something that the crisis would not change. In fact, it makes migration labour more attractive when some employers think they

can take advantage on foreigners by paying less without providing basic social and health protection.

As pointed out, minimum standards relating to the protection of migrants, their families and refugees as well as for international co-operation on migration were set by international and European legal instruments. However a comprehensive set of measures and institutions were required to achieve adequate protection and ensure functional labour markets. The administration of immigration, legal protection, labour inspection, social security were some of the areas that needed to be covered by policy and action. When it comes to the financial crisis and its relation to migration Mr. Taran emphasized the impact on the loss of employment, stressing that this was higher in some sectors of the economy which depended heavily on migrants, like construction, manufacturing, agriculture and health services. A gender dimension of the impact was especially highlighted since men and women were differently clustered in jobs and economic sectors. He also mentioned cases of xenophobic manifestations and gave an example of a country where murders against migrants doubled after the crisis. On the volumes of remittances, the speaker said that the flows slowed down in the third quarter of 2008 and there were indications that the deceleration in remittances will be sharper in 2009.

However while this crisis was severe it was temporary. There was a need for immediate responses but also for building sustainable policies and institutions in the long term. In closing, the speaker presented some elements for adequate policy responses. It was crucial to resist any incentive for return. Agriculture should be foreseen as one of the key sectors to setting the stage for recovery but also other sectors where labour and skills will remain necessary. Labour inspection has to be increased and minimum employment conditions standards have to be respected. Anti discriminatory measures and equality of treatment should be explicit and part of governmental policy. Xenophobia required a strong response. And in the broader picture, there was the need to maintain support for employment intensive recovery measures and international aid that looks at creating jobs in home countries.

**Mr. Damjan Bergant**, Head of the Department for OSCE and CoE, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia gave an overview of the strategy of his country on migration management as well as examples of best practices in managing migration flows. He referred to the dialogue in the auspices of the UN, EU and the OSCE, which addressed challenges arising from international migration and stressed a series of factors, such as poverty, ageing of population, scarce opportunities for employment but also climate change, which precipitated migration and affected the economic and social life in countries of origin and destination. Special reference was made to the initiative undertaken by the EU in developing a comprehensive strategy for migration in the context of Global Approach to Migration. Efforts should be done to exploit the interconnection between development opportunities and the positive impact of international migration. This was especially under the current circumstances influenced by the crisis which hit simultaneously different parts of the world due to the interconnection of the capital markets. It was pointed out that when countries adopt policies to protect their labour market as a means of a way out of the global recession, it was essential to also direct measures towards the protection of the most vulnerable groups, including migrant workers, to ensure their social rights and enhance their integration into the societies.

The speaker gave an overview of the approach of Slovenia in its efforts to adopt policies which adjusted to the new developments. At the beginning of the last decade, a large number

of illegal migrants and asylum seekers oriented the country's migration policy towards the prevention of illegal migration and the establishment of a restrictive asylum policy. However since 2005 there was a shift due to the differences they experienced in the structure of the migrants flows. The focus in this respect was on the effective planning of economic migration and the integration of immigrants into the labour market and the society. The ongoing process of drafting a Strategy on economic migration was brought up as an example which, when put into place, would constitute a basis for further development in balancing economic migration. The principles of equal treatment and securing social and economic rights of workers from third countries formed an integral part of their Strategy. Mr. Bergant highlighted as main objectives of the Strategy the efforts towards guaranteeing immigration especially in order to balance the effects of the decrease of the working population, promoting immigration in order to enhance business activities and encourage competitiveness, enabling domestic work force to acquire experience abroad and reducing brain drain by promoting the circulation of experts. He insisted on the importance of constructive dialogue and co-operation between countries as basic elements of a comprehensive migration flow management and he presented in this respect how these principles were turned into specific prerequisites for the establishment of co-operation between Slovenia and the countries of South-Eastern Europe, in the context of the "Brdo Process". Emphasis was given to the aspect of implementation of the existing policies through measures adjusted to the needs of every country and following the spirit of regional initiatives.

Among the main points raised during the discussion were the following:

One participant pointed out that when countries were confronted with the crisis, efforts should be done so that national protectionist reaction was avoided even though it was difficult for countries and politicians to follow this approach easily and go beyond normal protectionist instincts. The aspect of destabilizing effects in countries of origin as a consequence of the crisis and the massive insurgence of migrants was also pointed out as an issue which could negatively affect security and stability and was suggested as a niche where the OSCE could make a substantial contribution. The importance of FDI was highlighted as a crucial element for the developing countries, which try to develop their own economy and labour markets, in connection to the fact that one of the major impacts of the financial crisis was that access to capital was no longer available for investment in these countries.

One delegate gave the policy perspective of his country, as a place of destination seriously touched by the crisis and stressed that their migratory concept was in the process of being reviewed. He mentioned some main elements of this concept such as the reduction of illegal employment demand, the improvement of international recruitment, effective border control, etc. He commented on the difficulty of this task and suggested that OSCE was the proper place to discuss and tackle these issues.

Another delegate stressed the importance of the protection of migrants' human rights. He also expressed his satisfaction about the reference on recent xenophobic accidents in a country. There was a need to further elaborate on the social cost of migration, especially for the families left behind, as well as to recognize the positive role of immigrants and promote their positive image by focusing not only to their contribution to the economy but also to the society.

A speaker underlined how much migration was an integrated international phenomenon where what happens in one country had an impact on others. Not addressing the impact of returning of migrants home could create or exacerbate a security crisis. In addition, the broader importance of co-operation in ensuring protection for migration and ensuring a regulated approach was highlighted.

In his concluding remarks, the Moderator stressed the importance of measuring the difference between regular and irregular migration. Questions which needed to be further explored related to the following: what should be the role of the employers and the reaction of the policy makers; what should prevail - the human rights or the economic profit? This was an important issue since it was an element of strong influence on policy makers. The need for a coordinated migration management approach between countries was highlighted, looking at the common ground and understanding that data which would facilitate comparability of information and forecasting to some extent were missing. Remittances were an issue to be looked at, also from the perspective of investment into the countries of origin rather than simply re-circulating money back home. The OSCE region had a lot to do with the coordination of migration management between areas that sometimes have discrepancies in their interests. However, with continuous dialogue focusing on the policy linkages, common understanding could be reached.

## **Session II: Migration and economic development**

**Moderator: Mr. Luca Barbone**, Director, Poverty Reduction and Economic Management, Europe and Central Asia Region, the World Bank

**Rapporteur: Mr. Ryan Maccan**, Migration Project Assistant, OCEEA/OSCE

**Mr. Andrew Dabalén**, Senior Economist, Poverty Reduction and Economic Management, Europe and Central Asia, World Bank, presented a recent World Bank survey that examined the question if foreign-born migrants contributed to or were a drained on the national tax and social systems of host countries. The survey examined 13 EU countries and found that migrants constitute about eight (8) percent of the total population of Europe (this number varies greatly across EU countries), that migrants raise the number of working-age population and migrants were net contributors to tax and benefit systems of host countries. However, it was stressed that the caveats on the definition of ‘migrant status’ and the limited examination of taxes and benefits considered should be kept in mind when examining the data. The speaker continued by outlining the data by showing a number of graphs. In closing, he summarized the main finding by stating that there was no evidence to support the idea that migrants pay fewer taxes or consumes higher benefits than the native born population. In fact, the data showed the opposite, that migrants were net contributors to national tax and benefit systems of host countries.

The floor passed to **Mr. Bashkim Sykja**, Director, Business Promotion Directorate, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Energy of Albania. He noted the significant impact that emigrants’ remittances have had on Albania. In fact, they were an important factor for financial growth and economic development of the country. Mr. Sykja stressed that remittances were helping to finance the external deficit, raise living standards, reduce poverty and playing an important role in microeconomic stability through financing imports, influencing the value of the

currency and promoting the development of construction and service sectors, which creates new jobs. Also stressed was that, in recent years, the nature of the use of remittances had changed from meeting the basic needs related to household spending to serve as a source of short-and long term investments. He continued by noting that the Albanian private sector had become the main force for economic growth and the government was working hard to improve the business climate in order to stimulate investment. Furthermore, his country was now actively engaging the Albanian Diaspora to become investors in their countries of origin. He stressed that good communication and co-operation were crucial elements to consider when providing information on the business opportunities and business climate in Albania to the Diaspora. Mr. Sykja also highlighted the need to create more programs related to returning migrants. This would allow Albania to benefit from “brain circulation.” Recently, Albania established “the Brain Gain Programme,” which was an initiative to support universities to fill leading management and academic position with qualified individual from Diaspora. In closing, Mr. Sykja suggested that the OSCE could co-operate with the government to implement a programme to support “Creative Industries.” These were industries that use knowledge and intellectual capital as primary inputs and were the most dynamic sector in world tread and helped to foster new skills and ideas.

**Ms. Nicole Martin de Portzamparc**, Counselor, International Affairs and Mutually Supportive Development Service (SAIDA) from the Ministry of Immigration, Integration, National Identity and Social Cohesion (MIINDS), France, was the next speaker. Her presentation focused on how a destination country could maximize the positive effects of migration for itself as well as the country of origin. She pointed out that France’s migration policies had a two-prong approach: establishing agreements for better management of migratory flows and second, embracing the concept of co-development. It was recalled that, for France, bilateral agreement (BLAs) were the main tool to manage migration and also to support development in countries of origin. These agreements should coordinate between the needs of the economies of the two countries, limit the brain drain, combat illegal immigration, and promote the sense of share responsibilities. Moreover, they should give support to new business creation, provide for training and support of the Diaspora in economic activities as well as improve remittances transfers. She noted that France has signed eight such agreements and eight were under negotiation. Ms. de Portzamparc closed by sharing some conclusion that MIINDS has come to. The first was the emergence of a new dynamics and a new attitude in both destination and origin countries. This could be seen in the labour markets, policies related to employment and vocational training and new forms of inter-agencies and inter-country cooperation. A second conclusion was the renew prospect for cooperation based on migratory profiles of both countries; and third, the European Pact on Immigration and Asylum gives new impetus to the creation of such partnerships.

The next speaker, **Mr. Melih Ulueren**, Deputy Director General for Migration, Asylum and Visa Issues, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Turkey, stressed that remittances have a positive effect on reducing poverty and helping poor households to meet basic needs as well as providing opportunities for investment, to purchase land or open a bank account. Furthermore, it was recalled that remittances were relatively safe and more resilient than other forms of money transfers. However, underdeveloped financial infrastructures, limited competition, regulatory obstacles, lack of access to the banking sector by remittance senders or receivers were among the main reasons of the high cost of remittances transfer. This means, migrants frequently turn to informal channels to transfer money and it was these informal channels that fuelled illegal activities such as terrorism. Therefore, Mr. Ulueren called for efforts to make the transfer of remittances easy and cheaper. In fact, this would

encourage the use of formal remittances channels instead of informal ones. However, this would need partnerships between remittances service operators and existing postal services, the streamlining and optimizing the process by using modern technology, and ensuring specific measures are implemented to reduce costs, especially taxes levied by governments. He encouraged that this measure should be incorporated into bilateral and multilateral labour agreements. Mr. Ulueren asked if the OSCE could provide a possible role to facilitate information exchange with respect to best services and practices in the area of remittances among its participating States.

**Mr. Bahridin Jabborov**, Director, State Agency on Social Protection, Labour and Migration, Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Population, Republic of Tajikistan, followed. He started that since the collapse of the Soviet Union, labour migration has become an extremely important topic for Tajikistan. Therefore, the government has developed a regulatory and legal framework to better manage labour migration and to allow for the better investment of remittances. Notwithstanding, there were a number of problems with the management of labour migration. These included, the predominance of unregulated migration, the rise of illegal employment of migrants; poor bilateral co-operation in the field of labour migration with countries receiving labour migrants from Tajikistan, as well as the failure to provide social and legal protection for labour migrants in host countries. Nevertheless, he stressed that Tajikistan was taking steps to better manage and to protect its labour migrations. First, Tajikistan developed policies to stimulate small and medium sized enterprises, reforming the vocational educational system to keep in-line with labour market demands, organizing a system of pre-job training and pre-departure orientation programmes for labour migrants as well as reducing the state's role in organizing the labour market to allow for more private and non-governmental organizations a bigger role. Finally, Tajikistan was stepping up efforts to train its public sector employees who deal with migration. In this vein, the "State Employment Assistance Programme for 2008 and 2009" was recently approved and "The Conceptual Framework for Employment Assistance and Conceptual Framework for the Creation and Preservation of Jobs for the period of 2008-2015" has also been approved. Finally, he noted that the government was holding job fairs on a weekly base and they attract large numbers of potential employees as well as employers.

**Ms. Dziunik Aghajanian**, Director for International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Armenia, was the next speaker. She outlined the important role that Armenia's old and new Diaspora played in the countries transition by pointing out that, over time, the Armenian Diaspora contributed to the changing nature and scope of the political and economic situation of the country. Giving a brief description of Armenia's Diaspora, Ms. Aghajanian noted the distinct investment behaviours of "old Diaspora," who invest because of patriotic feelings and the desire to see the country economic recovery, while the "new Diaspora" made investment decisions based on family and friend relationships and usually focused on creating employment opportunities for them. She went on to outline how the government had development policies to attract the investment of Diaspora to certain areas and specific projects clusters. This was done by establishing good and open communication with Diaspora groups. Nevertheless, the current financial crisis was starting to show its effects with a reduction of remittances. This could result in increasing social tension for certain vulnerable groups. Therefore she stressed the need to remove the obstacles that prevented the safe and easy transfer of remittances from migrates. In fact, she called for the creation of special funds to channel remittances through and to create projects that targeted the economic development of high migratory areas as well as assistance MSE development based on local ownership.

The final speaker was **Ms. Astrid Helle Ajamay**, Coordinator for Migration and Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway. Recalling that migrants were important contributors to the economy of all OSCE countries, it was important to assess how migration could contribute to economic development and how to maximize the development impact of migration. Ms. Ajamay stressed that the OSCE can undoubtedly have an important role in enhancing the link between migration and economic development across the whole region. Moreover, in the context of the current financial crises, it was important to consider how migration can maximize economic development. She believed that there were two measures that could be taken in order to do this. First, to facilitate and reduce the costs of remittances flows and, second, to co-operate more closely with migrants and Diaspora in economic and social development activities that were undertaken in countries of origin. She continued by stating that Norway has shifted its migration policy focus from reducing migratory pressure to make migration a positive force for economic development. Norway adopted a new policy in 2008 on labour migration that allowed for a user-friendly, transparent and predictable policy. She highlighted the example of a good practice of mobility of labour in the High North between northern Norway and northwest Russia. This practice allowed for temporary work permits for cross-border commuters from Russia. Finally, the Norwegian government has adopted measures to increase cohesion between migration and development by advocating for the establishment of international standards to prevent active recruitment of employee with higher education from countries with major shortages of skill labour, possibility of granting unskilled employees, in the framework of development projects, permits for temporary work in Norway and, finally, to find ways and means to make the transfer of remittances simpler and cheaper. In closing, Ms. Ajamay, recommended that the OSCE should promote and facilitate the exchange of best practices and lessons learned as well as capacity-building for government officials and civil society.

The discussions were lively and focused on ways to make the transfer of remittances easier and cheaper.

### **Session III: Social policy issues linked with migration management**

**Moderator: Mr. Patrick A. Taran**, Senior Migration Specialist, International Migration Program, International Labour Office (ILO)

**Rapporteur: Ms. Lyale Nazarova**, Economic and Environmental Assistant, OSCE Centre in Ashgabad

In the beginning of the session, the moderator **Mr. Patrick A. Taran** introduced the keynote speakers.

**Mr. Andrea Marto**, Secretary General, Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, Albania, started the session by addressing the migration policy of the Albanian government, which was based on the following pillars: (i) labour market policy giving priority to protect it [the market] from deformation due to outflow of professionals, (ii) support policy for economic and social integration of migrants in receiving countries, (iii) development policy of Albania, (iv) support to legal migration and remittances, (v) setting up support networks, (vi) prevention of illegal migration, smuggling and trafficking in human

beings and (vii) improvement of the legal framework and involvement of the civil society in a transparent way. He provided an overview of current migration challenges and opportunities and presented data on the migration situation in the country. Mr. Marto concluded his presentation by a set of recommendations combining international and Albanian experiences. They included: expansion of legal channels for migration, development and improvement of migrating policies, enhancement of bilateral and multilateral co-operation, exchange of information, joint actions in combating illegal migration, joint programs to reduce the financial costs of remittances, means of reducing pressure to emigrate and protecting the rights of migrant workers and their families and others.

**Mr. Reiner Martin**, Head of Convergence Section of the European Central Bank, currently at the Foreign Research Division of the National Bank of Austria, made a presentation on the economic performance of return migrants to Central and Eastern Europe. He explained that the ECB is interested in migration issues because of scale movements, which impact macroeconomic development. He presented cases from Ireland, Spain and Greece in 1980s and 1990s and stated that macroeconomic context was crucial for the prospects of returnees, which in turn could reinforce positive trends. Widespread migration due to lower prices of transport and communications, different patterns of labor market participation and performance compared to non-migrants were motivation of the study. Analyzing the CEE countries, Mr. Martin stated the factor of average 30 percent wage premium for return migrants. The wage premium was positively related to human capital endowment. Amongst other findings were those that returnees are more likely to either not participate in the labour market or to switch to self-employment upon return and that network ties, peer pressure and local interactions play an important role for returnees. The speaker made a suggestion that home countries may benefit economically from return migrants but returnees may need support to some extent to re-integrate in their home countries.

One delegation asked for more details on the issue of social cost of migration on the “left-behind”, stressing that family disintegration was a negative factor and the best solution for the families of migrants would be to reunite. It stressed the importance of good environment and attention paid to migrants’ children in communities, and the role of civil society in ensuring such a policy.

Another participant also touched upon the issue of the social cost of migration. He supported the previous opinion that migration bears a negative aspect, that of a family disintegration, negligence of children, lack of social protection and hence the strong pressure on the country of origin. He called for the need to pay more attention to this aspect in the Athens Forum meeting and asked about positive experience in the field of developing measures for social protection of migrants’ children. The importance of re-integration programmes and of joint efforts between the countries of origin and destination and international organizations such as the IOM were emphasized along with a need for detailed and concrete steps for voluntary or compulsory return of illegal migrants.

Another delegation asked the Mr. Marto for more details on the use of remittances. The same delegation asked the representative of the ECB about the nature and origin of figures in the presentation.

During the second part of the session, **Mr. Najat Kadyrov**, Executive Director, Confederation of Employers, Kazakhstan, spoke about migration management and ways of resolving problems stemming from migration. He described the activity of the Confederation,



stressing its main objectives – counseling policy and education of its members. He informed on the Government's latest decision to limit the number of labour migrants in Kazakhstan. Mr. Kadyrov explained that the underlying reason was the economic and financial crisis and that the country wanted to protect its citizens. He stated that there were six structures in the country dealing with the labour migration issues and suggested in perspective the creation of a single Migration Committee and the introduction of salient changes in the country's Law on Migration. As a measure of legal protection of migrants and regulation of labour migration, Mr. Kadyrov proposed setting up a chain of centres for protection of migrations' rights and private employment agencies. The mentality of employers towards migrant workers should be changed as well and one of the ways to reach this goal would be the creation of information resource centre within the Confederation of Employers. The latter will be aimed at training and awareness raising activity for using labour migrants capacity according to the ILO standards and setting up a database on potential migrants. He stressed that the labour migrant should ideally have all equal rights with the citizens of the country except voting during elections.

The final speaker of the session **Ms. Marta Kindler**, Migration Advisor, Democratization Department, OSCE/ODIHR, touched upon the issue of protection gaps with regard to temporary migrant workers. Temporary migration seemed to be a rational solution for both migrants and destination states. Migrants diversify their sources of income and thus their financial risks by working abroad while destination countries prefer temporary migration labour schemes, which enable both not opening entirely for settlement migration and filling labour market shortages. Ms. Kindler highlighted social cohesion as a key element of a democratic society and noted that ODIHR welcomes activities aimed at cohesion. ODIHR encourages OSCE participating States to take into consideration inter-state co-operation in developing a legal framework for temporary migrant workers, implementation of existing bilateral labour agreements, promotion legal channels for migrant workers; promotion bilateral social security and social insurance mechanisms; facilitating the sending of remittances as a means to improve the conditions in the country of origin, thus enabling investment of remittances and creating job opportunities and involving social partners and NGOs in the formation of migration policies. Destination countries, in her opinion, have to acknowledge social policy as an important instrument of inclusion and protection of temporary migrants' rights. They also should facilitate access to legal employment and ensure equality of rights between migrant and national workers and facilitate family reunification.

Following the presentations, one delegation noted that during the times of crisis the objective of the state is to protect its workers and supported the measures undertaken by Kazakhstan. It also supported the idea of private employment agencies, which proved to be efficient. It agreed that the crisis will end and labour migrants will be requested and needed. Therefore, it is important to keep established ties in the sphere of labour migration. Given the importance of statistical data, international organizations and IOM specifically would be welcome to contribute in elaboration of schemes on migration statistics.

Mr. Kadyrov further commented that a single migration agency was not feasible from the government point of view, and that social protection of workers was an obligation of employers. Migrants' interests were under strict control from the state and there were state employment agencies with employment opportunities database.

Another representative pointed out that the best protection of migrants was a general environment in the country of destination, which includes freedom of expression, gender equality, equal rights for every one and good conditions for decent work.

One more delegate expressed the opinion that bilateral agreements were a very important factor for protection of migrant workers and brought examples in this regard.

The delegation of Tajikistan stressed the active role of OSCE in migration area and in promoting the exchange of best practices. It called for assistance to Tajikistan in conducting a comprehensive research on labour migrants of the country and development of employment programs for returnees based on the best OSCE practices.

During discussions issues of social cohesion, dignity of migrants, fair treatment, equal rights and opportunities for both domestic and migrant workers, right of the families were raised and emphasized.

#### **Session IV:            Environment and migration**

**Moderator: Mr. David Swalley**, Environmental Affairs Officer, OCEEA/OSCE Secretariat  
**Rapporteur: Mr. Yaroslav Yurtsaba**, Office of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine

This session was devoted to the complex interrelationship of migration, demographic changes and environmental degradation as well as specific cases of Ukraine and Tajikistan with regard to policy-making in the sphere of migration management. Those cases focused on environmentally induced migration and potential consequences of the environmentally induced migration for security and stability.

**Mr. Tamer Afifi**, Associate Academic Officer with the United Nations University, Institute for Environment and Human Security, gave a general overview of environmental migration and its root causes. The speaker did not deliberately delve into the definition area as the very term “environmental migrant” has many interpretations; rather the speaker outlined dynamics of environmentally induced migration and illustrated the reasons behind it. Mr. Afifi stated that disasters and “development” projects could be a direct cause of migration. He especially underlined the role of economic stressors which provide for the mechanism through which environmental degradation leads to migration. Migration was described by the speaker as an adaptation strategy of those who lack capabilities to establish alternative livelihood options. Mr. Afifi pointed out several areas where work has to be done to improve our overall understanding of migration process and design adequate policy responses. He stressed that intensified co-operation with local governments, NGOs, research institutes, international organizations as regards international and internal migration and environmental phenomena behind it has to be initiated to create reliable data bases and provide governments with a set of tools and recommendations on effective migration management.

**Ms. Alina Navrusova**, Migration Policy Officer with the International Organization for Migration, reported on migration management and linkages with economic, social and environmental policies to the benefit and security in the OSCE region. Ms. Navrusova stressed that migration is interwoven with international security and stability and well-being

of human beings. Climate change and environmental degradation will only increase in time and the speaker attempted to examine various types of environmental migration. The most important point made by the speaker was that to understand the phenomenon of migration we have to accept the notion that migration was a multi-faceted process. Multi-causality of migration does not provide for simple and ready-made solutions. It has to be viewed from various angles to find the most appropriate approaches. Ms. Navrusova favored interdisciplinary approach to studying migration. She proposed three key words – pro-active, comprehensive and co-operation – to characterize the approach we have to take with regard to migration and environment. This approach should be used, according to the speaker, to address the existing gaps in research, policy and operations. Closing these gaps will not be possible without regional, international and global collaboration and coordination. The OSCE could play an important role in facilitating such co-operation, promoting holistic approach to migration and environment.

**Ms. Iryna Prybytkova**, Leading Research Fellow, Professor, Institute of Sociology of the Academy of Sciences in Ukraine, discussed how inefficient and poorly thought-out migration management policies could bring to the depopulation and serious environmental damages. Ms. Prybytkova provided also the results of sociological polling with an analysis of factors which induce people to migrate. The speaker pointed out that there was a difference with the stated reason to leave and deeper considerations which prompt people to migrate. Majority of migrants cite that they search for better economic prospects. However, in-depth interviews reveal that environmental considerations play a very important role in making decision to migrate. The speaker elaborated her vision of effective migration management policies. In her view, migration management should be based on the study of attitudes of potential migrants. Also, migration should not be regulated by directives as any governmental attempts to impose some limitations on migration or otherwise to control it without thorough research of potential consequences and the nature of migratory problems would fail.

**Mr. Ibragim Saidov**, Head of Ecological Norms Department, Committee on Environment Protection, Tajikistan, provided an overview of factors which determine environmental migration using the case of Tajikistan. He outlined the legal framework of migration management in the Republic of Tajikistan and described how the government tackles environmental problems which often lead to the decision to migrate. Mr. Saidov informed that the government constantly monitors the environmental situation in the country and proposes solutions on how to mitigate environmental damage which, in its turn, might positively impact migration patterns in Tajikistan. Mr. Saidov provided a number of solutions to manage effectively migration caused by environmental consideration. Among other things, he suggested the development of long-term forecasts and strategies to help solve problems connected with the global climate change as well as development of coordinated response systems, pro-active planning, and alleviation of effects and strengthening of functional capabilities of governmental institutions responsible for migration management.

During the session, some delegates expressed caution against overestimating consequences of environmental factors for international migration. A number of participants made follow-up recommendations. In particular, the OSCE could act as a facilitator of regional, sub-regional and international co-operation on environmental migration management and, given the political nature of the organization, it should bring to the attention of its participating States the consequences of environmentally induced migration in the context of regional security. The OSCE could also use its channels of communication to highlight humanitarian aspects of the global climate change and migration patterns which might arise as a result of climatic

changes. The OSCE might support further research and data gathering on environmentally induced migration to enable governments to design adequate policy responses based on solid scientific evidence.

## **Closing Statement by**

**H.E. Mr. Bujar Nishani, Minister of Interior of Albania**

Excellencies,  
Distinguished participants,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I once again express my satisfaction and privilege to outline conclusions from this very important Forum, held in Tirana. The general concept of this Conference started with the presumption that by emphasising policies related to migration we will be able to reinforce beneficiary aspects of migration and reduce the potential risk for security. Today, in this closing session, after two days of intensive discussions, besides the confirmation of this conviction we also observed how strongly the topic “Migration Management and its linkage with economic, social and environmental policies to the benefit of stability and security in the OSCE region”, contributes to the compliance, continuance and consistency in our daily current events.

Migration, as a complex phenomenon and with new and variable challenges has made that a number of states, Albania among them, gathered today in this Conference, place particular attention to this phenomenon and manage it efficiently.

The political cohesion and its further improvement was one of the main issues of this forum. The existing stage of the economic and social development outline the necessity for a link of migration policies with policies of other domains, and we suggest to realise and implement, efficiently , “mix policies” and long term plans.

The specific analysis carried out through sections, dedicated in this mutual relation of migration, brought to our attention a number of important issues for specific linkage. We had the opportunity to see the analysis from a point of view which we are not used to see it often, and I would consider it as analysis from a positive point of view of migration: contribution of emigration for resource countries and for destination countries and not perceiving migration as a system strain for the welfare of a country.

Albania, but not only Albania had the possibility to make concrete this analysis from this point of view. Albania, as before mentioned has 700.000 (seven hundred thousand) Albanian citizens who work abroad, mainly in Italy and Greece. All these people, not only perform different and important functions for the economy of the countries where they work and live but statistics have showed that remittances send in the origin country are considered as important, as part of the GDP. Income rates from migration were brought to this conference comparable to foreign investments and business.

Experiencing the affect from these inter - linkages, Albania has mediated and has made efforts to adapt policies regarding dynamics for migration development. This Conference discussed and launched very contemporary and coherent ideas with regard to the efficient use of incomes from migration. Considering this, these incomes not only would contribute to the increase of welfare for many families in need but also would serve in the form of investments as a factor for stabilisation. The policies adapted to these developments would improve and

make the positive effect of migration that we have felt until today, more positive and make it more stable.

The focus of the discussion in relation to the migration, with the aspects and social politics and the mutual relationship with the environment, faces each of us with the commitments in order to prevent the potential consequences related to the security and stability. These mutual relationships, some of which are new in the analysis of our challenges, face us with cooperation in order to necessarily carry out an effective management of the migration.

The integration, reintegration and the social security of the emigrants in the countries of their origins and destination would require further improvement and attention so that the migration population and the potential one for migration would secure proper information in relation with the channels/immigration ways, requirements and other supportive services that are related to this movement. This would be considered as a positive affect to reduce migration for work purpose or irregular movement.

The prevention of the illegal migration through the common policies would effect directly in reducing the phenomenon that encourage the criminality and trafficking.

We need to ensure the continuation of this cooperation which involves all the stakeholders of this field and also to have the conviction that the achievement from concrete results will be made possible only through this cooperation and mutual concrete implementation.

As it has been outlined in this forum, all of us with a powerful and productive dialogue would make possible that the specific recommendations formulated in this forum be followed and addressed in continuation and be part of the final phase of this process.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Concluding my speech, I would once again like to thank OSCE, for acting, in an excellent manner, as a forum for the expansion of dialogue between the Government and civil society, on migration issues. I would like to express the strong will of the Albanian Government for participation and active support to this process.

**Closing Statement by**  
**Mr. Goran Svilanovic**  
**Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities**

Dear colleagues and friends,

I would like to thank you all for your active participation and support during these two days. I would like to take this opportunity to summarize the key points and recommendations discussed throughout the Conference:

In the Introductory session we discussed the links between migration management and economic, social and environmental policies.

As it was pointed out, migration is an engine of growth and economic and social well-being for both countries of origin and destination. In normal times, it is a factor of economic growth in the countries of origin through increased foreign exchange. It contributes to the reduction of household poverty and helps to promote investment in human capital. It also contributes to economic efficiency of the destination countries by increased labour supply and by encouraging job creation through migrant entrepreneurship.

We discussed the current financial and economic crisis. It was noted that there is an unprecedented recession in sectors with a high concentration of migrant workers, especially in the construction sector, as well as a strong push for migrants to return. Preliminary data points to a dramatic reduction of remittances in real terms. So when it comes to the impact of the current financial crisis on migration, the need for a coordinated migration management approach was highlighted.

In this connection, it was recommended that:

1. Short term planning should focus on the protection of the most vulnerable. This is translated, among others, into ensuring prevention of discrimination of migrants in host countries, and using cooperative arrangements as a mechanism to prepare for reintegration of returning immigrants.
2. On the other hand, long term planning should focus on developing labour strategies and the adoption of policies and institutional reforms that improve economic development and create employment opportunities. Furthermore, actions should be oriented towards skills improvement through education and vocational training.

In the second session we discussed migrants' contribution to the economies of destination and origin countries as well as the positive impact of migration on the global economy.

We heard that migrants are net contributors to the countries of destination through their generally net-positive fiscal contribution. This was contrary to the common held perception that migrants are "a drain" for host countries. Therefore, given a chance, legal migrants can bring great benefits to both host and origin countries.

We also heard that both origin and destination countries should work to maximise the positive effects of migration to the economic development. This means accepting a new concept of mutually supportive development that should include co-development. Governments should enter into bi-lateral and multilateral agreements that ensures the development of both origin and destination countries.

Also stressed during the session was that remittances help in the capitalization of countries of origin. Therefore, it is important for governments to support this important transfer of funds by undertaking the necessary regulatory reforms that can help to encourage remittance holders and recipients to invest in new businesses, including self employment opportunities. We heard that Albania has undertaken interesting reforms and has been successful in this area.

Moreover, the role of diaspora can be a powerful engine of growth in the private sector. It is important to ensure governments work closely with diaspora communities to benefit from their knowledge and capital.

In session three, the broad agenda of social and labour policy challenges in managing migration was addressed. These concerns involve responsibilities of a wide range of government ministries and agencies, including those addressing labour, employment, education, family welfare, social security, industry and trade, banking and security concerns. We listened to ways and means of protecting and promoting the rights of migrants to achieve equality of treatment and therefore decent economic and social status for both national and foreign workers.

Ensuring decent working conditions, and preventing abuse and exploitation of migrants including through strengthened labour inspection and enforcement of national standards, as well as the promotion of social cohesion are key elements. In particular, it was observed that differential treatment and polarizing national preferences against migrants may encourage xenophobic hostility and violence that then become serious challenges to security and stability in all OSCE participating States. Without quick action and preventative measures, inter-communal hostility against foreigners can threaten social peace and social cohesion, making it an immediate challenge for governance and law enforcement.

Session four focused on the complex inter-dependencies between migration and environmental factors. It was stressed the there are research, policy and operational gaps concerning the links between environmental change and migration. Therefore, we must try to bridge these gaps by taking a comprehensive, proactive, and co-operative approach.

Also, efforts need to be doubled at both the national and international levels, to raise awareness on the links between climate change and migration. A good example of this is EACH-FOR, a project that is carried out by a number of partners, including the OSCE. Moreover, the OSCE could act as a catalyst to promote better cooperation and help facilitate identification and exchange of best practices.

There was also a call for more reliable and harmonized data for evidence based policy making. This would require local, national and regional co-operation between governments.

The next steps will be for us to carefully assess the contributions and recommendations made at this Conference in preparation of the agenda for the Athens Economic and Environmental



Forum to be held on 18-20 May. We are looking forward to continuing the dialogue established in the Forum process on how to improve migration management in order to reduce potential threats to our security and stability, also taking into consideration the challenges raised by the current global economic crisis.

In conclusion, I would like to extend my warmest thanks to the Albanian Government and, especially to the Minister Nishani, for hosting our second Preparatory Conference, to our OSCE Presence in Albania, especially to our Economic and Environmental Officer, Robert Mangham, and to the Greek OSCE Chairmanship. A special thanks also goes to Florjan Nuri and Enila Hassani from the Ministry of Interior as well as Andrea Gredler and Martina Gadotti-Rodrigues from my Office who all so tirelessly supported us.

Finally, I want to thank all the speakers, moderators, rapporteurs, participants and interpreters for your excellent contributions to our discussions.

## **Closing Statement by**

**Ambassador Louis-Alkiviadis Abatis, Deputy Head of the OSCE Task Force,  
Director of the D3 Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Greece,  
OSCE Chairmanship**

Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me start my closing statement by expressing, on behalf of the Greek OSCE Chairmanship, our appreciation to the Government of Albania for its gracious hospitality, for the excellent arrangements which allowed the smooth conduct of this Conference.

During these two days we discussed relevant and topical issues pertaining to migration management and its linkages with economic, social and environmental policies to the benefit of stability and security in the OSCE region. In my view, this conference has been rich in the exchange of information, sharing best practices and highlighting challenges ahead, which might benefit from a more coordinated approach.

We received a lot of useful information concerning the challenges and opportunities related to these issues, from many of the OSCE participating States. As well, representatives of Organizations such as IOM, ILO, the World Bank, the United Nations University, etc., also shared with us their expert knowledge.

The discussions of the Conference demonstrated again that we need to work together in order to be able to address these common challenges. During the Conference we received some suggestions for themes and questions that merit further attention and follow-up.

The Co-ordinator, Mr. Goran Svilanovic, summarized in his statement some of the main preliminary conclusions of the Conference. At my turn, I would like to point out and emphasize the following:

- the need for dialogue and co-ordination among various state agencies so that policy coherence is achieved - this is the case in both origin and destination countries;
- the need for boosting the development potential of migration – the effective use of migrants remittances and investments should be facilitated, involving in particular the banking sector;
- the importance of solidarity between origin and destination countries and the concept of co-development;
- the need for dialogue and co-ordination among governments and social partners – nationally, bilaterally and regionally;
- the need to tackle the environment-migration nexus and to identify concrete and effective ways to do so.

Ladies and gentlemen,

The Greek Chairmanship believes this Conference has been instrumental for clearly defining the OSCE's contribution to this multi-layered area of migration management and its linkages with numerous other public policies.

The OSCE is a forum for dialogue and exchange of experiences, and constitutes an ideal context for analyzing the close relationship between migration, economic, social and environmental consideration. There is a need for an integrated and coherent approach to migration management, for better co-ordination and coherence between migration policies and other policy areas. The OSCE can support this work as has been shown during these two days.

With the involvement of all stakeholders, including governments, international organizations, academia, private enterprises and non-governmental organizations it is possible to identify sustainable solutions.

This organization is well placed to facilitate co-operative frameworks to examine this relation in detail, but at the same time it can and must promote specific actions when and where needed. This is one of the main aims of the Greek Chairmanship. We do hope and we are indeed confident that this year's Forum process will generate practical follow-up.

The OSCE already has a long-standing record of activities aimed at promoting bilateral and regional co-operation on various economic and environmental matters. The OSCE also has a long-standing tradition of offering mechanisms of capacity building. This available experience should be used to its full extent.

In doing so, the OSCE can start by using instruments which it has already at hand. To this end the role of the Field Operations as well as a reinforced co-operation between the Secretariat and the field should be further encouraged.

Ladies and gentlemen,

The next step in our common endeavour is the Second Segment of the 17<sup>th</sup> OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum which will convene in Athens from 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> of May.

Our discussions in Athens will take into account the conclusions and suggestions formulated here in Tirana as well as in our previous meetings in Prague and Vienna.

All the recommendations emerging from the Tirana Conference will be duly analyzed by the Chairmanship together with the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities. We also encourage all delegations to provide further input, in the context of the ongoing discussions in Vienna, in the framework of the Economic and Environmental Committee. Such a participatory process will be the guarantee for a successful Forum in May in Athens and for identifying and implementing later on relevant follow-up activities. The Greek Chairmanship stands ready to facilitate the further debate on this range of issues.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Before concluding, I wish, once more, to extend special thanks to the moderators and speakers for their active and constructive contributions, as well as to the rapporteurs of our sessions.

I would also like to express our appreciation for all those who contributed to the organization and smooth conduct of our meeting, the interpreters, as well as the technical and the support staff.

In particular, I would like to thank the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, Mr. Goran Svilanovic and his team, for their substantial contribution and tireless efforts, and Ambassador Robert Bosch and the team of OSCE Presence in Albania for their well appreciated assistance in setting up the conference.

Finally, I want to thank you all, dear participants, for your active engagement. Together, providing a valuable contribution, you all made this Conference a success,

Thank you everybody for your contribution.



## Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

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

Tirana, 16 March 2009

### 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”

### SECOND PREPARATORY CONFERENCE

TIRANA, 16-17 March 2009

### ANNOTATED AGENDA

#### Monday, 16 March 2009

10.00 - 11.00            **Opening Session** (open to Press)

**H.E. Mr. Bujar Nishani**, Minister of Interior of Albania

**Mr. Alexandros Tsiatsiamis**, Special Secretary for the Development of International Programs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Greece, OSCE Chairmanship

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

**Ambassador Robert Bosch**, Head of the OSCE Presence in Albania

11.00 – 11.30            Coffee break

11.30 – 13.00            **Introductory Session I** – Linkages between migration management and economic, social and environmental policies

Possible topics:

- The impact of the global financial crisis on migration
- Introducing coherence between migration and economic, social and environmental policies
- Mechanisms to promote inter-agency co-operation and co-ordination
- Short- and long-term planning in addressing these linkages

**Moderator: Mr. Pier Rossi-Longhi**, Technical Co-operation Specialist for Europe and Central Asia, International Organization for Migration (IOM), Vienna

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

**Speakers:**

- **Mr. Luca Barbone**, Director, Poverty Reduction and Economic Management, Europe and Central Asia Region, the World Bank
- **Mr. Patrick A. Taran**, Senior Migration Specialist, International Migration Program, International Labour Office (ILO)
- **Mr. Damjan Bergant**, Head of the OSCE and Council of Europe Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Slovenia

13.00 – 14.30      Lunch break

14.30 – 16.00      **Session II – Migration and economic development**

Possible topics:

- Migrant workers contribution to the economy
- Employment creation
- Co-development programmes

**Moderator: Mr. Luca Barbone**, Director, Poverty Reduction and Economic Management, Europe and Central Asia Region, the World Bank

**Rapporteur: Mr. Ryan Maccan**, Migration Project Assistant, OCEEA/OSCE

**Speakers:**

- **Mr. Andrew Dabalen**, Senior Economist, Poverty Reduction and Economic Management, Europe and Central Asia, the World Bank
- **Mr. Bashkim Sykja**, Director, Business Promotion Directorate, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Energy, Albania
- **Ms. Nicole Martin de Portzamparc**, Counselor, International Affairs and Co-development Department, Ministry for Immigration, Integration, National Identity and Co-development, France

16.00 – 16.30      Coffee break

16.30 – 18.00      **Session II – Migration and economic development (cont.)**

Possible topics:

- Migrant remittances policies and programmes
- Financial education of migrants and their families
- Diaspora involvement

**Moderator: Mr. Luca Barbone**, Director, Poverty Reduction and Economic Management, Europe and Central Asia Region, the World Bank

**Rapporteur: Mr. Ryan Maccan**, Migration Project Assistant, OCEEA/OSCE

**Speakers:**

- **Mr. Melih Ulueren**, Deputy Director General for Migration, Asylum, and Visa Issues, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Turkey

- **Mr. Bahridin Jabborov**, Director, State Agency on Social Protection, Labour and Migration, Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Population, Republic of Tajikistan
- **Ms. Dziunik Aghajanyan**, Head of the Department for International Organizations, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Republic of Armenia
- **Ms. Astrid Helle Ajamay**, Co-ordinator for Migration and Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway

20.00      **Reception hosted by the Ministry of Interior of Albania**  
(Restaurant "PERGOLA", Tirana International Hotel, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)

## **Tuesday, 17 March 2009**

09.30 – 10.45      **Session III – Social policy issues linked with migration management**

Possible topics:

- Social cost of migration on the ‘left-behind’
- Training and skills development programmes in the countries of origin
- Reintegration of returned migrants

**Moderator: Mr. Patrick A. Taran**, Senior Migration Specialist, International Migration Program, International Labour Office (ILO)

**Rapporteur: Ms. Lyale Nazarova**, Economic and Environmental Assistant, OSCE Centre in Ashgabad

**Speakers:**

- **Mr. Andrea Marto**, Secretary General, Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, Albania
- **Mr. Reiner Martin**, Head of Convergence Section of the European Central Bank, currently at the Foreign Research Division of the National Bank of Austria

10.45 – 11.15      Coffee break

11.15 – 12.30      **Session III – Social policy issues linked with migration management (cont.)**

Possible topics:

- Protection of migrant workers in employment
- Social integration, social welfare and social security protection

**Moderator: Mr. Patrick A. Taran**, Senior Migration Specialist, International Migration Program, International Labour Office (ILO)

**Rapporteur: Ms. Lyale Nazarova**, Economic and Environmental Assistant, OSCE Centre in Ashgabad

**Speakers:**

- **Ms. Marta Kindler**, Migration/Freedom of Movement Adviser, OSCE/ODIHR
- **Mr. Najat Kadyrov**, Executive Director, Confederation of Employers, Republic of Kazakhstan

12.30 – 14.00 Lunch break

14.00 – 15.15 **Session IV – Environment and migration**

Possible topics:

- Interrelation between environmental degradation and migration
- Link between demographic changes and environmental degradation; need for education in terms of prevention

**Moderator: Mr. David Swalley**, Environmental Affairs Officer, OCEEA/OSCE Secretariat

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

**Speakers:**

- **Mr. Tamer Afifi**, Associate Academic Officer / Economist, United Nations University, Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS)
- **Ms. Alina Narusova**, Migration Policy Officer, Migration Policy and Research Department, International Organization for Migration (IOM), Geneva

15.15 – 15.30 Coffee break

15.30 – 16.30 **Session IV – Environment and migration (cont.)**

Possible topics:

- Potential consequences of environmentally induced migration for security and stability
- Policy responses to environmentally induced migration

**Moderator: Mr. David Swalley**, Environmental Affairs Officer, OCEEA/OSCE Secretariat

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

**Speakers:**

- **Ms. Iryna Pribytkova**, Leading Research Fellow, Professor, Institute of Sociology of the Academy of Sciences of Ukraine
- **Mr. Ibragim Saidov**, Head of Ecological Norms Department, Committee on Environment Protection, Head of the Scientific Water Center, Republic of Tajikistan



16.30 – 17.00 **Concluding Session - the way ahead and the role of the OSCE**

**H.E. Mr. Bujar Nishani**, Minister of Interior of Albania

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

**Ambassador Louis-Alkiviadis Abatis**, Deputy Head, OSCE Task Force, Director, D3 Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Greece, OSCE Chairmanship



## Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

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“Migration management and its linkages with economic, social and environmental policies to the benefit of stability and security in the OSCE region”

### SECOND PREPARATORY CONFERENCE

TIRANA, 16-17 March 2009

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Mr. Florjan NURI	Secretary General, Ministry of Interior
Mr. Roland BEJKO	General Director of Development and Integration, Ministry of Interior
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Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE  
Economic and Environmental Activities

Tirana, 17 March 2009

### 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”

### SECOND PREPARATORY CONFERENCE

TIRANA, 16-17 March 2009

## Log of Contributions

All below listed documents can be retrieved from the Conference Website  
[http://www.osce.org/conferences/eef17\\_prep2.html](http://www.osce.org/conferences/eef17_prep2.html)

Document ID	Date	Author	Title	Language
<b>Opening Plenary Session</b>				
36783	16 Mar 09	Albania	<b>Ambassador Bujar Nishani</b> , Minister of Interior	English
36710	16 Mar 09	Greece / OSCE Chairmanship	<b>Mr. Alexandros Tsiatsiamis</b> , Special Secretary for the Development of International Programs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Greece	English
36711	16 Mar 09	OSCE OCEEA	<b>Mr. Goran Svilanovic</b> , Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities	English
36713	16 Mar 09	OSCE Presence in Albania	<b>Ambassador Robert Bosch</b> , Head of the OSCE Presence in Albania	English
<b><u>Introductory Session I- Linkages between migration management and economic, social and environmental policies</u></b>				
36714	16 Mar 09	World Bank	<b>Mr. Luca Barbone</b> , Director, Poverty Reduction and Economic Management, Europe and Central Asia Region	English
36715	7 Mar 09	ILO	<b>Mr. Patrick A. Taran</b> , Senior Migration Specialist, International Migration Program	English
36716	16 Mar 09	Slovenia	<b>Mr. Damjan Bergant</b> , Head of the OSCE and CoE Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	English
36717	16 Mar 09	Norway	<b>Ms. Astrid Helle Ajamay</b> , Coordinator Migration and Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	English



**Session II – Migration and economic development**

36719	16 Mar 09	World Bank	<b>Mr. Andrew Dabalen</b> , Senior Economist, Poverty Reduction and Economic Management, Europe and Central Asia	English
36720	16 Mar 09	Albania	<b>Mr. Bashkim Sykja</b> , Director, Business Promotion Directorate, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Energy	English
36718	16 Mar 09	France	<b>Ms. Nicole Martin de Portzamparc</b> , Counselor, International Affairs and Co-development Department, Ministry for Immigration, Integration, National Identity and Co-development	English, French
36721	16 Mar 09	Turkey	<b>Mr. Melih Ulueren</b> , Deputy Director General for Migration, Asylum, and Visa Issues at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs	English
36722	16 Mar 09	Tajikistan	<b>Mr. Bahriddin Jabborov</b> , Director of State Agency on Social Protection, Labour and Migration, Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of the Population of the Republic of Tajikistan	Russian English
36723	16 Mar 09	Armenia	<b>Ms. Dziunik Aghajanyan</b> , Head of the Department for International Organizations, Ministry for Foreign Affairs	English

**Session III - Social policy issues linked with migration management**

36725	17 Mar 09	Albania	<b>Mr. Andrea Marto</b> , Deputy Minister / Secretary General, Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities	English
36726	17 Mar 09	European Central Bank / Austrian National Bank	<b>Mr. Reiner Martin</b> , Head of Convergence Section of the European Central Bank, currently at the Foreign Research Division of the National Bank of Austria	English
36727	17 Mar 09	OSCE / ODIHR	<b>Ms. Marta Kindler</b> , Migration / Freedom of Movement Adviser	English
36728	17 Mar 09	Kazakhstan	<b>Mr. Najat Kadyrov</b> , Executive Director, Confederation of Employers	Russian English

**Session IV – Environment and migration**

36730	22 Mar 09	UNU-EHS	<b>Dr. Tamer Afifi</b> , Associate Academic Officer / Economist, United Nations University, Institute for Environment and Human Security	English
36731	17 Mar 09	IOM	<b>Ms. Alina Narusova</b> , Migration Policy Officer, Migration Policy and Research Department	English
36732	17 Mar 09	Ukraine	<b>Ms. Iryna Pribytkova</b> , Leading Research Fellow, Professor, Institute of Sociology of the Academy of Sciences of Ukraine	English

36733	17 Mar 09	Tajikistan	<b>Mr. Ibragim Saidov</b> , Head of Ecological Norms Department, Committee on Environment Protection, Head of the Scientific Water Center	Russian English
<b><u>Concluding Session – the way ahead and the role of the OSCE</u></b>				
36734	17 Mar 09	OSCE	<b>Mr. Goran Svilanovic</b> , Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA)	English
	17 Mar 09	Albania	<b>H.E. Mr. Bujar Nishani</b> , Minister of Interior of Albania	English
36735	17 Mar 09	Greece / OSCE Chairmanship	<b>Ambassador Louis-Alkiviadis Abatis</b> , Deputy Head, OSCE Task Force, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Greece	English
<b>General Documents</b>				
36707			<b>Agenda</b>	English / Russian
			<b>List of participants</b>	English
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