

THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION  
FOR MIGRATION IS COMMITTED TO  
THE PRINCIPLE THAT HUMAN No. 2  
AND ORDERLY **INTERNATIONAL**  
MIGRATION **DIALOGUE** BENEFITS  
MIGRANTS AND **ON MIGRATION**  
SOCIETY IOM ASSISTS IN MEETING  
THE GROWING OPERATIONAL  
CHALLENGES OF MIGRATION  
MANAGEMENT **COMPENDIUM OF**  
ADVANCES **INTERGOVERNMENTAL**  
UNDERSTANDING **ORGANIZATIONS OF**  
MIGRATION **ACTIVE IN THE ISSUES**  
ENCOURAGES **FIELD OF MIGRATION**  
SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC **2002**  
DEVELOPMENT THROUGH MIGRATION  
UPHOLDS





**INTERNATIONAL  
DIALOGUE  
ON MIGRATION**

**COMPENDIUM OF  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL  
ORGANIZATIONS  
ACTIVE IN THE  
FIELD OF MIGRATION  
2002**



IOM - Migration Policy and Research Programme

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This book is published by the Migration Policy and Research Programme (MPRP) of the International Organization for Migration. The purpose of MPRP is to contribute to an enhanced understanding of migration and to strengthen the capacity of governments to manage migration more effectively and cooperatively.

Opinions expressed in the chapters of this book by named contributors are those expressed by the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the views of IOM.

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**INTERNATIONAL  
DIALOGUE  
ON MIGRATION**



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<sup>1</sup> While not technically inter-governmental organizations, the movement and its component parts are included in this compendium due to their unique status and integral role in migration matters.

## **Preface to the Compendium**

IOM launched its International Dialogue on Migration at its Eighty-second Council session held in November 2001, as an integral component of that session. Participating as keynote speakers were migration experts from both governments and partner international organizations. The dialogue emphasized the need for a comprehensive approach to managing migration, and the necessity for partnerships and cooperation. It became evident through the discussions that more and more organizations recognized the linkages which existed between the issues falling within their core mandates and international migration – be it health, development, social cohesion, trade, security or others – and were incorporating migration issues into their activities.

It became equally clear that it was through the cooperation and sharing of information and experiences of all organizations and agencies involved in international migration and related issues that this complex phenomenon could be most effectively managed.

During that Council Session, IOM was invited to develop and maintain stronger links with other international and regional organizations active in migration-related fields. Indeed IOM already cultivates a network of well-developed partnerships and relations with numerous other international organizations, particularly as a growing number of these are developing their own interests in the field. As an initial step towards responding to the request of Council, it was deemed necessary to identify the relevant institutions and the areas in which their migration

interests lay. Coordinated by IOM's Migration Policy and Research Programme (MPRP), this Compendium is the first such compilation.

MPRP would like to thank the many IOM officials, both at headquarters and in the field, who have contributed to this effort, as well as the organizations which responded to our requests for comments and input. In particular, we would like to thank Mr. Thomas Rid and Mr. Sergio Cáceres, MPRP interns and the principal researchers for the Compendium. IOM's Mission in Brussels, and its Observer Mission to the UN in New York also provided important contributions to the European Union and the chapters on the United Nations in this Compendium. We would also like to acknowledge the meticulous work of our editor, Ilse Pinto-Dobernig, and to thank her for her patience in receiving modifications up to the very last minute.

# Introduction

A wide range of institutions have an active interest and a role to play in a variety of areas related to international migration. These range from UN agencies, international and regional intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) with formal membership arrangements, to informal international and regional processes on migration.<sup>2</sup> These institutions and processes play an important role in addressing the increasingly urgent and complex issues of managing international migration. The purpose of this document is to provide a schematic overview of the major existing institutions and processes with an ongoing focus on migration-related issues and activities.<sup>3</sup>

The Overview Table offers a snapshot of the migration-related areas of interest and contributions of these institutions and processes. The table is divided into three sections:

- (1) Migration-related issues: This section identifies the areas of interest within the field of migration of the institutions and processes;

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<sup>2</sup> The significant contribution and involvement of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in migration-related activities should not go unrecognized. Active organizations exist at the international, regional, national and local levels on a full range of migration issues and activities. In light of the very large and constantly changing numbers of NGOs involved in migration-related activities, they are not included in this volume.

<sup>3</sup> This document provides only introductory information about the overall mandate of the respective organizations while concentrating on the migration-related issues.

- (2) Migration-related activities: This column offers information on the particular type of migration-related activities undertaken, ranging from field work to information exchange, and
- (3) Membership states the number of Member or participating States in the organization or process. A detailed list of Members or, in the case of a complex membership status or a particularly extensive list, a web-link is provided in the subsequent sections of the document.

The sections following the Overview Table provide additional details on how migration is being addressed by each of these institutions and processes. A matrix at the end of the document provides Sources of Statistical Data on International Migration and International Migrants by Region and Theme.

The present document does not seek to analyse or to assess the mandate or work of any of the listed organizations, nor to dwell on the adequacy of the available structures and institutional arrangements to address international migration issues. Rather, this compendium is intended to serve as an introductory reference manual on migration-related activities carried out by various organizations and processes for practitioners and policy-makers. Wherever possible, it provides the relevant websites so that the reader may easily access more information on the processes and institutions of interest.

It should be noted that as migration trends and dynamics constantly evolve, so too do the organizations and their migration-related activities. Therefore, this compendium only provides a snapshot at a particular point in time. It is our intention to update it on an annual basis and to include additional areas and/or organizations as they develop. Any suggestions should be sent to: [mprp2@iom.int](mailto:mprp2@iom.int)

All abbreviations are explained in the text.

# **OVERVIEW TABLE**







	Migration issues											Mig. Related Activities						Members												
	Development	Entry, border control	Gender / Migration of women	Health	Integration	Labour Migration	Globalization and Migration	Population/Demography	Remittances	Rights of Migrants	Asylum	Internally displaced	Refugees	Forced Migration	Irregular movements	Trafficking and smuggling	Return	Reintegration	Field work	Emergency assistance	Technical Assistance	Political education	Professional training	Info exchange	Research	Statistics	Funding research	Monitoring of trends and flow	for detailed list see text	
<b>Regional Consultative Processes (RCPs) on Migration</b>																														
APC	x		x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x														30
Budapest Process	x											x	x	x	x	x				x	x		x							40
CIS	x					x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x	x	x								12
IGC	x		x							x	x			x	x	x							x	x	x					16
Lima Process	x		x							x					x							x	x	x						10
Manila Process	x						x	x						x	x	x	x						x							15
MIDSA	x	x				x									x								x		x					13
MIDWA	x	x				x	x								x	x	x						x							16
RCM	x						x	x	x		x				x	x	x				x			x						11
<b>International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement</b>																														
ICRC	x	x	x			x					x	x					x	x		x	x	x	x							
IFRC	x	x	x	x			x	x			x	x					x	x		x										

\* UNITAR also participates in the International Migration Policy Programme (IMP) which, through its training seminars, covers a full range of migration issues.

# **UNITED NATIONS**



# **Introduction to the Structure and Work of the United Nations Organizations**

The UN was established in 1945 by 51 countries committed to preserving peace through international cooperation and collective security.

The purposes of the UN, according to its Charter, are:

- To maintain international peace and security;
- To develop friendly relations among nations;
- To cooperate internationally in solving international economic, social, cultural and humanitarian problems and in promoting respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all;
- To be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of these common goals.

The UN provides the means to help resolve international conflicts and to formulate policies. Today, the UN counts 191 Member States, which deliberate according to the principle of one State-one vote.

## **The UN system**

The UN has six main organs: The General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC),

the Trusteeship Council, the Secretariat and the International Court of Justice.

Fourteen other independent organizations known as “specialized agencies” are linked to the UN through cooperation agreements. They are autonomous entities created by intergovernmental agreement. They have wide-ranging international responsibilities in the economic, social, cultural, educational, health and other related fields.

In addition, a number of UN offices, programmes and funds work to improve the economic and social condition of people. They report to the General Assembly or ECOSOC.

A variety of UN institutions deal with migration-related issues and challenges. Thus, for some UN agencies migration-related topics are part of their core functions as set forth in their mandates, for example the ILO, whereas other agencies are led to consider issues concerned with migration and related topics as and when these touch on areas falling within their primary functions.

# **General Assembly (GA)**

## **Status and mandate**

The General Assembly is the main deliberative organ of the United Nations. It is composed of representatives of all Member States and constitutes the principal international forum for the discussion of the full range of issues covered by the UN Charter.

Though the decisions of the General Assembly are not binding on Member States, they carry the political weight of States which make up the international community.

## **Migration-related issues (as requested by governments)**

- Rights of migrants
- Labour migration
- Refugees
- Development
- Trafficking and smuggling

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

The General Assembly is supported in its work by seven Main Committees. Of these, those with the most direct relationship to migration issues are the Second Committee (Economic and Financial) and the Third Committee (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural). The first addresses migration and related issues primarily from an economic and development perspective, while the second may be called upon to consider, *inter alia*, migrants' rights, gender-related migration issues, trafficking, refugees and the subject of internally-displaced persons (IDPs).

In doing so, the Committees' deliberations are largely based on policy-relevant papers and recommendations, in the form of Reports by the Secretary-General, prepared by the appropriate office in the Secretariat and/or the fund or programme concerned (e.g., UNFPA, UNDP), on the basis of which the Committees negotiate draft resolutions. The Committees report to the General Assembly on the agenda items allocated to them, synthesizing their consideration of the item and transmitting the final version of draft resolutions/decisions to the Plenary for adoption.

In 2001, the General Assembly called upon "all relevant bodies agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations, within their continuing mandated activities, to continue to address the issue of international migration and development, with a view of integrating migration issues in a more coherent way within the broader context of the implementation of agreed economic and social development programmes."<sup>4</sup>

## **Membership/Governing board**

The General Assembly is composed of representatives of all 191 Member States of the United Nations. It meets in regular

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<sup>4</sup> Resolution adopted by the UN General Assembly, A/RES/56/203. 90<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting, 21 December 2001, pg. 4.



session each year from September to December, and thereafter as required. Each Member has one vote. Votes taken on designated important issues, such as recommendations on peace and security and the election of members of the Security Council, require a two-thirds majority, while other questions are decided by simple majority voting.

<<http://www.un.org/Overview/unMember.html>>

### **Contact information**

Homepage: <http://www.un.org/ga/56/>

# **Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)**

## **Status and mandate**

Under the UN Charter, ECOSOC is responsible for promoting higher standards of living, full employment, and economic and social progress; identifying solutions to international economic, social and health problems; facilitating international cultural and educational cooperation and encouraging universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all.

In order to enhance discussion, the Council organizes conferences, conducts studies and research on various subjects of relevance under the UN Charter and submits recommendations to UN bodies and Member States. The ECOSOC also coordinates the activities of the relevant specialized agencies and maintains contacts with NGOs.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Development
- Health
- Refugees
- Internally displaced
- Gender issues
- Trafficking

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

Generally, ECOSOC provides a forum for discussion and policy recommendations. Regarding migration issues, ECOSOC receives reports from a number of specialized Functional and Regional Commissions, and part of its task is to draw the links between the work of such specialized bodies. In addition, ECOSOC receives and comments on the reports of UN funds, programmes, offices and specialized agencies active in the economic and social fields, and seeks to ensure that their actions are coordinated.

## **Membership/Governing board**

ECOSOC consists of 54 Member States, elected by the General Assembly for overlapping three-year terms. Seats on the Council are allocated according to geographical representation with 14 allocated to African States, 11 to Asian States, six to Eastern European States, ten to Latin American and Caribbean States, and thirteen to Western European and Other States.

<<http://www.un.org/esa/coordination/ecosoc/Members.htm>>

## **Contact information**

Division for ECOSOC Support and Coordination  
Department of Economic and Social Affairs  
1 UN Plaza, Room DC1-1428  
New York, NY 10017  
USA

Homepage: <http://www.un.org/esa/coordination/ecosoc/>



# **FUNCTIONAL AND REGIONAL COMMISSIONS OF ECOSOC**

In carrying out its mandate, ECOSOC receives the direct support of (a) Functional and (b) Regional Commissions. The following are the main Commissions related to migration issues.



## **A.1 Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ)**

### **Status and mandate**

The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice is the main functional body of the United Nations providing policy guidance in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice. Established by the Economic and Social Council in 1992, CCPCJ is charged with developing, monitoring and reviewing the United Nations programme on crime prevention, and mobilizing support for it among Member States. It is also expected to coordinate the activities of interregional and regional institutes on crime prevention and criminal justice.

### **Migration-related issues**

- Trafficking and smuggling

### **Migration-related programmes and activities**

The Commission formulates international policies and coordinates activities in crime prevention and criminal justice

for the Economic and Social Council. It offers a forum for governments to exchange information and to establish mechanisms to fight crime at the global level. In addition, the Commission organizes periodic Congresses on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders.

In recent years, migrant smuggling and trafficking in human beings have become important agenda items for the Commission, with particular emphasis being placed on trafficking of women and children. To the extent that Member States consider trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants to be a transnational organized crime issue, the Commission has been asked to respond. This is where the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols originated and is also the political supervising body for the UN Centre for International Crime Prevention.

### **Membership/Governing board**

The Commission is composed of 40 Members, elected by ECOSOC every year.

[http://www.odccp.org/crime\\_cicp\\_commission\\_Members.html](http://www.odccp.org/crime_cicp_commission_Members.html)

### **Contact information**

United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention  
Vienna International Centre  
Wagramer Strasse 5  
A-1400 Vienna  
Austria  
Telephone: +43-1-26060-0  
Homepage:[http://www.odccp.org/crime\\_cicp\\_commission.html](http://www.odccp.org/crime_cicp_commission.html)



# **Centre for International Crime Prevention (CICP)**

## **Status and mandate**

The Centre for International Crime Prevention is the Secretariat of the Commission for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. The CICP is the UN office responsible for crime prevention, criminal justice and criminal law reform. At present its main focus is on combating transnational organized crime, corruption and illicit trafficking in human beings, and the prevention of terrorism. It acted as the Secretariat for the Ad Hoc Committee which produced the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols, and is expected to be designated as the Secretariat for the Conference of States Parties to those instruments when they come into effect (GA/RES/55/25, para.11). Following the finalization of these instruments, the Centre has been called upon to support the efforts to ratify and, subsequently, to implement these instruments (GA/RES/55/25 and 55/255).

## **Migration-related issues**

- Trafficking and smuggling (as well as aspects of the prevention of terrorism, corruption and crime-prevention that have links to migration issues).

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

From 1999 to 2001, the Centre acted as the Secretariat for the negotiation of the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols, and subsequently encouraged and assisted the efforts of Member States to ratify and fully implement these instruments. Of particular interest in the present context are the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air.

The CICP has also developed a series of plans of action for the implementation and follow-up of the Declaration produced by the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, which includes plans dealing with the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in human beings (GA/RES/56/261, Annex). Subject to the availability of resources, the Centre also responds to specific requests for assistance in matters relating to crime prevention and crime control from Member States, and includes the Global Programme against Trafficking in Human Beings (GPAT). The Programme assists Member States in their efforts to combat trafficking in human beings. GPAT highlights the involvement of organized criminal groups and promotes the development of effective ways of dealing with perpetrators. The Programme's key components are data collection, assessment and technical cooperation.

### **Contact information**

United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention  
Vienna International Centre  
Wagramer Strasse 5  
A-1400 Vienna  
Austria  
Telephone: +43-1-26060  
Homepage: [http://www.odccp.org/crime\\_cicp.html](http://www.odccp.org/crime_cicp.html)

## **A.2 Commission on Human Rights (CHR)**

### **Status and mandate**

The UN Commission on Human Rights submits proposals, recommendations and reports to the ECOSOC on human rights standards. Various CHR procedures and mechanisms examine, monitor and publicly report either on human rights situations in specific countries or territories (known as country mechanisms or mandates) or on major phenomena of human rights violations worldwide (known as thematic mechanisms or mandates). These procedures and mechanisms are collectively referred to as the Special Procedures of the Commission on Human Rights.

### **Migration-related issues**

- Rights of migrants
- Gender issues
- Trafficking
- Forced migration
- Irregular movements
- Integration

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

- One of the most important tasks entrusted to the Commission has been the elaboration of human rights standards.
- In 1999, the Commission on Human Rights appointed a Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants, who has been examining the human rights of migrants in identified countries and has reported to the Commission since 2000. The Special Rapporteur fulfils a monitoring function related to migrant rights.

## **Membership/Governing board**

The Commission consists of one representative from each of the 53 Member States elected by the ECOSOC on the basis of an equitable geographical distribution.

<http://www.unhchr.ch/html/menu2/2/chrmem.htm>

## **Contact information**

OHCHR-UNOG  
8-14 Avenue de la Paix  
CH-1211 Geneva 10  
Switzerland  
Telephone: +41-22-917-9000  
Homepage: <http://www.unhchr.ch/html/menu2/2/chr.htm>

## **A.3 Commission on Population and Development (CPD)**

### **Status and mandate**

The Commission on Population and Development was created to study and advise ECOSOC on population issues. It is active in researching and monitoring population trends, as well as assessing the implementation of development strategies of ECOSOC and their impact on population.

### **Migration-related issues**

- Development
- Population and demography

### **Migration-related programmes and activities**

The CPD has an important role in monitoring the follow-up to the regular international conferences on population and development, convened over recent decades. The most recent conference was held in Cairo (ICPD) in 1994, and included two significant chapters on internal and international migration in its Programme of Action. The Commission is an intergovernmental mechanism, which plays an important role

in the follow-up to the implementation of the Programmes of Action adopted by the periodic International Conference on Population and Development. Furthermore, as a functional body assisting the Council, the Commission monitors, reviews and assesses the implementation of the Programme of Action at the national, regional and international levels and advises the Council thereon.

A resolution of the General Assembly decided that the Commission should meet annually and be charged with monitoring, reviewing and assessing the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action at the national, regional and international levels.

### **Membership/Governing board**

The CPD is composed of 47 Member States elected by the ECOSOC for a period of four years on the basis of geographic distribution.

[www.un.org/esa/population/cpd/cpd.htm](http://www.un.org/esa/population/cpd/cpd.htm)

### **Contact information**

Population Division  
United Nations  
2 United Nations Plaza  
Room DC2-1950  
New York, NY 10017  
USA

Telephone: +1-212-963-3179

Homepage: <http://www.un.org/esa/population/cpd/cpd.htm>

## **B.1 United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)**

### **Status and mandate**

The Economic Commission for Africa is one of five regional economic commissions under the administrative direction of the UN Headquarters, reporting directly to ECOSOC. ECA is the regional arm of the United Nations for Africa, mandated to support the economic and social development of its Member States, foster regional integration, and promote international cooperation for Africa's development. ECA objectives aim at promoting policies, methods and strategies for increasing regional and subregional cooperation through the implementation of sectoral integration, in particular the development of trade and the movement of information and persons.

### **Migration-related issues**

- Labour migration (regional integration and the movement of persons)
- Development

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

ECA's activities are designed around three major themes: promoting cooperation and integration; facilitating policy decisions and disseminating results of experiences gained and institutional capacity building to support the integration process at national, subregional and regional levels. Regarding migration issues, the following ECA programmes, Development Management, Policy Analysis, and Regional Integration include research on and analysis of the economic and social conditions in Africa, with particular attention to the collection of migration data from different African countries and regions.

## **Membership/Governing board**

The ECA has 53 permanent Members. They are: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Under the supervision of the Executive Secretary and the Deputy Secretary, the Subregional Development Centres (SRDCs) reflect the programme functions of ECA. SRDCs have a pivotal role in rendering more effective service to Member States, taking into account resource allocation, institutional frameworks, location, geographical coverage and operational modalities.

[http://www.uneca.org/about\\_eca\\_home.htm](http://www.uneca.org/about_eca_home.htm)



## **Contact information**

Economic Commission for Africa

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Addis Ababa

Ethiopia

Telephone: +251-1-51 72 00

Fax: +251-1-51 03 65 (direct) or +251-1-51 22 33

Email: [ecainfo@uneca.org](mailto:ecainfo@uneca.org)

Homepage: <http://www.uneca.org/>

## **B.2 United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)**

### **Status and mandate**

As one of ECOSOC's five regional economic commissions, ECE encourages greater economic cooperation among its Member States. The Commission focuses on economic analysis, environment and human settlements, statistics, sustainable energy, trade, industry and enterprise development.

The Commission's activities include policy analysis, development of conventions, regulations and standards, and technical assistance.

### **Migration-related issues**

- Development
- Population and demography

### **Migration-related programmes and activities**

One unit with a particular migration interest is the Population Activities Unit (PAU) (<http://www.unece.org/ead/pau/>) which promotes dialogue among the governments of the ECE Member States on various aspects of demographic change in Europe and

North America. It coordinates regional activities concerned with data collection and research on selected aspects of demographic behaviour. The Population Activities Unit organizes international research conferences and has published a variety of studies on fertility, ageing, population development and international migration.

The activities of the Statistical Division (<http://www.unece.org/stats/social>) in the field of social and demographic statistics also cover migration statistics and demographic projections.

### **Membership/Governing board**

ECE has 55 Members composed of the European Members of the UN and the United States of America, Canada and Israel.

In general, the Commission is empowered to make recommendations directly to its Member States on any matter falling within its competence.

<<http://www.unece.org/oes/about/Members.htm>>

### **Contact information**

UNECE  
Palais des Nations  
Office 356  
CH-1211 Geneva 10  
Switzerland  
Telephone: +41-22-917-4444  
E-mail: [info.ece@unece.org](mailto:info.ece@unece.org)  
Homepage: <http://www.unece.org/>

## **B.3 Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)**

### **Status and mandate**

ECLAC is one of ECOSOC's five regional economic commissions founded for the purpose of contributing to the economic development of Latin America and the Caribbean. It is responsible for coordinating actions directed towards this end, and reinforcing economic relationships among countries of these two regions with other nations of the world. The promotion of the social development of the Latin American and Caribbean region was later included among its primary objectives.

### **Migration-related issues**

- Labour migration
- Development
- Population and demography
- Gender issues
- Rights of migrants

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

Most of ECLAC's activities related to international migration are undertaken by the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE).

CELADE gathers regional statistics, organizes and participates in national and regional technical meetings on international migration and conducts research.

## **Membership/Governing board**

ECLAC has 41 permanent Members composed of all 33 Latin American and Caribbean countries, and eight other countries from North America and Europe which maintain cultural, economic or historical links with this region.

(<http://www.eclac.cl/acerca/default-i.asp>)

## **Contact information**

ECLAC (CEPAL)  
Av. Dag Hammarskjold s/n Vitacura  
Santiago de Chile  
Chile  
Telephone: +56-471-2000  
Homepage: <http://www.eclac.cl>

## **B.4 United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP)**

### **Status and mandate**

ESCAP is one of ECOSOC's five regional economic commissions. It provides a forum for governments of the region to review and discuss economic and social issues and to strengthen regional cooperation.

### **Migration-related issues**

- Labour migration
- Population and demography
- Development

### **Migration-related programmes and activities**

ESCAP undertakes research, holds conferences and workshops and acts as a focal point regarding the provision of technical assistance.

Two subprogrammes are of potential relevance to migration: the Subprogramme on Social Development, which is carried out

by the Social Development Division. It is designed to strengthen national capacity to promote social development as a means of alleviating poverty in the Asian and Pacific region. ESCAP seeks to achieve this objective by intervening in three pertinent areas: (a) social policy and integration of disadvantaged groups, (b) human resources development and (c) women in development. Activities focus on strengthening the social policy and institutional framework to promote the rights and needs of disadvantaged and socially excluded groups, especially the poor, youth, women, the elderly and people with disabilities.

The Subprogramme on Population and Rural and Urban Development, administered by the Population and Rural and Urban Development Division, is designed to strengthen the technical, managerial and organizational capacity of government agencies and civil organizations at all levels to formulate population, rural and urban development policies and programmes designed to alleviate poverty and improve the quality of life.

### **Membership/Governing board**

The ESCAP is composed of 52 Members and nine associate Members. Its Members are Afghanistan, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, France, Georgia, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Tonga, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam. Its associate Members are the Cook Islands, French Polynesia, Guam, Hong Kong SAR China, Macao China, New Caledonia, Niue, the Northern Mariana Islands, and Samoa.

The Commission maintains close cooperation and consultation between the Members and the Secretariat. Five Committees and two Special Bodies guide the Commission's work and make recommendations.

(<http://www.unescap.org/about/Members.html>)

### **Contact information**

UN ESCAP  
The United Nations Building Rajadamnern  
Nok Avenue  
Bangkok 10200  
Thailand  
Telephone: (central):+66-2-288-1234  
Homepage: <http://www.unescap.org/>



## **B.5 Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)**

### **Status and mandate**

ESCWA is one of the five regional economic commissions under supervision of the ECOSOC.

It promotes economic and social development through regional cooperation and integration and formulates and promotes development assistance activities and projects commensurate with the needs and priorities of the region. The Commission also acts as an executing agency for relevant operational projects.

### **Migration-related issues**

- Labour migration
- Development

### **Migration-related programmes and activities**

ESCWA organizes Expert Group meetings and collects migration data. Given the increasing importance of migration in

the region, ESCWA has identified a need for more research and statistical information development in the field of migration management.

The Population Section of ESCWA aims at increasing understanding of both the nature and the impact of demographic phenomena, and emphasizes the interrelationship between population and sustainable development. It reports on migration and population policies in the Arab world as part of The Population Policies in the Arab Region Project. This project maintains the Population Information System, and is a tool for monitoring implementation of population and social development policies in the Arab region.

### **Membership/Governing board**

ESCWA has 13 permanent Members: Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

<http://www.escwa.org.lb/index.html>

### **Contact information**

ESCWA  
P.O. Box  
Riad el-Solh Square  
Beirut  
Lebanon  
Telephone: +961-1-981301  
Homepage: <http://www.escwa.org.lb/>

# **UN SECRETARIAT**



# **Office for the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)**

## **Status and mandate**

OCHA serves as a focal point within the UN Secretariat for mobilizing and coordinating effective humanitarian action in the face of complex emergencies and natural disasters. The objectives of the Office are to alleviate human suffering in disasters; advocate support for the rights of people in need; promote preparedness and prevention and facilitate sustainable solutions.

Part of OCHA's role is to ensure that those humanitarian issues which are not covered by the mandates of other agencies are addressed. Another important role played by OCHA is the promotion of interagency information sharing and debates on internally displaced persons (IDPs).

## **Migration-related issues**

- Internally displaced

## **Migration related programmes and activities**

OCHA emphasizes particularly protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons (IDPs). This includes undertaking research, publishing information and issuing guidelines.

In 2002 the IDP Unit was created in OCHA. This unit provides a nucleus of expertise on internal displacement that acts in guiding the response to IDP crises. It furthermore provides targeted support to specific country situations, particularly in the following areas of concern: (1) field support and missions, based on field visits to provide assessment and guidance on site; (2) protection of IDPs; (3) training and capacity building, providing basic orientation courses on IDPs; (4) advocacy and public information, contributing to heighten awareness of the plight of IDPs.

In all of these areas of work, and using the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement as a framework, the Unit focuses on all phases of displacement.

The IDP Unit website is posted under the relief web umbrella at the following address: [www.reliefweb.int/idp](http://www.reliefweb.int/idp).

## **Membership/Governing board**

OCHA discharges its coordination function primarily through the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), which is chaired by the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC), with the participation of all humanitarian partners, including the Red Cross Movement and NGOs. OCHA assumes mainly a coordinating function with OCHA desks in New York (mainly policy and advocacy) and Geneva (field support).

The IDP Unit brings together staff seconded from UNDP, UNHCR, WFP, UNICEF, IOM and the NGO community.

## **Contact information**

Office for the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs

United Nations

Palais des Nations

CH-1211 Geneva 10

Switzerland

Telephone: +41-22-917-1234

Homepage: [http://www.reliefweb.int/ocha\\_ol/index.html](http://www.reliefweb.int/ocha_ol/index.html)

# **United Nations Population Division**

## **Status and mandate**

The Population Division, within the Department of Economic and Social Affairs in the UN Secretariat, is responsible for monitoring and appraisal of a broad range of population trends and policies. Part of its responsibilities include: identifying, analysing and investigating policy issues and global trends in the field of population and development; to facilitate access by governments to information on population trends and their interrelationship with social and economic development as an input to government policy and programme formulation.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Population and demography
- Gender/migration of women

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

Official United Nations demographic estimates and projections are prepared by the Population Division for all countries and areas of the world, including separate estimates for urban and rural areas and major cities, and serve as the standard and consistent set of population figures for use throughout the United Nations system. International migration,



infant, child and maternal mortality and increased adult mortality in some regions, as well as the demographic impact of AIDS, are also addressed by these estimates and projections. Other priority areas for analysis are national population policies and the relationships among population dynamics and migration and development issues. In October 2002, the United Nations Population Division released an updated wall-chart and report on international migration, presenting a synopsis of key migration data for every country in the world concerning migrant stocks, refugee numbers, net migration balances, remittances, and national migration policies and ratification status in respect of United Nations treaties concerning migration and migration-related issues.

(See: <http://www.un.org/esa/population/publications/ittmig2002/ittmig2002.htm>.)

In 2002 the Population Division held a Coordination Meeting on International Migration with the primary objectives to: (a) share and exchange information on data collection activities – current and planned – on international migration, and their use; (b) identify the major gaps or areas of missing information and (c) facilitate the coordination of activities of the various offices within the United Nations system and other relevant international and regional organizations and institutions concerned with international migration. It was agreed that a second meeting of this group would be convened by IOM in 2003.

See <http://www.un.org/esa/population/publications/migcoord/migcoord.htm>.

## **Membership/Governing board**

The Population Division provides support to such intergovernmental bodies as the Commission on Population and Development, as well as related work of the General Assembly and the ECOSOC, through the preparation of documentation, analytical work and facilitation of consensus-building and policy development.

## **Contact information**

United Nations  
Department of Economic and Social Affairs  
Population Division  
2 United Nations Plaza, Room DC2-1950  
New York, NY 10017  
USA  
Telephone: +1-212-963-3179  
Homepage: <http://www.un.org/esa/population/unpop.htm>

**UN PROGRAMMES,  
FUNDS AND  
OTHER ENTITIES**



# **International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW)**

## **Status and mandate**

The International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women was established in 1976 to promote gender equality and women's advancement worldwide through research, training and the collection and dissemination of gender-related information.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Population and demography
- Gender/migration of women

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

INSTRAW stimulates and assists the efforts of intergovernmental, governmental and non-governmental organizations through the production, management and dissemination of gender-related knowledge and information.

In recent years the Institute has developed a new operational methodology – Gender Awareness Information and Networking System (GAINS) – based on new information and communication technologies (ICTs) for the production, management and dissemination of gender-related knowledge and information, which is also of relevance to migration and related issues.

## **Membership/Governing board**

INSTRAW is governed by a Board of Trustees consisting of eleven Members nominated by Member States and appointed by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. Board Members serve in an individual capacity for a three-year term.

## **Contact information**

UN INSTRAW  
César Nicolás Penson 102-A  
Santo Domingo  
República Dominicana  
Telephone: +1-809-685-2111  
Homepage: <http://www.un-instraw.org/>

# **Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)**

## **Status and mandate**

UNAIDS is a joint UN Programme to lead, strengthen and support the expanded response to HIV/AIDS. Its activities are intended to prevent the spread of HIV, provide care and support for those infected and affected by the disease, reduce the vulnerability of individuals and of communities to HIV/AIDS and to alleviate the socio-economic and human impact of the pandemic.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Health (HIV/AIDS issues as they relate to migration and population mobility)

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

UNAIDS performs an advisory role, assisting governments and civil society to deliver an expanded response to HIV/AIDS. In particular, UNAIDS has undertaken studies on the relationship between migration and the disease, compiled information and best practices and plays an advocacy role to build a committed

and supportive society. UNAIDS works in partnership with the IOM on migration issues.

## **Membership/Governing board**

UNAIDS is jointly sponsored by eight organizations: ILO, UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, UNESCO, WHO, the World Bank and UNDCP.

It is guided by a Programme Coordinating Board (PCB) with representatives of 22 governments from all parts of the world, representatives of the eight UNAIDS co-sponsors and five representatives of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), including associations of people living with HIV/AIDS.

PCB Members are elected by the Economic and Social Council from among its Member States and with the following regional distribution: Western European and Other Groups: seven seats; Africa: five seats; Asia and Pacific: five seats; Latin America and the Caribbean: three seats and Eastern European/Commonwealth of Independent States: two seats.

The UNAIDS co-sponsors are permanent Members with the right of full participation in the PCB, but without the right to vote.

## **Contact Information**

UNAIDS  
20, avenue Appia  
CH-1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland  
Telephone: +41-22-791-366  
Homepage: <http://www.unaids.org/>



# **United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)**

## **Status and mandate**

Established in 1964, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) is the focal point within the United Nations for the integrated treatment of trade and development, and the interrelated issues in the areas of finance, technology, investment and sustainable development. Its primary objectives are to maximize trade, investment and development opportunities of developing countries, and to assist them in their efforts to integrate into the world economy.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Development

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

While UNCTAD has no specific programme or activity dealing directly with migration issues, in the course of its work it has had to consider the topic of migration and the impact of development and trade in migration dynamics and patterns.

## **Membership/Governing board**

UNCTAD's highest policy-making body is the Conference, which brings together the 191 UN Member countries to meet every four years at ministerial level to formulate policy guidelines and set work priorities. In addition, the Trade and Development Board reviews the Secretariat's activities and deals with urgent policy issues. The Board has three Commissions: (1) Commission on Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities; (2) Commission on Investment, Technology and Related Financial Issues and (3) Commission on Enterprise, Business Facilitation and Development.

<[www.unctad.org/en/aboutorg/Membership.en.htm](http://www.unctad.org/en/aboutorg/Membership.en.htm)>

## **Contact information**

UNCTAD  
Palais des Nations  
1211 Geneva 10  
Switzerland  
Telephone: +41-22-907-123  
Homepage: <http://www.unctad.org/>

# **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**

## **Status and mandate**

At the United Nations Millennium Summit in September 2000, world leaders put development at the heart of the global agenda by adopting the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), setting targets for reducing poverty, hunger, disease, illiteracy, environmental degradation and discrimination against women by 2015. UNDP uses its global network of 131 offices to help the UN system and its partners to raise awareness and track progress, as it connects countries to the knowledge and resources needed to achieve these goals.

UNDP's priority areas are democratic governance, the reduction of poverty, crisis prevention and recovery, energy and environment, information and communication technology and HIV/AIDS. UNDP supports and encourages technical cooperation among developing countries.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Development
- Internally displaced
- Reintegration

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

- UNDP provides funds, including for workshops on migration and sustainable development, and promotes South-South cooperation. It seeks to address the causes of poverty and to promote development, including through the protection of human rights and the empowerment of women. UNDP is active in the area of disarmament, demobilization and rehabilitation (DDR), focusing on post-conflict rehabilitation as a contribution to sustainable peace. UNDP also conducts and supports research on the impact of migration on development and is currently pursuing a joint project with IOM, funded by the European Commission, on migration and development.
- The annual Human Development Report, commissioned by UNDP, focuses on key development issues, providing measurement tools, analysis and policy proposals. Developing countries and their international partners use the Report to gauge development results and shape new policies. So far, more than 420 National Human Development Reports have been published in 135 countries.

## **Membership/Governing board**

UNDP is governed by a 36-member Executive Board, an intergovernmental body that determines policies, approves and monitors programmes, endorses budgets and recommends new initiatives. Members are elected by ECOSOC for three-year terms, with the exception of the Western European and Other States group, which has determined its own international rotation policy, on the basis of equitable geographical representation: eight from African States; seven from Asian and Pacific States; four from Eastern European States; five from Latin America and the Caribbean States and 12 from Western European and Other States.

## **Contact information**

UNDP

1 UN Plaza

New York, NY 10017

Telephone: +1-212-906-5000

or

Palais des Nations

CH - 1211 Geneva 10

Switzerland

Telephone: +41-22-917-8001

Homepage: <http://www.undp.org/>

# **United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)**

## **Status and mandate**

UNFPA helps developing countries find solutions to population problems. UNFPA has three main areas of activities: to help ensure universal access to reproductive health; to support population and development strategies that enable capacity-building in population programming and to promote awareness of population and development issues.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Development
- Gender
- Health (especially reproductive health)
- Population and demography

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

UNFPA is charged, *inter alia*, with promoting the implementation of the Programme of Action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) held in Cairo in 1994. This includes support for the capacity-

building efforts of States aimed at dealing with migration challenges.

UNFPA also provides funds for the collection of migration data and policy-oriented studies on international migration. For instance, the Fund organized a regionally focused seminar to promote the understanding of migration in the Caribbean and its relation with economic development and regional integration, including a range of issues such as labour migration, irregular migration, remittances and trafficking.

### **Membership/Governing board**

UNFPA<sup>5</sup> and UNDP share the same Executive Board. The Executive Board elects the UNFPA Bureau, taking into consideration equitable geographical representation. The primary functions of the Bureau include preparation and organization of Board meetings, facilitation of transparent decision-making and the promotion of dialogue.

### **Contact information**

UNFPA  
Information and External Relations Division  
220 East 42nd Street  
New York, NY 10017  
USA  
Telephone: +1-212-297-5020  
Homepage: <http://www.unfpa.org/>

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<sup>5</sup> See UNDP Membership and Governing Board.

# **United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCHR or OHCHR)**

## **Status and mandate**

The mission of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) is to protect and promote all human rights for all. The Office aims at ensuring the practical implementation of universally recognized human rights norms. It is committed to strengthening the United Nations human rights programmes and to put its treaty monitoring bodies and special mechanisms established by the Commission on Human Rights at the service of the United Nations. The UNHCHR, a part of the United Nations Secretariat, provides secretariat services to the Commission on Human Rights and to other human rights meetings.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Human rights
- Gender
- Trafficking
- Forced migration
- Irregular movements



## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

As regards international migration, the growth in trafficking for sex work and forced labour, along with other forms of exploitative migration, pose major concerns. The UNHCHR has therefore identified trafficking in persons as a priority human rights issue. UNHCHR's overall goal in this sector is the integration of human rights into international, regional and national anti-trafficking initiatives through the development of appropriate laws and policies.

UNHCHR is active in organizing and participating in meetings and conferences dealing with the rights of migrants, a recent and prominent example being the World Conference Against Racism, held in Durban, South Africa, in 2001. UNHCHR promotes the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, which was adopted by General Assembly resolution 45/158 of 1990. It requires 20 ratifications to come into force.

One of UNHCHR's main mechanisms is the availability of its procedures to individuals and groups who desire the UN to take action on human rights situations of concern to them.

UNHCHR also acts as a secretariat to the Rapporteurs appointed by the Human Rights Commissioner, among them, the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants (see section on Commission on Human Rights).

## **Membership/Governing board**

At the institutional level, six committees established under the principal international human rights treaties are currently in operation. The main function of the committees, also referred to as treaty monitoring bodies (convention mechanisms), is to monitor government compliance and the implementation of relevant treaties through its review of reports submitted by States parties.

The High Commissioner for Human Rights is appointed by the Secretary-General with the approval of the UN General Assembly, due regard being paid to geographical rotation, for a fixed term of four years with the possibility of renewal for a further term of four years.

### **Contact information**

OHCHR-UNOG  
8-14 Avenue de la Paix  
CH - 1211 Geneva 10  
Switzerland  
Telephone: +41-22-917-9000  
Homepage: <http://www.unhchr.ch/>

# **United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)**

## **Mandate**

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees was established on 14 December 1950 by the United Nations General Assembly. The agency is mandated to lead and coordinate international action to protect refugees and resolve refugee problems worldwide. Its primary purpose is to safeguard the rights and well-being of refugees. It strives to ensure that everyone can exercise the right to seek asylum and find safe refuge in another state, with the option to return home voluntarily, integrate locally or to resettle in a third country.

UNHCR's efforts are mandated by its Statute, and guided by the 1951 United Nations Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, and the 1967 Protocol. Upon the request by the Secretary-General, UNHCR may, in particular cases, also provide assistance and protection to internally displaced persons (IDPs).

## **Migration-related issues**

- Development
- Rights of migrants
- Population

- Internally displaced
- Integration
- Reintegration
- Refugees
- Trafficking
- Return
- Forced migration
- Asylum
- Irregular movements

## **Migration-related activities**

UNHCR has two fundamental and closely related aims – to protect refugees and to assist them to rebuild their lives in a normal environment. Thus, the activities carried out by UNHCR range from conducting studies and research, migration diplomacy, conferences and public relations work, to technical cooperation, institutional capacity building, educational activities and emergency relief in the field. UNHCR also conducts multi-sectoral reintegration and rehabilitation programmes in countries receiving large numbers of refugees.

UNHCR promotes international refugee agreements and monitors government compliance with international refugee law. UNHCR works to provide protection and to minimize the threat of violence, including sexual assault. UNHCR also seeks long-term solutions by helping refugees repatriate to their homeland if conditions warrant, by helping them to integrate in their countries of asylum or to resettle in third countries.

## **Membership/Governing board**

UNHCR's programmes, its protection and other policy guidelines, are approved by an Executive Committee of 61 Member States which meets annually in Geneva. A second "working group" or Standing Committee meets several times a year. The High Commissioner reports on the results of the

agency's work annually to the UN General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees is elected by the UN General Assembly on proposal of the Secretary-General for a period of three years.

<http://www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/taxis/vtx/home?page=exec>

### **Contact information**

UNHCR

CP 2500

CH-1211 Geneva 2, Dépôt

Switzerland

Telephone: +41-22-739-8111

Homepage: <http://www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/taxis/vtx/home>

# **United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)**

## **Status and mandate**

First known as the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, UNICEF became a permanent part of the United Nations system in 1953. Its mandate is to provide assistance to children living in poverty in developing countries. Guided by the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, UNICEF's current focus is on the survival, protection and development of children, especially those in disadvantaged or emergency situations.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Development
- Migrant rights
- Health
- Internally displaced
- Gender/migration of women
- Refugees
- Trafficking
- Irregular movements

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

UNICEF fieldwork consists of providing assistance to children with disabilities and to those who are victims of emergencies including war, disaster, violence and exploitation. Assistance is extended to trafficked and refugee minors and women. In addition, through the Innocenti Research Centre (<http://www.unicef-icdc.org/>) UNICEF carries out research on related migration issues such as child trafficking. Through its working papers and digests, UNICEF shares information and monitors trends and flows relevant to children, including migrant children.

## **Membership/Governing board**

The Executive Board is the governing body of UNICEF. It is responsible for providing inter-governmental support to and supervision of the activities of UNICEF, in accordance with the overall policy guidance of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. The Board has 36 Members, elected for a three-year term with the following regional allocation of seats: eight African States; seven Asian States; four Eastern European States; five Latin American and Caribbean States and 12 Western European and Other States (including Japan).

## **Contact Information**

UNICEF House  
3 United Nations Plaza  
New York, New York 10017  
USA  
Telephone: +1-212-326-7000  
Homepage: <http://www.unicef.org/>

# **United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)**

## **Status and mandate**

UNIFEM was established in 1976 as an autonomous fund within the UN system, working closely with UNDP, to promote women's empowerment and gender equality. UNIFEM's main areas of focus include the strengthening of women's economic capacity, governance and leadership and promoting women's human rights.

UNIFEM supports efforts that link the needs and concerns of women to critical issues on national, regional and global agendas.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Development
- Gender/migration of women
- Refugees
- Trafficking



## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

UNIFEM participates in various activities relating to migrant women particularly within the context of its campaign supporting “A world free of violence against women”. UNIFEM’s activities include seminars on trafficked women and girls and ways in which to avert recruitment into sexual slavery and economic bondage.

Such activities have been developed in over 100 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CEE/CIS).

## **Membership/Governing board**

The UNDP Executive Board is also UNIFEM’s Executive Board.

## **Contact information**

United Nations Development Fund for Women  
304 E45th Street 15th Floor  
New York, NY 10017  
USA  
Telephone: +1-212-906-6400  
Homepage: <http://www.unifem.undp.org/>

# **United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)**

## **Status and mandate**

UNITAR, an autonomous body within the UN, was established in 1965 to enhance the effectiveness of the United Nations through appropriate training and research. UNITAR is particularly concerned with providing civilian personnel of peacekeeping operations with tailor-made training on the special needs of women and children in conflict areas in order to enhance the professional preparedness of civilian peacekeepers dealing with societies in and after armed conflict. To this end, UNITAR forms partnerships with other organizations and produces studies on topics of relevance.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Gender/migration of women

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

One of its principle migration-related activities is UNITAR's participation in the International Migration Policy Programme (IMP). IMP is a joint programme of UNITAR, IOM, ILO, and

UNFPA, with the support of UNHCR, OSCE, and other relevant migration organizations and expert groups (see more on IMP below). UNITAR also has a special training programme entitled “The Special Needs of Women and Children in and after Conflict” which is of particular relevance to migration in times of conflict. Most of UNITAR’s training programmes are implemented by national or regional actors.

## **IMP**

As an interagency activity, the aim of IMP is to strengthen the migration-management capacity of governments and to support regional and international cooperation among States in an effort to ensure orderly migration. In an interdisciplinary approach, the IMP supports Regional Consultative Processes on Migration and promotes the development of a common understanding and of collective migration approaches among states. IMP conducts region-specific conferences, seminars and training workshops with senior government officers responsible for migration management and policy development in their countries. IMP training seminars cover a full range of migration and related issues, such as: root causes; labour migration; migrant rights; migration and health; return and readmission; asylum and refugee protection; irregular migration; border management and more.

## **Membership/Governing board**

A Board of Trustees is appointed by the UN Secretary-General in consultation with the president of the General Assembly and the president of ECOSOC. The term of office is three years, and is mainly concerned with the formulation of principles and policies to govern the activities and operations of the Institute. It also considers and approves the work programme and adopts the budget.

<http://www.unitar.org/about3.htm>

## **Contact information**

UNITAR  
Palais des Nations  
CH-1211 Geneva 10  
Switzerland  
Telephone: +41-22-917-1234  
Homepage: <http://unitar.org>

# **United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD)**

## **Status and mandate**

UNRISD was founded in 1963 to conduct research on issues concerning social and economic development. An autonomous UN agency, the primary objective of UNRISD is to promote democracy and human rights, poverty eradication, gender equality and environmental sustainability through its five central research programme areas.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Development
- Rights of migrants
- Gender
- Refugees

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

UNRISD's main focus is on research, including the funding of research relating to migration. Its research activities result in information exchange, the development of statistics, and the monitoring of migration trends and flows. Concrete examples

include the UNRISD publications for the World Conference against Racism, held in Durban in 2002, and the 1996 publication *Relocated Lives: Displacement and Resettlement*.

## **Membership/Governing board**

The UNRISD Board of Advisors, which includes academics, activists, diplomats and individuals from the private sector, puts forth ideas for further elaboration.

UNRISD maintains consultative relationships with other United Nations organizations, governments, non-governmental agencies and research institutes, which provide inputs to shape the research agenda.

## **Contact information**

UNRISD  
Palais des Nations  
CH-1211 Geneva 10  
Switzerland  
Telephone: +41-22-917-3020  
Homepage: <http://www.unrisd.org/>

# **United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)**

## **Status and mandate**

A subsidiary organ of the UN, it provides relief and work programmes for Palestinian refugees. The General Assembly has repeatedly renewed UNRWA's mandate, most recently extending it until 30 June 2005.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Development
- Rights of migrants
- Health
- Internally displaced
- Refugees
- Entry, border control
- Asylum
- Irregular movements

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

UNRWA distributes food and clothing, provides housing and promotes education and health care for Palestinian refugees of all ages. UNRWA registers Palestinian refugees, provides them with technical support, professional opportunities through loans for micro-enterprises through its Income-Generation Programme and other employment opportunities through its Peace Implementation Program.

Cooperation between UNRWA and UNHCR remains consistent and technical support is received from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the World Health Organization (WHO), and medical supplies from the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

## **Membership/Governing board**

UNRWA's membership consists of Belgium, Egypt, France, Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. The Palestine Liberation Organization attends meetings as an observer.

UNRWA is headed by a Commissioner General who is accountable to the General Assembly and authorized to report directly and independently to it. The CG establishes general policy guidelines and priorities for the work of UNRWA.

## **Contact information**

UNRWA Headquarters Gaza  
Gamal Abdul Nasser Street  
Gaza City  
Telephone: +972-8-677-7333  
Homepage: <http://www.un.org/unrwa/>



# **World Food Programme (WFP)**

## **Status and mandate**

WFP was established in 1963 in Rome as a temporary relief programme, and has continued to be the UN's frontline agency in the battle against global hunger ever since. The WFP works with NGOs, other UN agencies and governments to promote its goal of using food aid to save lives, promote recovery and eradicate global hunger and poverty. WFP helps victims of natural and man-made disasters, including displaced people and the world's hungry poor in underdeveloped and crisis-affected regions with severe food shortages. WFP channels the majority of its food aid through women who are likewise recognized as performing a crucial role in the recovery phase that follows humanitarian disasters.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Development
- Health
- Internally displaced
- Refugees

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

About 80 per cent of WFP activities focus on meeting the food needs of people affected by natural disasters and complex emergencies. The WFP does not have specific migration-related activities as such; however, it extends emergency food assistance to migrants and the internally displaced who would otherwise fall within the purview of its activities.

## **Membership/Governing board**

The WFP is headed by an Executive Director, appointed jointly by the UN Secretary-General and the Director-General of the FAO for fixed five-year terms, and is governed by an Executive Board, which is responsible for overseeing the programme's humanitarian and development food aid activities, and providing intergovernmental support and specific policy direction, as required. It consists of 36 States Members of the United Nations and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). Of these, 18 are elected by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC) and 18 by the FAO Council. Each State Member serves a three-year term and is eligible for re-election.

## **Contact information**

WFP

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00148 - Rome

Italy

Telephone: +39-06-65131

Homepage: <http://www.wfp.org/index2.html>

# **UN SPECIALIZED AGENCIES**



# **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)**

## **Status and mandate**

Founded in 1945 to raise the levels of nutrition and standards of living, to raise agricultural productivity and improve the condition of rural populations, FAO is one of the largest specialized agencies in the United Nations system and the lead agency for agriculture, forestry, fisheries and rural development. One of FAO's priorities is to encourage and promote sustainable agriculture and rural development, to foster long-term strategies to increase food production and security, while conserving and managing natural resources. The aim is to meet the needs of both present and future generations by promoting development efforts that do not degrade the environment and use appropriate technology and are economically viable and socially acceptable.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Development
- Health
- Demography
- Gender/migration of women

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

FAO deals with a range of issues that are by their nature relevant to migration. In its response to man-made disasters, the FAO is confronted with massive population movements, and it addresses the repercussions of desertification, famines, or food emergency situations on migration.

FAO is active in three principal areas: (1) development assistance; (2) information and (3) advising governments. Especially in the case of development assistance, FAO encourages an integrated approach that includes migration issues, such as, forced migration, reintegration of migrants or gender issues.

## **Membership/Governing board**

An intergovernmental organization, FAO has 183 member countries plus one member organization, the European Union. Its supreme organ is the Conference, which meets in regular session every two years. The main functions of the Conference are to determine the policies of the Organization, approve the budget, and make recommendations to Members and international organizations on any matter falling within its competence.

The Conference also elects the Council, the executive organ of the Conference, which consists of 49 Member States and acts as an interim governing body. Members serve three-year, rotating terms.

## **Contact information**

FAO  
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla  
00100 Rome  
Italy  
Telephone: +39-06-5705 1  
Homepage: <http://www.fao.org/>

# **International Labour Organization (ILO)**

## **Status and mandate**

The International Labour Organization was founded in 1919 under the Treaty of Versailles which established the League of Nations, and became the first specialized agency of the UN in 1946. The ILO formulates international labour standards in the form of Conventions and Recommendations with the aim of promoting social justice and the respect for basic human rights. It does so within an overall humanitarian, political and economic perspective based on the conviction that in the absence of social justice there can be no lasting peace. Within the UN system, the ILO has a unique tripartite structure with workers and employers participating as equal partners with governments in the work of its governing organs.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Labour migration
- Remittances
- Rights of migrants
- Gender and migration
- Integration
- Trafficking

- . Irregular migration
- . Globalization and migration
- . Reintegration

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

The International Migration Programme (MIGRANT), part of the ILO's Social Protection Sector, is of particular interest. Its goal is to assist countries in the formulation of policies, and in establishing and strengthening social and labour legislation, administrative measures, structures and practices for effective management of labour migration. Within this overall objective, MIGRANT aims at the protection of the rights of migrant workers by developing international labour standards in countries of destination and of origin, advising governments on pertinent laws and policies, organizing information campaigns, monitoring the implementation of legislation, and through research.

## **Membership/Governing board**

The two principal deliberative bodies of the ILO are the Governing Body and the International Labour Conference. The Governing Body is the executive body of the International Labour Office (the Office is the secretariat of the Organization). It meets three times a year and determines ILO policy, decides the agenda of the International Labour Conference, adopts the draft Programme and Budget of the Organization for submission to the Conference and elects the Director-General. It is composed of 56 titular members (28 Governments, 14 Employers and 14 Workers) and 66 deputy members (28 Governments, 19 Employers and 19 Workers).

The International Labour Conference meets annually. Each Member State is represented by a delegation consisting of two government delegates, an employer delegate, a worker delegate and their respective advisers. It crafts and adopts international labour standards in the form of Conventions and



Recommendations and supervises their application at the national level, and presents a forum where social and labour questions of importance to the entire world are discussed. It furthermore adopts the ILO's biennial work programme and budget.

### **Contact information**

International Labour Organization  
4, route des Morillons  
CH-1211 Geneva 22  
Switzerland  
E-mail: [ilo@ilo.org](mailto:ilo@ilo.org)  
Homepage: <http://www.ilo.org/>

# **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)**

## **Status and mandate**

UNESCO was established in 1945, with its main objective to contribute to international peace and security by promoting collaboration among nations through education, science, culture and communication.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Integration
- Rights of migrants
- Reintegration

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

The Section on International Migration and Multicultural Policies (SIMMP) was established in 1995 to promote research on migration issues related to the growth in multicultural societies worldwide and the safeguarding of migrants' human rights. Of particular importance to this Section will be the analysis of national and regional policies in view of the ratification of the

UN Convention on the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families. The Section coordinates several international research networks on migration, such as the Asia Pacific Migration Research Network (APMRN) and the Central and Eastern European Network on Migration Research (CEENOM). New networks are being established in Africa and Latin America.

SIMMP recently promoted the Management of Social Transformation Programme (MOST). In its first phase devoted to capacity building, scientific cooperation and the formation of international research networks composed of local and regional social scientists, MOST will take stock of current research on international migration, its causes and effects on society and the policies regarding the rights of migrants and their social integration. In the second phase, MOST intends to publish its research findings and to organize workshops to communicate scientific knowledge and policy recommendations to policy makers and to bridge the gap between policies, the scientific community and society as a whole. It further aims at promoting and enhancing the coordination of scientific research within and among UN agencies and such agencies as are concerned with international migration.

## **Membership/Governing board**

The General Conference is the supreme organ and determines the policies and the main lines of work of the Organization and approves the budget. It consists of the representatives of the 188 States Members of the Organization. It meets every two years, and is attended by Member States and Associate Members, together with observers for non-Member States, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

The General Conference also elects the Executive Board (58 members), which is responsible for the execution of the programme adopted by the General Conference and meets generally twice a year.

## **Contact information**

UNESCO

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France

Telephone: +33-1-45-68-10-00

Homepage: <http://www.unesco.org>

Homepage Migration section: <http://www.unesco.org/most/migration>

# **World Health Organization (WHO)**

## **Status and mandate**

The principal objective of the WHO is to attain the highest possible level of health and well-being for all. In the framework of its corporate strategy, WHO pursues four strategic aims: (1) reducing excess mortality, morbidity and disability, especially in poor and marginalized populations; (2) promoting healthy lifestyles and reducing risk factors to human health from environmental, economic, social and behavioural causes; (3) developing health systems able to improve health equitably and regardless of social and economic status, and respond to peoples' legitimate demands and expectations and (4) developing an enabling policy and institutional environment in the health sector, and promoting an effective health dimension in social, economic, environmental and development policies. The organization conducts a wide range of functions: it acts as the directing and coordinating authority on international health work; it promotes technical cooperation; it assists governments to strengthen their health services; sets international health standards and provides technical assistance. In addition, WHO is engaged in professional training and research on health and health-related issues. WHO is also mandated to provide, or to assist in providing, health services and facilities to special groups upon request by the United Nations.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Labour migration (migration of health professionals)
- Health
- Refugees
- Internally displaced

## **Migration-related activities**

Migration issues underlie the entire spectrum of WHO's health work. Some specific examples include: (1) defining health priorities in emergency response; (2) health and nutrition assessment; (3) prevention and control of communicable diseases; (4) reproductive health; (5) mental health and psychosocial welfare; (6) health-systems development and monitoring; (7) training of local and NGO staff; (8) epidemiological surveillance and (9) migration of health professionals.

WHO is currently engaged in a literature review, the development of a primary health data base, a survey of patterns and trends, the analysis of factors affecting the motivation to migrate and the development of policy options for managing the impact of migration on the provision of health services and on health-care systems in general. The impact of the Global Agreements on Trade and Services (GATS) on the international movement of health professionals is also being studied within WHO, with a view to preparing appropriate advice to Member States on trade negotiations relevant to health issues.

## **Membership/Governing board**

The World Health Assembly is WHO's supreme decision-making organ. It generally meets in Geneva in May each year, and is attended by delegations from all 191 Member States. Its main function is to determine the policies of the Organization. The Executive Board is composed of 32 members who are technically qualified in the field of health, and who are elected

for three-year terms. The main functions of the Board are to give effect to the decisions and policies of the Health Assembly, to advise it and generally to facilitate its work.

### **Contact information**

WHO

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Switzerland

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Homepage: <http://www.who.int>

# **World Bank (International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, also IBRD)**

## **Status and mandate**

Founded in 1944, the World Bank Group, which includes the IBRD, the International Development Association, the International Finance Corporations, the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency and the International Centre for the Settlement of Investment Disputes, is one of the world's largest sources of development assistance. Through its loans, policy advice and technical assistance, the World Bank supports a broad range of programmes aimed at reducing poverty and improving living standards in the developing world by investing effectively in people and basic health and education. The Bank works with government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector to formulate assistance strategies, and to individually help each developing country onto a path of stable, environmentally friendly and equitable growth.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Labour migration
- Remittances
- Development



- Health
- Population
- Refugees

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

Migration is addressed in four of the bank's main activities: (1) economic sector work; (2) policy dialogue; (3) project preparation and (4) lending. Economic Sector Work comprises the actions and research related to the interplay between migration and development, particularly through remittances and labour migration. Policy Dialogue addresses the issues arising from significant movements and the interdependence of developing countries' economies. In Project Preparation, the IBRD considers migration and its effects on large-scale social projects (for instance, in an education project in the Russian Federation). International migration also figures in the Bank's lending programmes. Furthermore, the Bank is also a significant source of financing for post-conflict Disarmament, Demobilization and Rehabilitation activities (DDR), with a unit devoted exclusively to that area of work.

## **Membership/Governing board**

The World Bank Group has 183 Member States. Each Member State is represented in a Board of Governors. The Governors carry ultimate decision-making power in the World Bank. They meet annually to decide on key policy issues, admit or suspend country Members, decide on changes in the authorized capital stock, determine the distribution of the Bank's net income, and endorse financial statements and budgets.

The World Bank currently has 24 Executive Directors. Five of these represent the Member State holding the largest number of shares: France, Germany, Japan, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. The other 19 Executive Directors represent constituencies; each is elected by a country or group of countries every two years.

## **Contact information**

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USA  
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Homepage: <http://www.worldbank.org/>

**OTHER  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL  
ORGANIZATIONS**



# **International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)**

## **Mandate**

ICMPD is an intergovernmental organization based in Vienna, created in 1993 at the initiative of Switzerland and Austria. The purpose of the Centre is to promote the development of comprehensive and sustainable migration policies and to function as a service exchange mechanism for governments and organizations primarily on European migration issues.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Irregular migration
- Entry, border control
- Refugees
- Trafficking and smuggling
- Return
- Asylum
- Forced migration
- Integration
- Reintegration

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

ICMPD acts as the Secretariat for the Budapest Process, which deals with combating illegal migration and involves more than 40 States and 10 international organizations. It also cooperates closely with UNHCR and the European Commission, which is also a major donor, UN/CICP, Europol, Interpol, IGC (Intergovernmental Consultations), IOM and many other organizations.

ICMPD's focus is on appropriate policy development and a long-term approach to migration management issues in Europe. It functions in addition to the existing EU structures. The Centre's core activities are: (1) Source Country Information System, supporting sustainable return and the assessment of asylum claims; (2) studies and research on topics such as the relation between organized crime and illegal migration; (3) Temporary Protection Systems, the structure and effects of return and integration policies, comparable migration statistics, Roma migration, harmonization of visa policies across Europe and (4) training, capacity building and support of national migration policy development efforts.

## **Membership/Governing board**

The full ICMPD members are: Austria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovenia and Switzerland with a total of 26 governments supporting the Centre in financial and other ways. Negotiations with six additional European countries for full membership are underway.

## **Contact information**

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Homepage: <http://www.icmpd.org>

# **Interpol**

## **Mandate**

Interpol provides support to organizations, government authorities and services in their efforts to detect and prevent international crime. To that end, Interpol (1) provides both a global perspective and a regional focus; (2) exchanges information that is timely, accurate, relevant and complete; (3) facilitates international cooperation; (4) coordinates joint operational activities of Member countries and (5) makes available know-how, expertise and good practice.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Trafficking in human beings, particularly children
- Smuggling of migrants

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

Interpol has refocused its activities and made counter-trafficking in human beings one of its four most important crime-prevention programmes. One of the two major elements of the trafficking in human beings programme is to encourage and promote best practice in prevention and law enforcement in order to protect children from all forms of neglect, abuse and exploitation. Interpol has a dedicated department – Trafficking of Human Beings sub-directorate to



address this issue. In addition, the Interpol Specialist Group on Crimes Against Children meets twice a year, bringing together law enforcement officers from every continent to exchange information, develop working relationships and to agree on and implement operational programmes. The group focuses on developing and promoting best practices in the following specific crime areas: child prostitution, child pornography, missing children and trafficking in children, and the recently added focus on sex offenders.

## **Membership/Governing board**

The General Assembly is INTERPOL's supreme organ, composed of delegates appointed by the governments of its 179 Member States. It meets once a year and takes all the major decisions concerning general policy, the resources needed for international cooperation, working methods, finances and activities. It also elects the Executive Committee. The Assembly takes decisions by a simple majority in the form of resolutions. Each Member State represented has one vote. The role of the Executive Committee is to: (1) supervise the execution of the decisions of the General Assembly; (2) prepare the agenda for sessions of the General Assembly; (3) propose to the General Assembly programmes of work or projects and (4) assist the Secretary General in his work.

<<http://www.interpol.int/Public/Icpo/Members/>>

## **Contact Information**

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Homepage: <http://www.interpol.int/>  
Children and Human Trafficking Operation "Cathedral":  
[children@interpol.int](mailto:children@interpol.int)

# **International Organization for Migration (IOM)**

## **Mandate**

IOM is the principal intergovernmental organization dedicated exclusively to addressing the full range of migration-related issues. IOM acts with its partners in the international community to assist in meeting the growing operational challenges of migration management; to advance understanding of migration issues; to encourage social and economic development through migration and to uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants. Established in 1951 as the Intergovernmental Committee on European Migration to facilitate the transportation and settlement of refugees and displaced persons in the wake of the Second World War, and to alleviate the population surplus relative to employment opportunities in Europe, IOM's membership, mandate and activities have grown to encompass migration policy, programmes and activities throughout the world, carried out at Headquarters together with a network of over 150 country missions worldwide. By now, IOM's mandate, activities and Membership have assumed a global dimension.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Labour migration
- Remittances
- Development
- Rights of migrants
- Health
- Population and demography
- Internally displaced
- Gender/migration of women
- Globalization and migration
- Integration
- Reintegration
- Refugees
- Trafficking and smuggling
- Entry, border control
- Return
- Asylum
- Forced migration
- Irregular migration

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

The primary objectives pursued by IOM are to: facilitate the organized transfer of migrants, refugees, displaced persons and other individuals in need of international migration assistance, and voluntary return migration; provide, at the request of the States concerned, migration services and to provide a forum for the exchange of views and experiences by governments and international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned with migration. IOM assists governments and migrants by providing, i.a., (1) a humanitarian response to sudden migration flows; (2) post-emergency return and reintegration programmes; (3) assisted voluntary return for irregular migrants and rejected asylum seekers; (4) assistance to migrants on their way to new homes and lives; (5) facilitation of labour migration; (6) recruitment of highly qualified nationals for return to their countries of origin; (7) aid to migrants in distress; (8) institutional capacity building for governments and the training of officials; (9) measures to combat trafficking in

persons; (10) medical and public health programmes for migrants; (11) mass information and education programmes on migration; (12) research related to migration management and (13) policy dialogue and guidance on managing migration. IOM's activities are carried out in cooperation with governments, international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and migrants.

IOM's forum activities include promotion of dialogue and information exchange on migration at regional and international levels. Regional activities include the promotion of and, in some cases secretariat support to, regional consultative processes on migration worldwide. At the global level IOM launched an "International Dialogue on Migration Policy" in 2001, which is aimed at enhancing the general understanding of migration dynamics and issues, and reinforcing cooperation in addressing them. This dialogue includes IOM's Members and observers, including its partners among intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

## **Membership/Governing board**

IOM has 93 Member and 36 Observer States. Thirty-one intergovernmental and 32 international non-governmental also attend IOM's governing Council as observers. The IOM's principal organs are: the Council, the Executive Committee and the Administration. The Council determines the policies of the Organization, reviews and approves the programme, the budget, the expenditure and the accounts of the Organization, and elects a Director General and a deputy Director General for a five-year term. The Council is composed of representatives of each Member State. Each Member State has one vote. The Executive Committee is composed of the representatives of 16 Member States elected for two years. The Executive Committee advises the Council and the Director General. It examines IOM administrative, policy and programme activities and refers its recommendations to the Council for decision.

<[http://www.iom.int/en/who/main\\_Members.shtml](http://www.iom.int/en/who/main_Members.shtml)>

## **Contact information**

International Organization for Migration (IOM)  
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Homepage: <http://www.iom.int/>

# **Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)**

## **Status and mandate**

The OECD (until 1961 OEEC) groups 30 member countries which share a commitment to good governance in the public service and in corporate activity to discuss, develop and refine economic and social policies. They compare experiences, seek answers to common problems and work to coordinate domestic and international policies to help members and non-members deal with an increasingly globalized world. Best known for its publications and its statistics, its work covers economic and social issues from macroeconomics, to trade, education, development and science and innovation. The OECD produces international agreements, decisions and recommendations to promote standards or guidelines in areas where coordinated multilateral action is necessary for individual countries to be able to progress in a globalized economy.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Labour migration
- Population and demography
- Development

- Population
- Integration
- Asylum

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

The analysis of trends in international migration undertaken by the OECD includes the monitoring and analysis of trends in migration, focusing on the economic and social aspects of migration and on the control and regulation of flows; the integration of immigrants and international cooperation in the control of irregular migration flows and the achievement of greater coherence between migration policies and other policies related to economic development, as well as cooperation between sending and receiving countries.

A special focus is on the economic aspects of migration, including the effects of migration on wages, employment, labour shortages, on output, growth and productivity, as well as on public finance. Reports on individual Member States' experiences and policies are compiled as part of the OECD's country surveillance for selected Member countries.

Statistics on stocks and flows of migrants are compiled through the OECD's Continuous Reporting System on Migration (SOPEMI), and its annual report *Trends in International Migration* analyses recent trends in migration movements, the channels used and the policies adopted in OECD countries and beyond.

## **Membership/Governing board**

The Council is the supreme decision-making body, which is composed of one representative of each of the 30 member countries, as well as a representative of the European Commission. It meets at ministerial level once a year, when foreign, finance and other ministers from member countries discuss important issues and set priorities for OECD work over

the coming year. With active relationships with some 70 other countries, NGOs and civil society associations, it has a global reach.

(<http://www.oecd.org/oecd/pages/home/displaygeneral/0,3380,EN-countrylist-0-nodirectorate-no-no-159-0,00.html>)

### **Contact information**

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Homepage: <http://www.oecd.org>



# **Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)**

## **Status and mandate**

The OSCE is the largest regional security organization with 55 participating States from Europe, Central Asia and North America. Its activities range from early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation to a wide range of security-related issues, including arms control, preventive diplomacy, confidence- and security-building measures, human rights, democratization, election monitoring and economic and environmental security.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Rights of migrants
- Entry/border control
- Internally displaced
- Gender (human rights of women)
- Reintegration (property restitution for returnees)
- Trafficking
- Irregular movements

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

As regards migration related issues, the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), which is the principal institution responsible for the promotion of human rights and democracy in the OSCE area, is of special interest. It promotes democratic processes through supervision of national elections and assistance projects aimed at strengthening democratic institutions. It assists with the training of border officials in human rights standards, and by advising on legislation concerning internal displacement and property restitution for returnees. ODIHR is also involved in formulating follow-up activities to the May 1996 Geneva Conference on Population Movements in the countries of the CIS. Its activities include the training of border guards and other relevant state officials in international human rights standards; assisting participating States in the development of migration legislation and the protection of the rights of migrants and of internally displaced persons.

Acknowledging that stable democratic processes requires the equal status and contribution of women, gender issues have become an integral part of the ODIHR concerns. Thus, the ODIHR Gender Unit focuses both on projects concerning the human rights of women, and the gender mainstreaming of ODIHR and OSCE activities. Furthermore, ODIHR has launched a number of anti-trafficking initiatives and has established the function of an Adviser on Trafficking Issues to help the OSCE to define its role in international efforts to combat trafficking. An Office of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities was established in 1992 to identify and seek early resolution of ethnic tensions that might endanger peace, stability or friendly relations between OSCE participating States.

## **Membership/Governing board**

The OSCE provides a forum for consultation and negotiation among the participating States. Its supreme decision-making

bodies are: the Permanent Council – the main regular decision-making body of the Organization; the Forum for Security Co-operation, which takes decisions on military aspects of security in the OSCE area; the Senior Council/Economic Forum, which focuses on economic and environmental factors that affect security in the OSCE area and Summits – periodic meetings of OSCE Heads of State or Government to set priorities and provide orientation at the highest political level; Ministerial Council – a meeting of OSCE Foreign Ministers convened between summits to review OSCE activities.

<[http://www.osce.org/general/participating\\_states/partstat.htm](http://www.osce.org/general/participating_states/partstat.htm)>

## **Contact information**

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Homepage: <http://www.osce.org/>

# **World Trade Organization (WTO)**

## **Mandate**

The WTO is a global international organization dealing with the rules of trade between nations. Its overriding objective is to help international trade to flow smoothly, freely, fairly and predictably. It does this by administering trade agreements, acting as a forum for trade negotiations, settling trade disputes, reviewing national trade policies, assisting developing and transition countries in trade policy issues, through technical assistance and training programmes, providing specialized help for export promotion, and by cooperating with other international organizations. WTO's main functions have to do with trade negotiations and the enforcement of negotiated multilateral trade rules, and the settlement of disputes.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Labour migration (temporary movement of individuals)
- Development

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

The issue of migration, particularly the temporary movement of skilled professionals, has special status within the WTO, and

is referred to in the General Agreement on Trade and Services as the fourth “mode of delivery”. Hence, the WTO facilitates negotiations on the temporary movement of labour in specified circumstances and an individual’s right to stay temporarily in another country for the purpose of providing services under the GATS.

### **Membership/Governing board**

The WTO has 144 members, who together account for over 97 per cent of world trade. Its supreme decision-making body is the Ministerial Conference which meets at least once every two years. Below this is the General Council, which meets several times a year. Decisions are taken by the entire Membership, typically by consensus. A majority vote is also possible but it has as yet not been used. WTO rules are enforced by the Members themselves under negotiated and agreed procedures and it is they who impose sanctions, not the organization.

[http://www.wto.org/english/thewto\\_e/whatis\\_e/tif\\_e/org6\\_e.htm](http://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/tif_e/org6_e.htm)

### **Contact information**

World Trade Organization  
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Switzerland  
Homepage: <http://www.wto.org/>



**REGIONAL  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL  
ORGANIZATIONS**





# **African Union (AU)**

## **Mandate**

Previously known under the name of Organization of African Unity (OAU), its Member States adopted the draft Constitutive Act establishing the African Union in July 2000 in Lome, Togo, which was officially launched in Durban, South Africa, on 9 July 2002 to replace the OAU. In conformity with the objectives of the Charter of the OAU, the Constitutive Act establishes a Union with the aim to achieve greater unity and solidarity; accelerate political and socio-economic integration and international cooperation, while upholding the sovereign equality and independence of its members.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Development
- Health
- Integration
- Internally displaced
- Population and demography
- Refugees
- Return
- Reintegration
- Rights of migrants

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

Owing to the recent establishment of the AU, any information on projects and programmes related to migration was not yet available at the time of this publication. Within the overall mandate of the African Union, migration and migration-related issues are discussed by the responsible departments of the Secretariat under the existing portfolios for implementation, monitoring and follow-up.

## **Membership/Governing board<sup>6</sup>**

The African Union is composed of 53 Member States.

The AU consists of the following organs: (1) The Assembly is made up of the Heads of State or Government of all Member States, and is the most important decision-making body of the Union. The Assembly decides on common policies for the union, considers applications for membership, adopts the budget and directs the procedure for conflict resolution. It also appoints the judges for the Court of Justice. (2) The Executive Council is made up of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Member States and is accountable to the Assembly. The Council decides on matters such as foreign trade, social security, food, agriculture and communications. It prepares material for the Assembly to discuss and approve. (3) The Permanent Representatives Committee is composed of Ambassadors to the AU and is responsible for the preparation of the work for the Executive Council. (4) The Commission forms the Secretariat of the AU and is made up of a Chairman, a Deputy and eight Commissioners. It deals with administrative issues and implements the decisions of the Union. It is responsible for coordinating AU activities and meetings. (5) Specialized Technical Committees deal with monetary and financial issues, the rural economy, trade, immigration, industry

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<sup>6</sup> The Institutional Structure described has not been ratified at the time of this publication.

and science and technology. They are responsible for the implementation of projects and programmes of the Union. (6) The Pan-African Parliament will consist of elected representatives nominated from the five regions of Africa. It will ensure civil society participation in the AU processes. (7) The Court of Justice will rule on human rights abuses in Africa based upon a legal statute or framework, which is yet to be determined. (8) The Economic, Social and Cultural Council performs an advisory function and is composed of professional and civic representatives. (9) Financial Institutions. Three financial institutions will be set up under the auspices of the AU to provide funding for projects and programmes. They are: the African Central Bank, the African Monetary Fund and the African Investment Bank. (10) The Peace and Security Council will have 15 members responsible for monitoring and intervening in conflicts. The Council will be financed through a peace fund and will be advised by a council of elders.

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# **Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)**

## **Mandate**

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations or ASEAN was established in August 1967 in Bangkok to: (1) accelerate the economic growth, social progress and cultural development in the region through joint endeavours in the spirit of equality and partnership in order to strengthen the foundation for a prosperous and peaceful community of Southeast Asian nations and (2) promote regional peace and stability through abiding respect for justice and the rule of law in the relationship among countries in the region and adherence to the principles of the United Nations Charter.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Entry, border control
- Globalization and migration
- Trafficking and smuggling
- Labour migration

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

The ASEAN Plan of Action on Immigration Matters was adopted by the ASEAN Directors-General of Immigration Departments and Heads of Consular Affairs Divisions of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs (DGICM) in October 2000. This plan serves as the institutional framework for ASEAN cooperation on immigration. Its objective is to forge and strengthen cooperation among Member States on migration with a view to establishing an effective network to promote the modernization of immigration facilities, systems and operations, as well as to upgrade human resource capabilities and the capacity of immigration officials to support the combating of transnational crime, especially the trafficking in persons. The 4<sup>th</sup> DGICM also adopted the ASEAN Directory of Immigration Focal Points, which identifies the key office holders in the immigration establishments of ASEAN Member States.

An Exchange of Views on irregular migration was held by the 5<sup>th</sup> DGICM in 2001, in order to achieve a regional approach for combating trafficking in persons, especially women and children.

In 2002, the DGICM adopted a comprehensive Work Programme detailing practical initiatives and measures to be carried out by all Member States and aimed towards enhancing information exchange.

## **Membership/Governing board**

Founding Members of ASEAN are Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand. These five countries were later joined by Brunei Darussalam (1984), Viet Nam (1995), Lao People's Democratic Republic (1997) and Cambodia (1999). The highest decision-making organ of ASEAN is the Meeting of the ASEAN Heads of State and Government, which convenes annually. The ASEAN Ministerial Meeting of Foreign Ministers is also held on an annual basis, with ministerial meetings on a variety of other issues as required. The institutional framework

on migration cooperation adopted at the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the DGICM accorded to the DGICM authority on immigration control matters as the highest policy making body within ASEAN. The DGICM meets formally at least once a year, and informally as necessary, with the chairmanship rotating in alphabetical order among the ASEAN Member States. The DGICM reports to the ASEAN Heads of Government Summit through the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (AMM) and the ASEAN Standing Committee (ASC). In addition, Ministries of labour regularly meet to discuss labour migration.

### **Contact information**

ASEAN

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# **Council of Europe (COE)**

## **Mandate**

The Council of Europe is an intergovernmental organization which aims to: protect human rights, pluralist democracy and the rule of law; promote awareness and encourage the development of Europe's cultural identity and diversity; seek solutions to problems facing European society (discrimination against minorities, xenophobia, intolerance, environmental degradation, human cloning, HIV/AIDS, drugs, organized crime, etc.) and help to consolidate democratic stability in Europe by supporting political, legislative and constitutional reform.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Labour migration
- Population and demography
- Gender/migration of women
- Integration
- Refugees
- Trafficking
- Forced migration
- Asylum
- Irregular movements

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

The European Committee on Migration (CDMG) is the main intergovernmental body dealing with migration issues within the Council of Europe. Its terms of reference are to develop European cooperation on migration, on social integration of populations of migrant origin and refugees, and community relations. The Ad Hoc Committee on the Legal Aspects of Territorial Asylum, Refugees and Stateless Persons (CAHAR) monitors developments in the field of asylum, refugees and stateless persons. It monitors progress at the United Nations and other international organizations and institutions, whether international or regional. It prepares conventions and recommendations for discussion and adoption by the Committee of Ministers. CAHAR also searches for concrete solutions aimed at the harmonization of rules and practices which are applied in Europe in matters of asylum policy. Furthermore, the COE's Committee of Ministers as well as the Parliamentary Assembly adopt recommendations containing policy guidelines regarding migration issues.

## **Membership/Governing board**

COE has 44 Member States and seven special observers. The Committee of Ministers is the supreme decision-making body, composed of the foreign affairs ministers of all the Member States (or their Permanent Representatives). The Parliamentary Assembly is the main deliberative body, the members of which are appointed by national parliaments. The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe acts as a consultative body for its constituents.

([http://www.coe.int/T/E/Communication\\_and\\_Research/Contacts\\_with\\_the\\_public/About\\_Council\\_of\\_Europe/An\\_overview/](http://www.coe.int/T/E/Communication_and_Research/Contacts_with_the_public/About_Council_of_Europe/An_overview/))



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# **Organization of American States (OAS)**

## **Mandate<sup>7</sup>**

The OAS, established in 1948, aims to: (1) strengthen the peace and security of the continent; (2) promote and consolidate representative democracy with due respect for the principle of non-intervention; (3) prevent possible causes of difficulties and ensure the pacific settlement of disputes that may arise among the Member States; (4) provide for common action on the part of those States in the event of aggression; (5) seek the solution of political, juridical, and economic problems that may arise among them; (6) promote, by cooperative action, their economic, social, and cultural development; (7) eradicate extreme poverty, which constitutes an obstacle to the full democratic development of the peoples of the hemisphere and (8) achieve an effective limitation of conventional weapons that will make it possible to devote the largest amount of resources to the economic and social development of Member States.

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<sup>7</sup> In 1948, at the Ninth International American Conference, participants signed the OAS Charter and the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man, the first international expression of human rights principles. However, the OAS Charter was substantially reformed through the ratification of the Protocol of Washington in 1997. The Mandate includes such reforms.

The OAS acts as a legal framework that brings together government leaders from Member States to cooperate at the regional level on education, justice, security and other related issues, including migration.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Rights of migrants
- Labour migration
- Globalization and migration
- Irregular movements
- Integration

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

Created in 1958, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR),<sup>8</sup> based in Washington, D.C., and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (1978), located in San José, Costa Rica, together provide recourse to people who have suffered human rights violations. The Commission also reports on the status of human rights in member countries and focuses attention on specific issues such as freedom of expression, the rights of indigenous peoples and migrants' rights.

In 2000, the IACHR and the IOM signed an institutional Cooperation Agreement designed to consolidate hemispheric efforts to improve the promotion and protection of the rights of migrants in general, and especially those of migrant workers and their family members. To this end, IACHR established the Special Rapporteurship on Migrant Workers and Members of their Families. The IACHR explicitly limited the scope of action of the

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<sup>8</sup> The IACHR is an autonomous organ of the Organization of American States (OAS). Its mandate is found in the OAS Charter and the American Convention on Human Rights. The IACHR represents all of the Member States of the OAS. It has seven Members who act independently, without representing any particular country. The Members of the IACHR are elected by the General Assembly of the OAS.

Special Rapporteur to migrant workers and their families who have moved beyond the borders of their country of origin. The purpose of the Special Rapporteur is to raise awareness of the need to fully respect the human rights of migrant workers and their families; to formulate specific recommendations to Member States regarding the protection and promotion of the human rights of migrant workers in order to foster progress; to prepare special reports and studies and to act promptly on any petitions and communications citing violation of the rights of migrant workers and Members of their families in any OAS Member state.

At the XII Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labour of the Organization of American States, held in Ottawa, Canada, in October 2001, issues related to globalization which affect employment and labour in the Americas were addressed. In the Declaration of Ottawa, OAS Member States committed themselves to improve working conditions for all, including migrant workers, and to pay special attention to conditions in the informal sector, in order to provide migrant workers within OAS States with the same legal protection regarding working conditions as for nationals. A Plan of Action based on this Declaration has been developed, including methods and procedures for the development, compilation, and analysis of labour information, as well as collaboration with employer and worker organizations to develop and generate information on labour markets and foster tripartite consultations to address labour and workplace issues.

## **Membership/Governing board**

All 35 States of the Americas have ratified the OAS Charter and belong to the Organization. Cuba remains a Member, but its government has been excluded from participation in the OAS since 1962. Each Member State has one vote. Major policies and directions are established by the General Assembly, which brings together the hemisphere's foreign ministers once a year. The Permanent Council, which meets regularly at OAS headquarters in Washington, deals with ongoing political and administrative issues. Each Member State appoints an ambassador to sit on the

Permanent Council, which takes cognizance of any matter referred to it by the General Assembly or the Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, as well as any matter brought to its attention by the Secretary General on issues related to peace and security in the Hemisphere or the development of Member States. The OAS General Secretariat carries out the programmes and policies set by the General Assembly and the councils.

### **Contact information**

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# **South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)**

## **Mandate**

At their meeting in Dhaka in 1985, South Asian Heads of State and Government adopted the Charter formally establishing the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). Its objectives, principles and general provisions are: (1) to promote the welfare of the peoples of South Asia and to improve their quality of life; (2) to accelerate economic growth, social progress and cultural development in the region and to provide all individuals with the opportunity to live in dignity and to realize their full potential; (3) to promote and strengthen collective self-reliance among the countries of South Asia; (4) to contribute to mutual trust, understanding and appreciation of one another's problems; (5) to promote active collaboration and mutual assistance in the economic, social, cultural, technical and scientific fields; (6) to strengthen cooperation with other developing countries; (7) to strengthen cooperation among themselves in international forums on matters of common interests and (8) to cooperate with international and regional organizations with similar aims and purposes.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Health
- Trafficking and smuggling
- Rights of migrants
- Reintegration
- Return

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

Among SAARC's objectives is the acceleration of social progress and active collaboration and mutual assistance among Member States in the social field. Concerned about the trafficking of women and children within and between countries of the region, Member States signed a Regional Convention on Combating the Crime of Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution in 2002 at their Eleventh Summit in Kathmandu. Member States agreed on the following measures: (1) to ensure the confidentiality of the child and women and to provide appropriate counselling and legal assistance; (2) to provide mutual legal assistance among Member States in respect of investigations; (3) to facilitate extradition and prosecution; (4) to prevent trafficking in women and children and (5) to make suitable provisions for the care and maintenance of victims of trafficking.

## **Membership/Governing board**

The SAARC has seven Member States: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Decisions are taken on the basis of unanimity. The highest authority rests with the Heads of State or Government, who meet annually at Summit level. Comprised of Foreign Ministers of Member States, the Council is responsible for formulating policies; reviewing progress; deciding on new areas of cooperation; establishing additional mechanisms as deemed necessary and deciding on other matters of general interest to the Association. The Standing

Committee, which comprises the Foreign Secretaries of Member States is entrusted with the overall monitoring and coordination of programmes, the approval of projects and programmes and the modalities of financing; determining inter-sectoral priorities, mobilizing regional and external resources and identifying new areas of cooperation.

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# **European Union**

Given the European Union's unique institutional structure, which sets it apart from the traditional international organizations, we have reserved a separate entry for it in this compilation. EU Member States delegate sovereignty to common institutions representing the interests of the Union as a whole on questions of joint interest. All decisions and procedures are derived from the basic treaties ratified by the Member States. The principal objectives of the Union are to: establish European citizenship (fundamental rights, freedom of movement, civil and political rights); ensure freedom, security and justice (cooperation in the field of Justice and Home Affairs) and promote economic and social progress (single market, a common currency, job creation, regional development, environmental protection).

## **EU System**

The European Union is built on an institutional system in which Member States delegate sovereignty for certain matters to independent institutions which represent the interests of the Union as a whole. The European Commission, composed of Members from each of the EU Member States is one such institution. Another is the Council of the European Union in which each national government is represented, generally by its Foreign Minister. The European Parliament is the only community body directly elected by EU citizens. This "institutional triangle" of Commission, Council and Parliament is flanked by two more institutions - the Court of Justice and the

Court of Auditors – and five other European bodies. In addition, 13 specialized agencies have been set up to handle certain essentially technical, scientific, or management tasks. (See <http://www.europa.eu.int/inst-en.htm>)

Each institution of the EU is involved in dealing with migration matters falling within its competence, there is no overall migration agency responsible for migration matters in the EU. They are assisted by special agencies.

## **Migration at the EU level**

The objective of the EU with regard to migration is to maintain and develop the Union as an area of freedom, security and justice, in which the free movement of persons is assured in conjunction with appropriate measures regarding external border controls, immigration, asylum and the prevention and combating of crime.<sup>9</sup>

EU policy on asylum, the free movement of persons, visa, the rules governing the crossing of external borders, immigration and the rights of third-country nationals have become areas of full Community responsibility with the coming into force of the Treaty of Amsterdam on 1 May 1999.

Before the Treaty of Amsterdam, the most significant development on the free movement of persons within Europe was achieved through the conclusion of the Schengen Agreements and the Dublin Convention. The Schengen Agreements abolished the control of identity cards and passports for crossing the internal frontiers between States Parties. They also aim at reinforcing the security of citizens by improving police, judicial and administrative cooperation between the Member States and establishing a common information system, the Schengen Information System (SIS). The SIS deals with

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<sup>9</sup> Treaty on the European Union, Article 2.

information concerning the entry of third-country nationals, issuing visas and police cooperation. The Treaty of Amsterdam has included the Schengen “acquis” in Title IV of the EC Treaty.

Based on the Schengen Agreement, the Convention on the Right of Asylum and the Status for Refugees Community (Dublin Convention) was drafted signed by all the Member States of the European Union. According to the Convention, the decision of the EU Member States in which an asylum claim is filled and processed is binding on all others.

The European Council in Tampere (1999) gave EU proceedings in Justice and Home Affairs (JHA) an external dimension, with the objective of establishing, by 2004, a European Area of Security Justice and Freedom.<sup>10</sup>

## **EU Member States**

Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (further enlargement to the following Central and East European countries: Hungary, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Slovenia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta and Cyprus is scheduled for 1 January 2004).

## **Contact information**

Homepage: <http://europa.eu.int/>

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<sup>10</sup> The European Council brings together the Heads of State or Government of the Member States and the President of the Commission. The European Council defines the general political guidelines for the development of the EU.

# Council of the European Union<sup>11</sup>

## Mandate

The Council of the European Union is formed by representatives of each Member State at ministerial level. As the Community's legislative body the Council serves for a wide range of Community issues:

- It exercises legislative power, in many areas in co-decision with the European Parliament;
- It coordinates the general economic policies of the Member States;
- It concludes, on behalf of the Community, international agreements between the latter and one or more States or international organizations. (With respect to external trade, however, the European Commission is empowered to negotiate and conclude trade agreements with third countries);
- The Council and the European Parliament constitute the budgetary authority that adopts the Community's budget;

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<sup>11</sup> The Council of the European Union should not be confused with the "European Council" or with the "Council of Europe".

- It takes the decisions necessary for defining and implementing the common foreign and security policy on the basis of general guidelines established by the European Council;
- It coordinates the activities of Member States and adopts measures in the field of police and judicial cooperation in criminal matters.

### **Migration-related issues<sup>12</sup>**

- Refugees
- Trafficking and smuggling
- Entry/border control (Integrated Border Management)
- Integration
- Return
- Asylum
- Irregular migration
- Labour migration
- Rights of migrants

### **Migration-related programmes and activities**

As the major decision making body of the EU, the Council issues legally binding norms on migration issues transferred to the jurisdiction of Community Law. The treaty of Amsterdam transferred a large proportion of the policy area of Justice and Home Affairs into Community law, which gives the European Commission the right of initiative and provides the European Parliament with the possibility to give opinions on the EU Council legislative acts. The primary migration policy-activity currently is a review of legislation leading to an eventual harmonization of migration related policies at the EU level.

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<sup>12</sup> The Council considers any migration issues referred to it by the Commission. To date, these issues have been primarily considered.

## **Governing board/Policy-decision making**

In migration related matters, the Council generally acts by unanimous vote.

## **Contact information**

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# European Union Commission

## Mandate

The European Commission is the guardian of the Treaty establishing the EU. The President and Members of the Commission are appointed by Member States after they have been approved by the European Parliament. However, the EC officials act as EC public servants, independently of their countries of nationality.

The Commission is the driving force in the Union's institutional system:

- It has the right to initiate draft legislation and therefore presents legislative proposals to Parliament and the Council;
- As the Union's executive body, it is responsible for implementing the European legislation (directives, regulations, decisions etc.), budget and programmes adopted by the Council and EP;
- It acts as guardian of the Treaties and, together with the Court of Justice, ensures that Community law is properly applied;
- It represents the Union on the international stage and negotiates international agreements, chiefly in the field of trade and cooperation.

Generally, the Commission as a whole has the sole authority to endorse initiatives which can be fed into the legislative process of

the EU. Regarding JHA, Member States still retain the right of initiative. The Commission also funds and conducts research, and issues publications on various themes. Since the Commission's role is to be "the guardian of the treaties", it also plays a strong role in monitoring the implementation of policies of the Member States.

## **Migration-related issues, programmes and activities**

The Directorates General (DGs) dealing with migration-related issues are DG Justice and Home Affairs, DG Development, DG Employment and Social Affairs, DG Enlargement, DG Research, Eurostat, and DG External Relations (RELEX). The activities of the different DGs vary to a very large extent. In the subsequent sections, the DGs are discussed separately.

## **Governing board**

The European Commission is composed of 20 Commissioners, who are approximately comparable to Ministers at the national state level and 21 DGs whose roles resemble those of Secretaries of State.

The Commission is reappointed every five years, within six months of the elections to the European Parliament. This interval gives the new Parliament time to approve the Commission President proposed by the Member States, before the President designate constitutes his future team, in collaboration with the governments of the Member States. Parliament then gives its opinion on the entire college through a process of approval. Once accepted by the Parliament, the new Commission can officially start work the following January.

## **Contact information**

Homepage: [http://europa.eu.int/comm/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/index_en.htm)



# 1) DG Justice and Home Affairs

## **Mandate**

The role of the Directorate-General for “Justice and Home Affairs” is closely linked to one of the major objectives of the European Union, namely to ensure that the whole European Union is an “area of freedom, security and justice” (AFSJ). The Tampere Summit in 1999 decided that a major focus of the DG for Justice and Home Affairs should be on more efficient management of migration flows, on more effective external border controls and on combating illegal immigration.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Labour migration
- Integration
- Refugees
- Trafficking
- Return
- Asylum
- Irregular migration
- Entry/border control (Integrated Border Management)

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

The DG JHA funds a variety of different programmes related to migration.

In order to complete its main function of drafting proposals for EU legislation, the DG JHA produces documents related to the whole spectrum of migration-related issues.

These include studies and proposals relating to: (1) police and customs cooperation (cooperation with countries of origin and transit of migrants and asylum seekers. High Level Working Group); (2) fight against organized crime; (3) immigration and asylum; (4) judicial cooperation in criminal matters; (5) judicial cooperation in civil matters and (6) coordination on drugs control.

Policies that the Amsterdam Treaty has placed within the European Community system are: external borders, immigration and asylum, and judicial cooperation in civil matters. This places responsibility within the Commission for proposing policies and actions (together with Member States for five years, 1 May 1999 – 30 April 2004) and for executing them upon approval of the Council of the EU. Thus, decision-making in these areas can be streamlined, instead of having to follow intergovernmental procedures.

At Tampere, EU leaders set themselves a series of deadlines for introducing the necessary agreements and legislation that will be needed to put in place such policy efforts. The European Commission was requested to ensure that they honour their commitments. It has therefore devised a special “scoreboard” to monitor progress made in executing the decisions of the Tampere meeting. The scoreboard is updated every six months.

Homepage: [http://europa.eu.int/comm/justice\\_home/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/justice_home/index_en.htm)

## **2) DG External Relations**

### **Mandate**

The mandate of the DG for External Relations (RELEX) with regard to JHA matters includes cross-border cooperation with neighbouring states, internal mobility issues as well as mobility linked to enlargement, human rights and democratization, conflict prevention and regional security. DG RELEX is engaged in a variety of regional programmes and field missions, among others in south-eastern Europe and the Mediterranean region.

### **Migration-related issues**

- Entry/border control
- Labour migration
- Return
- Trafficking

### **Migration-related programmes and activities**

The DG for External Relations deals with bilateral and multilateral activities of international cooperation related to migration, ranging from technical cooperation to funding research.

Homepage: [http://europa.eu.int/comm/external\\_relations/index.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/external_relations/index.htm)

## **3) DG Employment and Social Affairs**

### **Mandate**

The DG for Employment works towards better implementation of the EU Single Market and its associated agreement regarding the free movement of people. This includes intra-European labour migration regulations and the European Employment Strategy.

### **Migration-related issues**

- Labour migration
- Rights of migrants
- Integration

### **Migration-related programmes and activities**

The migration-related activities of the DG fall into two categories: (1) to provide public information about labour migration regulations and (2) to improve and adapt national legislation to the free movement of labour at the EU level. The DG for Employment identifies two fields of action: social exclusion and social discrimination, and combating racism and xenophobia.

Homepage: [http://europa.eu.int/comm/employment\\_social/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/employment_social/index_en.htm)

## **4) DG Development**

### **Mandate**

The main objective of the DG for Development is to reduce and, eventually, to eradicate poverty in developing countries of interest to the EU. This objective entails support for sustainable economic and social and environmental development, and promotion of the progressive integration of the developing countries into the world economy.

### **Migration-related issues**

- Development
- Rights of migrants

### **Migration-related programmes and activities**

Activities linked to migration primarily concern the area of development through, *inter alia*, support for regional integration and cooperation, support for macro-economic policies, transport, food security and sustainable rural development, institutional capacity building, particularly in the area of good governance, and the rule of law.

Homepage: [http://europa.eu.int/comm/development/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/development/index_en.htm))

## **5) DG Enlargement**

### **Mandate**

The task of the DG for Enlargement is to further the integration of the European continent by peaceful means, extending a zone of stability and prosperity to new Members who have applied for accession to the EU.

### **Migration-related issues**

- Labour migration
- Population and demography

### **Migration-related activities**

The DG for Enlargement has conducted several analyses of the impact of enlargement on the labour market and on migratory flows within the European Union.

Homepage: <http://europa.eu.int/comm/enlargement/index.htm>

# **European Parliament**

## **Mandate/Migration-related activities**

Although the European Parliament is not endowed with co-decision powers in JHA matters, it gives formal advice, provides opinions and adopts reports on proposals from the Commission. According to the Amsterdam Treaty, the EU Council must take into account the EP's opinion, when deliberating the Commission's proposals.

The European Parliament consists of representatives of citizens of the EU elected by direct universal suffrage. It has 626 members, who sit according to political groups not national delegations.

## **Contact information**

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**OTHER EU AGENCIES  
WITH AN INTEREST  
IN MIGRATION ISSUES**



# **EU Commission's Humanitarian Aid Office (ECHO)**

## **Mandate**

ECHO's mandate is to provide quick emergency assistance and relief to the victims of natural disasters or armed conflict outside the European Union. The aid is intended to go directly to those in distress, regardless of race, religion or political convictions.

ECHO's task is to ensure that goods and services reach crisis zones quickly. Goods may include essential supplies, specific foodstuffs, medical equipment, medicines and fuel. Services may include medical teams, water purification teams and logistical support. Goods and services reach disaster areas via ECHO partners.

ECHO does not intervene directly on the ground. The assistance it provides is mainly mobilized and implemented by its partners.

Some 200 non-governmental organizations, United Nations agencies and other international bodies are linked to ECHO through a framework of contracts. Relations between ECHO and its partners are governed by Framework Partnership Agreements, the purpose of which is to define roles and responsibilities in the implementation of humanitarian operations financed by the European Community.

The Framework Partnership Agreement contains a Preamble, Provisions, General Conditions, a list of eligible expenses and execution modalities. The Preamble sets out the objectives, principles, values and criteria for humanitarian aid covered by an agreement between the parties. The General Conditions state the rules governing humanitarian operations, which may be adjusted to suit different situations or changing circumstances.

<http://europa.eu.int/comm/echo/en/partners/partners2.htm>

### **Migration-related issues**

- Development
- Internally displaced
- Refugees

### **Migration-related activities**

ECHO is engaged in a wide variety of migration-related activities. The Office carries out feasibility studies and monitors humanitarian projects. It also promotes and coordinates disaster prevention measures by training specialists, and offers technical assistance to partners. ECHO focuses on public awareness work within Europe.

### **Contact information**

Homepage: [http://europa.eu.int/comm/echo/en/index\\_en.html](http://europa.eu.int/comm/echo/en/index_en.html)

# **European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR)**

## **Mandate**

In order to provide a legal basis for all human rights and democratization activities of the EU, the Council adopted the “European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights”, which brought together a series of budget headings specifically dealing with the promotion of human rights. The legal bases of this initiative are the Treaties to which the EU adheres or is a signatory (such as the European Human Rights Convention, the European Charter of Human Rights, etc.).

EIDHR:

- is complementary to the EC programmes carried out with governments, in that it can be implemented with different partners and, in particular, NGOs and international organizations;
- can be used without host government consent, or where the main EC programmes are not available for other reasons (e.g., suspension);

- is an essential complement to the EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy objectives in the fields of human rights, democratization and conflict prevention. In some regions it provides the only legal base for certain activities, including the promotion of political and civil rights, election monitoring and conflict resolution initiatives.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Rights of migrants
- Internally displaced
- Forced migration

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

A significant number of migration-related research and technical cooperation projects are funded through this initiative. In general, EIDHR identifies four fields of action for the medium-term: (1) democratization, good governance and the rule of law; (2) abolition of the death penalty; (3) fight against torture and impunity, and for the establishment and operation of international tribunals and criminal courts and (4) combat of racism and xenophobia and discrimination against minorities and indigenous people. Furthermore, EIDHR establishes new case studies, reports and targeted projects every year. Regarding migration, those projects related to the "Prevention of Conflicts and Dealing with Consequences of Conflict" are of particular interest.

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/europeaid/projects/eidhr/targeted\\_projects\\_en.htm#b13](http://europa.eu.int/comm/europeaid/projects/eidhr/targeted_projects_en.htm#b13)

## **Governing board**

The project cycle has been recently refocused from identification through implementation and placed in the hands

of the Europe Aid Co-operation Office on 1 January, 2001. The Directorate General for External Relations (RELEX) and the Directorate General for Development are responsible for the programming of external assistance.

Activities are carried out primarily in partnership with international organizations and NGOs. The partners eligible for financing are regional and international organizations, NGOs, national, regional and local authorities and official agencies, community-based organizations and public or private-sector institutes and operators.

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# **Europol**

## **Mandate**

The aim of Europol is to improve the effectiveness and cooperation between the EU Member States in preventing and combating terrorism, unlawful drug trafficking and other forms of international crime. Its mandate comprises combating: illicit drug trafficking, trafficking in radioactive and nuclear substances, crimes involving clandestine immigration networks, vehicle trafficking, trafficking in human beings, and illegal money laundering activities.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Trafficking
- Entry/border control
- Irregular movements

## **Migration-related activities**

Europol (ca. 155 staff) is not operational, and has no executive authority. Its main activities consist of the enhancement of exchange of information. It also conducts analyses of criminal activities and produces fact-sheets and an annual report.



Europol has established and maintains a computerized system to allow the input, access to and analysis of data, through the Europol Computer System, which lays down a strict framework for human rights and data protection, control, supervision and security. The Europol Computer System will have three principal components: (1) an information system (2) an analysis system and (3) an index system.

## **Governing board**

Europol is accountable to the Council of Ministers for Justice and Home Affairs. The Council is responsible for the guidance and control of Europol. It appoints the Director and the Deputy Directors and approves the budget. The Council of Ministers contains representatives from all Member States, and the requirement for unanimous decisions helps ensure a democratic control of Europol. The Europol Management Board comprises one representative from each Member State, and has the overall task of supervising the activities of the organization.

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# **European Statistics (EUROSTAT)**

## **Mandate**

Eurostat is the statistical office of the European Commission and was established under the Statistics Programme in 1987. It provides data from the national statistical institutes of all 15 EU Member States on a number of phenomena, including economic, demographic, environmental and scientific.

Eurostat's mission is to provide the EU with a high-quality statistical information service, which means statistics that are impartial, reliable and comparable between Member States. Eurostat is the key source of statistics at the European level – harmonized statistics that allow international comparisons.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Labour migration
- Rights of migrants
- Population and demography
- Integration
- Asylum

## **Migration-related activities**

Eurostat provides research and statistics on a wide range of migration-related issues within the European Union, such as social trends, policies and development. Data and analysis on areas such as “Asylum and Migration” can be found in their annual report, *The Social Situation in the European Union*.

## **Membership/Governing board**

The 15 Members of the European Union are *de facto* Members of Eurostat in that they contribute to the compilation of Eurostat data.

As one of the Directorates-General of the European Commission, Eurostat is headed by a Director-General. Under him are seven Directors responsible for different sectors of Eurostat activities: (1) statistical information systems, research and data analysis, technical cooperation with Phare and Tacis; (2) economic statistics and economic and monetary convergence; (3) information and dissemination, transport, cooperation with non-EU countries (except Phare and Tacis countries), external and intra-Community trade statistics; (4) business statistics; (5) social and regional statistics and geographical information system; (6) Agricultural, environmental and energy statistics and (7) Resources.

## **Contact information**

Homepage: <http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/eurostat/>



**REGIONAL  
CONSULTATIVE  
PROCESSES  
ON MIGRATION**



## **Regional Consultative Processes (RCPs) on Migration**

RCPs bring together at the regional level representatives of States, international organizations, and, in some cases, NGOs. The purpose of RCPs is to discuss migration-related issues in a cooperative manner with a view to reaching a common understanding of and, where possible, effective solutions for regional migration management. Two features, in particular, characterize RCPs: (1) they provide an opportunity for information exchange on migration to promote a better understanding of trends, issues and perspectives and (2) their deliberations are informal and non-binding, permitting a free exchange of ideas and of information, and searches for common understandings and approaches.

A number of recent RCPs have grown out of international conferences or seminars organized under the auspices of the International Migration Policy Programme (IMP).<sup>13</sup> Many have dedicated secretariats comprised of either a national of a Member State as coordinator, with such staff as is required by its activities, or of an intergovernmental organization, such as IOM, ICMPD or UNHCR.

RCPs focus on dialogue on migration issues and act informally. Their interest lies primarily in information sharing and confidence building, often accompanied by cooperative operational

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<sup>13</sup> IMP is an interagency activity of IOM, UNITAR, UNFPA and ILO.

initiatives and capacity building. In recent years, RCPs profiled themselves as significant mechanisms for addressing migration issues at the regional level. They are now established on every continent and new processes are formed yearly.<sup>14</sup>

At the time of writing, three new processes – the West Africa Regional Consultative Process (Dakar Follow-up), the follow-up mechanism to the Bali Conference and the Conference on Western Mediterranean Cooperation (5 + 5) are at the development stage.

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<sup>14</sup> For more information and analysis of RCP's, see A. Klekowski von Kopenfels, *The Role of Regional Consultative Processes in Managing International Migration* IOM Migration Research Series, No. 3, and *Managing Migration at the Regional Level: Strategies for Regional Consultation* from IOM's Round Table on Managing Migration at the Regional level, 5 June, 2002.



# **Intergovernmental Asia-Pacific Consultations on Refugees, Displaced Persons and Migrants (APC)**

## **Mandate**

Established in 1996, the APC provides an informal forum promoting dialogue and exploring opportunities for greater regional cooperation on matters relating to population movements, including refugees, displaced persons and migrants.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Reintegration
- Refugees
- Trafficking
- Entry/border control
- Return
- Asylum
- Irregular migration
- Labour migration
- Remittances
- Rights of migrants
- Internally displaced

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

The APC convenes annual plenary meetings, as well as ad hoc issue-specific subregional meetings and expert working groups to discuss and explore a range of migration issues of concern to the region.

At the APC plenary of November 2001, a five-pillar proposal was suggested by the Coordinator to gauge future work of the APC: sensitization and motivation, capacity building, mainstreaming the APC process, consensus building, and coordination.

## **Membership/Governing board**

APC represents 30 countries, plus Hong Kong SAR, in the Asia-Pacific Region. Participating governments include: Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Hong Kong SAR of China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kiribati, Republic of Korea, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam. Also participating are IOM and UNHCR. The APC is divided into four subregional working groups: South-East Asia, South Asia and the Pacific and the Mekong Region. Each subregional group focuses on specific activities and reports back to the annual plenary.

A coordinator from a Member State serves as secretariat to the APC.

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# **Budapest Group**

## **Mandate**

The Budapest Group was launched by the German Federal Minister of Interior in November 1991 at a ministerial meeting in Berlin, as a consultative group aimed at reinforcing migration control cooperation between Central, Eastern and Western Europe. The Budapest Group aims at preventing irregular migration and establishing sustainable systems for orderly migration in the wider European region. Gradually, the focus of the Budapest Group was expanded to include such issues as return/readmission, asylum and visa harmonization.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Refugees
- Trafficking
- Entry/border control
- Return
- Asylum
- Forced migration
- Irregular movement

## **Migration-related activities**

The Budapest Process increasingly addresses migration control problems in the countries neighbouring EU Candidate States. Since the first meeting in 1993, the EU States have recognized the need to reinforce cooperation on related matters with Central and Eastern European States. To this end, Working Groups were established to elaborate appropriate measures – such as the need for enhanced cooperation to tackle illegal migration, cooperation with regard to migration challenges in south-eastern Europe and the linkage between illegal migration and asylum. Special reports were produced on, i.a., the harmonization of anti-trafficking legislation, readmission agreements, information exchange between countries, the linkage between organized crime and trafficking in human beings. Over 80 working sessions on various topics have been held since 1994. A Ministerial Conference will be convened in 2003 to deal with the pan-European migration challenges of the coming decades.

Three groups, led by Member States, are involved in: (1) monitoring the implementation of recommendations; (2) review of return/readmission policies and (3) carrying out special activities in south-eastern Europe, such as promoting the reform of border services and strengthening the fight against trafficking. These activities are carried out in conjunction with the Stability Pact, often with European Commission funding.

## **Membership/Governing board**

The Process functions as a consultative forum for more than 40 Governments and 10 international organizations. At present, the following States participate in the Budapest Process: Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, FYR Macedonia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia,

Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. Other participants include the European Commission, the EU Presidency, the Schengen Presidency, UN-CICP, ICMPD, IOM, IGC, the SECI Centre, UNHCR, the Council of Europe, INTERPOL and Europol.

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# **CIS Conference Process**

## **Mandate**

The “Regional Conference to address the problems of refugees, displaced persons, other forms of involuntary displacement and returnees in the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and relevant neighbouring States” was convened in May 1996 in response to concerns about population displacement in the region following the break-up of the Soviet Union. The follow-up process addresses the problems of refugees, displaced persons, and involuntary displacement in general, as well as issues of migration management, including irregular migration, trafficking and border control, in the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and relevant neighbouring countries. The goal of the CIS Conference Process is to provide a reliable regional forum in which to address problems raised by population movements.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Rights of migrants
- Population
- Internally displaced
- Refugees
- Trafficking
- Entry/border control

- Return
- Asylum
- Forced migration
- Irregular movements

## **Migration-related activities**

In addition to providing a forum for discussion of relevant issues, the CIS contributed to the recognition by participating States of the importance of migration and protection issues. Moreover, the conference contributed to the establishment of administrative structures and a legislative base in many of the participating countries.

The process focuses on four broad thematic issues: assuring continued focus on concerns as listed in the original Programme of Action (see mandate); migration management and combating trafficking in persons; sustaining the achievements of the NGO sector and implementing legislation and avoiding implementation gaps. A high-level review meeting is planned for the end of 2002 to take stock, evaluate gaps and define a course of action for the future.

## **Membership/Governing board**

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan are members. Also participating are IOM, OSCE/ODHIR and UNHCR.

A joint secretariat, consisting of UNHCR, IOM and the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) of the OSCE, was established to prepare the Conference.

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# **Inter-governmental Consultations on Asylum, Refugee and Migration Policies in Europe, North America and Australia (IGC)**

## **Mandate**

The Inter-governmental Consultations on Asylum, Refugee and Migration Policies in Europe, North America and Australia was created as a result of a conference organized by UNHCR in 1985 to consider “the arrivals of asylum-seekers and refugees in Europe”. Since then, the IGC has expanded its areas of interest to include, *inter alia*: security, asylum, data, temporary protection, return, smuggling and trafficking, unaccompanied minors, family reunification, reception in the region, country-of-origin information, specific outflows, illegal migration, burden sharing, the use of technology in the management of migration and immigration policies.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Labour migration
- Refugees
- Trafficking and smuggling
- Entry/border control
- Return

- Asylum
- Irregular migration

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

The IGC is an informal, non-decision-making forum for the exchange of information and to discuss innovative solutions and strategies to rapidly evolving asylum, refugee and migration situations. The secretariat arranges meetings, maintains databases, provides statistics and comparative and analytical reports and takes initiatives to facilitate multilateral dialogue and coordination. Activities have been initiated on immigration and national security, asylum-determination practices, exclusion, resettlement and interception.

Five Working Groups are currently functioning on Return, Smuggling, Data, Technology and Country of Origin Information. Apart from Working Groups, workshops may be held which allow participant States to address specific issues in greater depth.

## **Membership/Governing board**

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America are members. The European Commission, IOM and UNHCR also participate.

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# **Lima Declaration Process – South American Conference on Migration**

## **Mandate**

In July 1999 representatives from South American countries met in Lima, Peru, at what has since become an annual meeting, to share views and information on migration issues of concern in the region and to open channels for dialogue and cooperation. Areas of particular interest in this process include migration, development and integration, with the subsequent addition of migrant rights.

## **Migration-related Issues**

- Development
- Rights of migrants
- Integration
- Trafficking and smuggling

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

At the 2002 Conference in Quito, a Plan of Action was drawn up which includes objectives such as harmonizing and coordinating migration information systems, migration administrations and legislation on migration.

Activities include an annual dialogue to share information, data, policies and practices on migration, integration and development issues.

### **Membership/Governing board**

Participating States are: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela. IOM participates as technical secretariat.

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# **Manila Process**

## **Mandate**

The Manila Process developed from a Regional Seminar on Irregular Migration and Trafficking, which IOM organized together with the Government of the Philippines in 1996. Its primary focus is on combating and reducing irregular migration and trafficking in the East and South-East Asian region.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Trafficking/smuggling
- Irregular migration
- Entry/border control
- Remittances
- Rights of migrants
- Return
- Reintegration

## **Migration-related activities**

The Process focuses on migration dialogue and information exchange. Participants expressed an interest not only in the prevention and control of trafficking, but also in the root causes of migration, such as unequal socio-economic development and

ways of managing regular migration along with irregular migration. The themes developed in the Manila Process have been enshrined in the 1999 Bangkok Declaration on Irregular Migration.

### **Membership/Governing board**

Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, People's Republic of China, Hong Kong SAR of China Indonesia, Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand, Viet Nam are members. IOM participates as technical secretariat and organizer.

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# **Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa (MIDSA)**

## **Mandate**

MIDSA is an RCP in its formative stage. Its first meeting as a regional consultative process was held in November 2000, emerging from a technical cooperation workshop held earlier that year. Its goal is to facilitate cross-border interagency cooperation and to manage issues of migration in the southern African (SADC) region. MIDSA focuses on: (1) the assessment of existing data on migration in southern Africa to determine the future needs for information collection and exchange and (2) a review of regional approaches to broaden migration management and assess future needs for technical cooperation.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Labour migration
- Migration and development
- Entry/border control
- Irregular migration

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

- The dialogue was established as an open and on-going process to support officials from the SADC Member States, the SADC Secretariat, as well as international and regional organizations to network, exchange experiences, share concerns and develop their knowledge, understanding and capacities in the field of migration.<sup>15</sup> The MIDSA Secretariat plans and coordinates the annual cycle of activities and liaises between SADC Member States and the Secretariat as well as interested donors.
- SADC Member States have expressed their hope that the MIDSA Process will contribute to the shaping of policies on migration and provide an appropriate framework for future discussions and problem solving. For the period 2001-2002, MIDSA is focusing on the collection of migration data, processing and assessment, research on legislation harmonization – entailing a review and comparative study of migration policies and law in the region – and a workshop on border management and intra-regional exchanges.
- Tentative plans for 2003-2004 include workshops on labour migration, counter trafficking, forced migration and internally displaced persons, technical cooperation on migration, migration and HIV/AIDS, as well as linkages with the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).

## **Membership/Governing board**

Members: Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe. Partners in the MIDSA process include IOM

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<sup>15</sup> Crossings, op.cit.



(secretariat), IMP, Southern African Migration Project (SAMP), the US Immigration and Naturalization Service (USINS) and relevant UN agencies (UNHCR, ILO, UNODCCP). As an interagency and intergovernmental initiative, MIDSA responds to SADC Member States' recognition of the imperative for greater and closer regional cooperation on migration.

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# **Migration Dialogue for Western Africa (MIDWA ) (follow-up to the Dakar Declaration)**

## **Mandate**

Established in October 2002 during a meeting jointly organized by IOM and ECOWAS, and following a Ministerial level meeting which launched the 2000 Dakar Declaration, the Migration Dialogue for Western Africa (MIDWA) focuses on regional harmonization, specifically in the area of migration policy. Its principal objectives aim at enhancing migration management and addressing the impact of migration on regional development through a process of migration dialogue. IOM and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), whose mission is to promote all aspects of economic integration, including the free movement of people, will serve as a joint secretariat for MIDWA. The four main areas of cooperation in 2003 as defined by the partnership between IOM and ECOWAS include:

- Combating trafficking in persons;
- Labour migration;
- The creation of a Permanent Observatory for West African International Migration;
- Migration, human security, and regional stability.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Trafficking in persons
- Border control
- Labour migration
- Remittances
- Irregular movements
- Return and reintegration
- Rights of migrants
- Migration and development

## **Migration-related programs and activities**

According to the “Implementation and Follow up of the Dakar Declaration 2000”, the fields of intervention for MIDWA encompass: (1) the promotion of peace and stability in West Africa and the protection of migrants’ rights; (2) mobilizing migrants’ expertise for the development of their country of origin; (3) mobilizing migrants’ savings and providing counselling services for their investment; (4) alleviating poverty in emigration areas; (5) information, sensitization and research into the different aspects of West African international migration.

## **Membership/Governing board**

Fifteen countries participate in this process: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d’Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo. IOM and ECOWAS will jointly work as the Secretariat of MIDWA. International and regional organizations, such as ILO, UNHCR, WFP, OCHA, UNICEF, UNAIDS, IMP, OAU and UEMOA are invited to cooperate with the joint Secretariat of MIDWA. Although Mauritania is no longer a member of ECOWAS, it will continue to be invited to participate in MIDWA activities.

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# **Regional Conference on Migration (RCM) (Puebla Process)**

## **Mandate**

The Regional Conference on Migration (RCM), launched in Puebla by the Mexican government in 1996, has come to be known as the Puebla Process.

This RCP has a comparatively broad approach. The participating governments emphasize the need for cooperation to promote economic growth and employment to reduce poverty.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Rights of migrants
- Population and demography
- Refugees
- Trafficking
- Reintegration
- Entry/border control
- Return
- Asylum
- Irregular movements
- Development

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

In addition to information sharing and dialogue, technical cooperation has been introduced into the RCM process. The adoption and periodic modification of a consensus Plan of Action provides for identification of specific objectives and implementation of concrete initiatives within specific timeframes.

Some of these include: objective knowledge and understanding of migration flows; condemnation of violations of human rights of documented and undocumented migrants; fostering cooperation between NGOs and governments; implementing mechanisms for intergovernmental consultations and discussions of migration affairs and for the protection of the rights of migrants; “early warning” mechanisms, allowing neighbouring countries to prepare for changes in migration law and border controls; exchange of information on laws and practices with a view to analysing and improving them; alerting society against trafficking, and promoting laws and practices to effectively curtail it; creating mechanisms for the systematic discussion of migration issues among Member governments; promoting control of extra-regional migration and developing new and improved mechanisms to reduce forgery and the fraudulent use of migration-related documents.

## **Membership/Governing board**

Member States are: Belize, Canada, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama and the United States of America. Furthermore, Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador, Jamaica and Peru have observer status.

The Puebla Process is organized as both an intergovernmental and a social regional forum, led by the vice-ministers of immigration and foreign affairs of each country, as well as a parallel body consisting of national and international NGOs dealing with migrants and migration issues. In addition, IOM,

which serves as the technical secretariat, the Center for Latin American Demography (a part of ECLAC) and a number of other organizations joined the process as observers.<sup>16</sup>

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<sup>16</sup> These include: the Inter-American Development Bank, the Central American Bank for Economic Integration, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Inter-American Human Rights Commission and the United Nations Population Fund for Population Analysis.





**INTERNATIONAL  
RED CROSS AND  
RED CRESCENT  
MOVEMENT**



# **International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement**

The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement is united and guided by Seven Fundamental Principles – humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence, voluntary service, unity and universality – which provides a universal standard of reference for all its Members. The Movement is composed of:

- The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC);
- The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC);
- National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

The ICRC, the IFRC and the individual National Societies are independent bodies. Each has its own status and exercises no authority over the others. They meet every two years in the Council of Delegates. In addition, they meet with representatives of the States Party to the Geneva Conventions in principle every four years for an International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

# **International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)**

## **Mandate**

Established in 1863, the ICRC is an independent organization whose mission is to protect the lives and dignity of victims of war and internal violence and to provide them with assistance. The international status of the ICRC is confirmed by Headquarters Agreements with more than 50 States. Its mandate to protect and assist the victims of armed conflict has been conferred on it by States through the four Geneva Conventions of 1949<sup>17</sup> and their Additional Protocols of 1977. The ICRC's mandate and legal status set it apart both from intergovernmental agencies and from non-governmental organizations. Through these agreements, which are subject to international law, the ICRC enjoys the privileges and immunities usually only granted to intergovernmental organizations, such as immunity from legal process and inviolability of its premises, archives and other documents.

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<sup>17</sup> The four Geneva Conventions of 1949 and their two Additional Protocols of 1977 are the principal instruments of humanitarian law, the purpose of which is to limit and prevent suffering in times of armed conflict. These Conventions and Additional Protocols set out the role the ICRC plays. At the beginning of 2001, 189 countries were party to the Geneva Conventions.

The ICRC directs and coordinates international relief activities conducted by the Movement in situations of conflict through its delegations in more than 60 countries around the world. It also endeavours to prevent suffering by promoting and strengthening humanitarian law and universal humanitarian principles.

### **Migration-related issues**

- Development
- Rights of migrants
- Migrant health
- Population and demography
- Internally displaced
- Gender/migration of women
- Integration
- Reintegration
- Refugees

### **Migration-related programmes and activities**

ICRC activities fall into three main categories: (1) direct emergency relief actions and programmes; (2) training courses for professionals and (3) legal work. The purpose of ICRC cooperation activities is to enhance the capacity of National Red Cross Societies to fulfil their responsibilities in providing humanitarian services in their own countries.

The Geneva Conventions of 1949 and their Additional Protocols of 1977 are the principal treaties governing aid to, and protection of, the victims of armed conflict. To facilitate implementation of the rules of international humanitarian law (IHL), some States have created inter-ministerial working groups, often called either national inter-ministerial committees for the implementation of IHL or national humanitarian law committees. Their purpose is to advise and assist the government in implementing and spreading knowledge of IHL. The establishment of such committees has been advocated by the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Intergovernmental

Group of Experts for the Protection of War Victims and the 26<sup>th</sup> International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (Geneva, 1995).

## **Members/Governing board**

Its nature and membership are non-governmental. The Committee is the supreme policy-making body of the ICRC. It is composed of between 15 and 25 persons of Swiss nationality acting in their private capacity. The Committee meets regularly to establish the ICRC's doctrine and general policies and guidelines and to supervise its activities. The Assembly is the supreme governing body of the ICRC. It oversees all ICRC activities. It formulates policy, defines general objectives and institutional strategy, and approves the budget and accounts. It delegates certain of its responsibilities to the Assembly Council. Composed of the Members of the ICRC and collegial in character, its President and two Vice-Presidents are the President and Vice-Presidents of the ICRC.

## **Contact information**

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# **International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)**

## **Mandate**

Founded in 1919, the IFRC directs and coordinates international assistance of the movement to victims of natural and technological disasters, to refugees, and in health emergencies. It acts as the official representative of its Member Societies in the international field, and works to strengthen their capacity to carry out effective disaster preparedness, health and social programmes.

## **Migration-related issues**

- Development
- Rights of migrants
- Migrant health
- Population and demography
- Internally displaced
- Gender/migration of women
- Integration
- Reintegration
- Refugees

## **Migration-related programmes and activities**

The IFRC provides and coordinates among National Red Cross Societies and Red Crescent Societies direct assistance to refugees, IDPs and migrants who are victims of natural disasters, socio-economic crises and health emergencies. The IFRC focuses on disaster response, disaster preparedness, health and community care, and institutional capacity building.

## **Membership/Governing board**

The General Assembly is the supreme decision-making body of the Federation. It meets every two years and is composed of representatives from all Member National Societies. A Governing Board acts between General Assemblies, meeting twice a year with the authority to make certain decisions. The Board comprises the Federation's president and vice presidents, representatives from elected Member Societies and the chairman of the Finance Commission. Four other commissions cover health and community services, youth, disaster relief and development.

<http://www.ifrc.org/who/governance/index.asp>

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TABLE 1  
SOURCES OF STATISTICAL DATA ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS BY REGION AND

Theme	Regions <sup>1</sup>						
	Global Data	Western Europe	Eastern Europe	North America	Latin America / Caribbean	Middle East	Asia
Demography, Population	UN Population Division, UN Statistics Division,	Eurostat CoE, ECE <sup>ii</sup>	Eurostat, CoE	ECE	ECLAC		
Stocks and flows of migrants	UN Population Division <sup>iii</sup> , UN Statistics Division	Eurostat <sup>iv</sup> , IGC <sup>v</sup> , CoE <sup>vi</sup>	Eurostat, CoE	IGC	ECLAC <sup>vii</sup>	Mediterranean Migration Project, ESCWA <sup>viii</sup>	Asian Migrant Centre, Scalabrini Centre ESCAP <sup>ix</sup>
Gender/Age	UN Population Division, UN Statistics Division, UNHCR	CoE, OECD, Eurostat	CoE, OECD, Eurostat	OECD			
Highly Skilled and Student Migration		OECD, IGC, Eurostat	Eurostat	OECD, IGC			OECD
Labour Migration	ILO, World Bank	OECD, IGC, Eurostat	Eurostat	OECD, IGC		ESCWA	OECD, Capstrans <sup>xii</sup> , Asia Migrant Centre
Remittances	World Bank				IADB <sup>xiii</sup>	ESCWA	ESCAP
Asylum seekers	UNHCR	IGC, CoE, Eurostat	ICMPD	IGC			
Refugees	UNHCR, US Committee for Refugees	Eurostat	Eurostat				
IDPs	Global IDP Project <sup>xv</sup> , US Comm. For Refugees		Eurostat				
Irregular Migrants	IOM	Eurostat OECD <sup>xvi</sup>	Eurostat ICMPD, EUROPOL	OECD			OECD

TABLE 1 (CONT.)

SOURCES OF STATISTICAL DATA ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS BY REGION AND

Theme	Global Data	Regions <sup>1</sup>				
		Western Europe	Eastern Europe	North America	Latin America / Caribbean	Middle East
Trafficking	IOM, UNODCCP <sup>ii</sup>	IOM, OSCE, Eurostat	IOM, OSCE, EUROPOL, Eurostat			
Returns / Repatriation	IOM <sup>iii</sup> , UNHCR	Eurostat, IGC	OSCE	IGC		

1. See the UN Population Division's definition: <<http://esa.un.org/unppp/definition.html>>
2. UN Economic Commission for Europe.
3. The UN Population Division relies on census data. These data are updated approximately every 10 years.
4. Eurostat is the statistical department of the European Commission. Its regional focus is on Europe, including Eastern Europe. The 15 Member States are Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the Republic of Poland.
5. IGC stands for Inter-governmental Consultations on Asylum, Refugee and Migration Policies in Europe, North America and Australia. It regroups 16 countries: Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America. IGC gathers data in co-operation with the national governments. Only selected data are publicly available.
6. The Council of Europe regroups 43 states: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, FYROM, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom). Data provided by the national governments.
7. The UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean relies on census data.
8. UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia.
9. UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.
10. The Southern African Migration Project provides data only for South Africa and neighbouring countries.
11. Economic Commission for Africa.

12. Centre for Asia Pacific Social Transformation Studies.
13. The Member States of the Inter-American Development Bank are: Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, C Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Trinidad & Tobago, the United Kingdom of Great Brit: States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela.
14. The Global IDP Project database includes the latest information from OCHA.
15. The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development has 30 Member states: Austria, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Luxembourg, Mexico, New Zealand, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia Republic, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America. OECD statistics only cover Member states.
16. United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention.
17. At publication IOM has 93 Member States and 36 observer States. <[http://www.iom.int/en/who/main\\_Members.shtml](http://www.iom.int/en/who/main_Members.shtml)>

