Regional Inter-State Consultation Mechanisms on Migration: Approaches, Recent Activities and Implications for Global Governance of Migration

No. 45

IOM MIGRATION RESEARCH SERIES

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

The opinions expressed in the report are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The designations employed and the presentation of material throughout the report do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of IOM concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area, or of its authorities, or concerning its frontiers or boundaries.

IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. As an intergovernmental organization, IOM acts with its partners in the international community to: assist in meeting the operational challenges of migration; advance understanding of migration issues; encourage social and economic development through migration; and uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants.

Publisher: International Organization for Migration
17 Route des Morillons
1211 Geneva 19
Switzerland
Tel.: +41 22 717 91 11
Fax: +41 22 798 61 50
E-mail: hq@iom.int
Internet: http://www.iom.int

ISSN 1607-338X
ISBN 978-92-9068-675-0
© 2013 International Organization for Migration (IOM)

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise without the prior written permission of the publisher.

25_13

Regional Inter-State Consultation Mechanisms on Migration:

Approaches, Recent Activities and Implications for Global Governance of Migration

Charles Harns
Senior Migration Advisor, IOM

Prepared as a resource for:
The Fourth Global Meeting of RCP Chairs and Secretariats
Lima, Peru, May 2013

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am greatly indebted to the guidance and support provided by key IOM colleagues involved in this study. Colleagues from Regional and Country Offices throughout the world have been generous with their time and astute in their commentaries on the drafts. Their direct and continuous contact with many of the key governmental partners in the reviewed regional forums and processes has been instrumental toward gaining clear perspective.

The Headquarters team has been equally dedicated and patient as the document developed over the past several months. Tim Howe and Ahmed Seghaier have burned a great deal of midnight oil backing me up with expert research and coordination services, and with insightful reactions to issues that arose. Gervais Appave has also contributed to steering the results and encouraging the process forward at key moments.

Above all, Maureen Achieng has led this process with extraordinary competence and dedication. In a clear case of the student teaching the (once) teacher, she has been unstinting in her support and unfailingly generous in sharing her considerable expertise.

Having received such excellent guidance and advice, I acknowledge the faults in this document as being mine alone. I hope the document does serve as a useful resource to those interested in regional migration processes of any kind, and, further, that it initiates a process of an even more thorough regular review of vital migration policy development mechanisms.

Charles Harns

CONTENTS

Acknowledgements **3**

List of acronyms **7**

Executive Summary **11**

1. Introduction **15**
1.1 Background 15
1.2 Organization of the report 17

2. Approach to definitions and taxonomy **19**

3. Major activities and trends of regional and interregional processes and forums **23**
3.1 Africa (intra-African) 23
3.2 Africa with Europe 33
3.3 Americas and the Caribbean 38
3.4 Asia (intra-Asian) 47
3.5 The Arabian Peninsula in West Asia, with Other Asia 55
3.6 Europe with African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States 58
3.7 Asia with Europe 60
3.8 Asia with Oceania 61
3.9 Europe with Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States 65
3.10 Europe with the former Soviet Union and selected neighbouring countries 67
3.11 Europe with Latin America 75
3.12 The Mediterranean 78

4. Implications for the harmonized governance of migration **87**

5. Conclusion **91**

Endnotes **93**

References **103**

Annexes 105
Annex A: Summary list of the reviewed consultation mechanisms on migration 105
Annex B: Summary of the key features of the reviewed consultation mechanisms 107
Annex C: Summary agendas and declarations: 2010–2013 119
Annex D: Working classification of all reviewed consultation mechanisms 129

LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACP	–	African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States
ADD	–	Ministerial Consultations on Overseas Employment and Contractual Labour for Countries of Origin and Destination in Asia (Abu Dhabi Dialogue)
AFML	–	ASEAN Forum on Migrant Labour
APC	–	Inter-governmental Asia-Pacific Consultations on Refugees, Displaced Persons and Migrants
ASCC	–	ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community
ASEAN	–	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
ASEM	–	The Asia-Europe Meeting
ASEM CDGIMM	–	ASEM Conference of the Directors-General of Immigration and Management of Migratory Flows
AUC	–	African Union Commission
CAN	–	Andean Community of Nations
CBCP	–	Cross-Border Cooperation Process (Söderköping Process) (Now the EPPMA)
CIS	–	Commonwealth of Independent States
COMESA	–	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
CSO	–	Civil Society Organization
EAC	–	East African Community
EaP	–	Eastern Partnership (of the European Union and Eastern European Partners)
EC	–	European Commission
ECE	–	Economic Commission for Europe, (a UN Regional Commission)
ECOWAS	–	Economic Community of West African States
E-MP MD	–	Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, Migration Dialogue
ENP	–	European Neighbourhood Policy (EU)
EPPMA	–	Eastern Partnership Panel on Migration and Asylum (successor to the Söderköping Process, or CBCP)
EU	–	European Union
EU-LAC	–	European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean Summit
EU-LAC SCDM	–	European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean Structured and Comprehensive Dialogue on Migration
EUROMED	–	Euro-Mediterranean Partnership (predecessor to the Union for the Mediterranean, UfM)
FIBEMYD	–	Foro Iberoamericano, Migración y Dessarrollo / Migração e Desenvolvimiento

		(Ibero-American Forum on Migration and Development)
FIIAPP	–	International and Ibero-American Foundation for Administration and Public Policies (Spain)
5+5 Dialogue	–	Regional Ministerial Conference on Migration in the Western Mediterranean
Frontex	–	European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union
GAMM	–	Global Approach to Migration and Mobility (European Union)
GCC	–	Gulf Cooperation Council
GFMD	–	Global Forum on Migration and Development
HLDIM	–	High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (UN General Assembly)
ICMPD	–	International Centre for Migration Policy Development
IGAD	–	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
IGAD-RCP	–	Intergovernmental Authority on Development Regional Consultative Process on Migration
IGC	–	Intergovernmental Consultations on Migration, Asylum and Refugees
ILO	–	International Labour Organization
INTERPOL	–	International Criminal Police Organization
IOM	–	International Organization for Migration
IRF	–	Interregional forum (on migration)
MERCOSUR	–	Common Market of the South (Southern Common Market)
MIDSA	–	Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa
MIDWA	–	Migration Dialogue for West Africa
MME	–	Africa-EU Migration, Mobility and Employment Partnership
MTM	–	Mediterranean Transit Migration Dialogue
OECD	–	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
RCM	–	Regional Conference on Migration (Puebla Process)
RCP	–	Regional consultative process (on migration)
REC	–	Regional economic communities (of Africa) (CEN–SAD, COMESA, EAC, ECCAS, ECOWAS, IGAD, SADC, UMA)
SACM	–	South American Conference on Migration
SADC	–	Southern African Development Community
SAPHDM	–	South American Plan for the Human Development of Migrants (SACM document)
SEGIB	–	Ibero-American General Secretariat
SICA	–	Central American Integration System
SLOM	–	Senior Labour Officials Meeting (ASEAN internal structure)

SMB	–	Swedish Migration Board
UfM	–	Union for the Mediterranean (sucessor to the Barcelona Process and Euro-Mediterranean Partnership)
UN	–	United Nations
UNASUR	–	Union of South American Nations (Spanish: Unión de Naciones Suramericanas, UNASUR; Dutch: Unie van Zuid-Amerikaanse Naties, UZAN; Portuguese: União de Nações Sul-Americanas, UNASUL)
UNESCO	–	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	–	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCHR	–	United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
UNHCR	–	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	–	United Nations Children's Fund
UNODC	–	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides a review of 25 regional and interregional consultative processes and forums on migration, with examples from most regions of the world, and builds directly on the seminal review by Hansen (2010) on regional consultative processes (RCPs). It was prepared in anticipation of the Fourth Global Meeting of the Chairs and Secretariats of RCPs, scheduled to be held in May 2013 in Peru. The review may be of interest as well to the second High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (HLDIM), which will be held during the UN General Assembly's 68th session, some four months later.

An introductory section provides a brief commentary on the nature of RCPs and similar forums and suggests the reasons why they have been the focus of continuous attention since their inception in the mid-1980s and early 1990s. The lack of a global binding framework on migration is noted as a factor that contributes to the ever-more-intense activity at the regional level, along with the general rise of migration to prominence in international relations.

Before proceeding to the heart of the document, that is, the 25 case studies, the report provides a fresh review of the definition and categorization issues related to various regional and interregional processes and forums on migration. The core definition of RCP, as used by Hansen and others, is reconfirmed. RCPs are, in essence, restricted information-sharing and discussion forums for states with an interest in promoting cooperation in the field of migration.

The report takes the issue of definition further by suggesting that RCPs diversify in type as they expand in number. The author favors a view of RCPs that allows for a wide variation of characteristics, and one that includes processes that serve as 'pillars' (that is, guiding principles) within broader consultation frameworks, for example, migration dialogues that operate as specific pillars for regional economic and trade bodies or common markets, and which may be more formal in nature and more closely linked with the process of creating binding regional agreements on migration.

The term 'interregional forum (IRF) on migration' began appearing in the literature in the past few years, specifically at the time of the 2010 Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD). It is generally used to describe interregional migration dialogues and consultation mechanisms that may fall outside of even a loose definition of RCPs. IRFs may not have the regular and informal levels of consultation commonly associated with RCPs, and may take the form of broad and inclusive forum events

that are largely unrestricted in their number of participants. The report notes other differences between RCPs and IRFs that may be apparent as well.

At the close of the introductory section, the report offers a taxonomy of the global and regional/interregional consultation mechanisms on migration. The taxonomy provides a conceptual roadmap and a framework to help the reader identify and interpret the particular contributions of different kinds of processes and forums toward the more harmonized global governance of migration.

The taxonomy takes note of the global Inter-State Consultation Mechanisms on Migration and delineates those with specific thematic agendas, as opposed to those with broadly inclusive agendas. The specifically themed global consultations are noted to include the GFMD, the HLDIM and the global consultations on specific areas of migration policy addressed by international instruments, such as international labour migration policy (through the ILO) and migration and transnational international crime (through the UNODC consultations). The broader-based global consultations are those made through IOM Member State Dialogue Sessions. The paper, however, does not focus on global mechanisms, but places the regional and interregional ones within this full conceptual framework and taxonomy.

As previously mentioned, the heart of the document is the 25 brief case studies of the different processes and forums, specifically, 18 RCPs and 7 IRFs or some other type of mechanism. Each entry proceeds with, first, a brief presentation of background information, followed by a review of recent agenda trends and closes by identifying the linkages with multilateral agreements on migration. The basis for categorizing each item as an RCP, IRF or some other kind of mechanism is also briefly noted. The case studies are consolidated for each region or subregion, to allow for a holistic and integrated view of each geographic area, at times highlighting how different processes and forums in the same region interact with or reinforce one another. Annex A provides a quick-view listing of the 25 processes and forums, organized by region and subregion.

Following the presentation of the case studies, the report offers a summary of the implications of a harmonized governance on migration. The migration-and-development policy nexus comes into sharp focus here. The case studies reveal that for many, but not all, of the processes or forums, the migration-and-development paradigm has provided an acceptable and fertile common ground to further regional discussions and practical cooperation on migration. The particular importance of the migration dialogues that take place within, or closely related to, the regional trade and economic bodies (such as the African regional economic communities (RECs)) is also emphasized, again linking the natural agendas of these bodies with core migration-and-development policy themes, including shared development through the freer movement of goods and services and increased mobility of regional human resources.

The author concludes that the migration-and-development paradigm, when linked with the migration dialogues that are within or close to the RECs and similar regional bodies, has the greatest potential to spawn formal regional agreements on migration, which may form the building blocks for a de facto global approach to migration governance. The increasingly close linkages of some RCPs with their sister or parent regional economic and development bodies are especially significant, in that the potential to move from de facto to de jure policy coherence in migration governance is particularly strong in the linkage of migration with regional economic development agendas centered on trade and the common use of regional human resources.

This point reinforces the importance of viewing RCPs more broadly, and including in the RCP category those dialogues that may be quite closely linked with their sister or parent REC, or similar regional economic or development body.

However, the report also clearly notes that the impact of RCPs and IRFs cannot be fairly judged by their ability to contribute to the creation of global or even regional formal agreements on migration, as this is not the mission or ambition of most of these processes and forums. Furthermore, there is no international consensus that such an agreement is needed at the global level. The author concludes that the de facto policy coherence that is developing among countries that are part of well-functioning RCPs and IRFs is the main achievement of these mechanisms and the primary driver of increased global coherence in migration governance.

The report also concludes that international or even regional governance of migration is a concept whose time has not yet come in most areas of the world, when considered in the formal sense of core common policies and practices set in place through binding treaties or similar inter-State instruments. However, at least at the regional level, its time may be approaching.

While it is sensible to look for indicators of progress toward global migration governance in the area of formal regional, interregional and global agreements on migration, the report also notes that governance does not comprise only of a treaty or other formal legal basis. Governance can also be defined by and constitute consistent practical cooperation that is engendered to enact the intent of a less-formal agreement or fill an apparent vacuum created by the lack of a broad multilateral agreement or treaty. Here, in particular, regional migration processes and forums continue to lead the way.

As migration governance is, and will continue to be, an evolving landscape, there is value in having a regular comprehensive review that covers all the regional and interregional processes and forums, the main bilateral influences and the global

actors as well, and which would continue to refine the taxonomy. This would be an appropriate role for and a welcome contribution from key international actors in the migration field.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Regional and interregional consultation mechanisms on migration, of various kinds and under various labels, have received and continue to receive considerable attention by policymakers and practitioners and are an increasingly important element in the formulation of international migration policy and practice. The lack of a global binding framework on migration governance increases the motivation for pursuing common perspectives and practical arrangements at the regional level and across migration areas that span geographic regions. This factor, coupled with the general rise in importance of migration in public policy and international relations, has undoubtedly influenced the proliferation in number and kind of regional and inter regional consultation and cooperation mechanisms addressing migration.

The rapid proliferation of these mechanisms, especially over the last fifteen years, may in part also explain the variations in the nomenclature that one finds in the literature and in practice. These mechanisms are usually referred to as 'regional consultative processes on migration' (RCPs), while more recently the term 'interregional forum on migration' (IRF)[1] has come into play as an attempt to distinguish between RCPs and other kinds of migration dialogue mechanisms that lack some key characteristics usually ascribed to RCPs; however, the term 'IRF' is yet to become firmly established in common usage, and its emerging definition stands to benefit from further fine-tuning, which will be attempted shortly here. Further, the general term 'regional migration dialogue' has sometimes been used as a synonym both for RCPs and other types of mechanisms, and this has the potential to add additional confusion to the discussion.

While there are important distinctions to be made along various criteria – including levels of formality, continuity and consistency in the dialogue process, kind or level of State ownership, and differences in the nature and content of the expected outcomes – their close similarity in purpose and process binds this diverse collection of processes and forums into a common general grouping. Each is some kind of regional or interregional consultation mechanism on migration.

Still, the most common term used historically and in present practice is 'regional consultative process on migration' (RCP). The 2010 IOM publication, *An Assessment of Regional Consultative Processes on Migration*,[2] by Professor Randall Hansen, is the most recent comprehensive review addressing RCPs specifically, and is often cited. In that review RCPs are defined as "…restricted information-sharing and discussion forums for States with an interest in promoting cooperation in the field of migration."

Hansen and others also acknowledged that not all migration forums and cooperation processes are appropriate for inclusion in the RCP category.

Those who follow RCPs with sustained interest have the benefit of over fifteen years of insightful reviews of their structures and goals, the nature of their agendas, their specific roles in shaping migration policy at the national, regional and international levels, and the lessons learned from the most effective RCP practices.[3]

The earliest reflections on RCPs emphasized their roots in Europe, citing the Intergovernmental Consultations on Migration, Asylum and Refugees (IGC), established in 1984, as the first process identifiable as such, and the Budapest Process, established in the early 1990s, as the second. From the mid-1990s forward, and particularly since the new millennium, regional forums and processes on migration have quickly proliferated and become more diverse in their characteristics.

Definitions of RCPs in the various background documents are substantively consistent with the core definition. As cited above, they are all "…restricted information-sharing and discussion forums for States with an interest in promoting cooperation in the field of migration." Paraphrasing Hansen, RCPs are further delineated as possessing the following characteristics:

- They are repeated regional meetings dedicated to discussing (a) specific migration issue(s).
- They are informal, meaning that participants are not put in a negotiating position to defend national interests or positions.
- They are non-binding, meaning that States do not negotiate binding rules about migration policy and practice, and are not obligated to implement any such changes following the meetings.
- They are purposefully created to deal with migration issues only.
- RCPs bring together countries from a 'region,' depending on the scope of the migration issue to be addressed (the term 'regional' is mostly used geographically, but sometimes also figuratively, to describe the common location of like-minded States on the 'migration map,' that is, a group of predominantly destination or origin countries). Most RCPs are not officially associated with formal regional institutions, although they can interact with and cross-influence regional bodies, associations and integration processes in complex ways.

In that review, Hansen succinctly assessed RCP organizational structure, identified their effects on the migration governance process – including changes in migration laws, policies and practices – and suggested lessons to be learned for maximizing

RCP effectiveness. He noted the contributions of RCPs to migration governance in the following areas: 1) building trust among States and increasing common understanding of migration issues; 2) breaking down divides between States and between different government departments within States, creating networks and facilitating a harmonization of positions across regions; and 3) building capacity and effecting changes in concrete laws, policies or practices governing how migration is managed at the national and regional levels. The informal and non-binding nature of the process, and the opportunities they provide for regular consultation and network-building, were noted as important elements in the ability of RCPs to build an atmosphere of trust and cooperation among the participating States. As such, the distinction between RCPs and other kinds of mechanisms is presumed to have practical effects.

Coupling Hansen's definitive recent work with other contributions, a good case can be made that further commentary on core management processes and lessons learned about best practices for RCPs is not yet needed, particularly since Hansen's work is still fairly recent, and since it has been commonly referenced and reinforced, including at the Third Global Meeting of RCP Chairs and Secretariats in 2011.[4]

An updating of agenda trends and an attempt to identify the most recent cross-influences between RCPs and other similar migration forums, and international migration governance would be useful and timely, however. This is particularly so considering the upcoming Fourth Global Meeting of RCP Chairs and Secretariats (Peru, May 2013) and the UN High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development, which is to take place four months later, during the General Assembly's Sixty-eighth Session.

While the distinctions between RCPs and other similar kinds of migration consultation mechanisms are potentially significant, a review of how these mechanisms affect migration governance at the global level requires that all major kinds of processes and forums are included; that distinctions in their characteristics are acknowledged; and that an attempt is made toward some consistency in the nomenclature. This may also lend further insight into the particular strengths of the different kinds of mechanisms.

1.2 Organization of the report

This document builds upon Hansen's and others' work. The first order of business is to revisit the definition and classification issue; establish a way to distinguish different kinds of RCPs; and distinguish other similar forums from the RCP group. Here, a working taxonomy of inter-State consultation mechanisms on migration will be offered as one conceptual paradigm and as a resource for the reader.

The next, and main, section of the paper reviews 25 migration processes and forums: 18 RCPs and 7 examples of other kinds of forums that may fall outside of the strict RCP definition. Each description includes background information, the most recent agenda trends and remarks on the contribution of that mechanism toward multilateral migration agreements. The rationale for categorizing each will also be noted. Examples of RCPs that have changed in form in some important way (for example, the Cross-border cooperation process (CBCP) becoming the the Eastern partnership panel on migration and asylum (EPPMA)), and one that may soon dissolve (the Inter-governmental Asia-Pacific Consultations on Refugees, Displaced Persons and Migrants (APC)), are also given.

The 25 cases are sorted by region and subregion, with examples for each category giver for each location, keeping the examples of each category together: first, the RCPs, then the RCPs (which operate as pillars within broader consultation processes) and, finally, the non-RCPs. It is hoped that this approach provides a holistic view of the work and impact of migration consultation mechanisms of all kinds for each region, and will, in some cases, show the interplay between the various kinds of forums and processes within the same region.

The subsequent section attempts to draw out some key findings about the extent to which these various processes and forums appear to contribute to the better harmonization of global migration governance. A brief concluding section enumerates some of the stumbling blocks or limitations of the overall picture and recommends areas for further research and discussion.

2. APPROACH TO DEFINITIONS AND TAXONOMY

While the core definition of RCPs ("… restricted information-sharing and discussion forums for States with an interest in promoting cooperation in the field of migration") is clear, interpretation of the further-noted characteristics detailed in this definition can vary among parties, and the distinctions can be important.

For example, in the most restrictive view, the classic RCP is formed to address only the issue of migration, that is, migration is the raison d'être of the process, whereas a broader interpretation would also include consultative processes on migration that proceed as pillars within a regional process, that may have a broader basis for their existence, and which contains other major pillars (for example, trade, economic harmonization, development and security). In these cases the pillar, but not the consultative process itself, was created to address only migration. The migration RCP of the Intergovernmental authority on development (IGAD) would be one such example.

There is room for other variations in interpreting the definition of RCPs. While the processes are defined as informal and non-binding, this is very much a matter of degree. While none of the reviewed RCPs have established under its own aegis a binding intergovernmental treaty on migration among its constituents, and as most do not have the authority or mission to do so, some have created and agreed on specific frameworks meant to be binding on the participating States. Further, when an RCP exists as a pillar within a body or initiative with authority to formulate such binding inter-State agreements, such as within the regional trade and economic bodies (RECs, for example), the participating States may at times view their discussions as directly linked with the formulation of such agreements. The line between informal discussion and formal negotiation is easily blurred in that context.

Applying the term 'regional consultative process on migration' in the most conservative way has its advantages and is particularly useful in identifying and examining an important and, in fact, the functionally dominant, subcategory of the broad group of consultation mechanisms on migration. However, substantive consultations on migration can take place when the consultation process is a distinct pillar within a process with a broader mission and agenda; when the process is largely formal in character; when regular informal dialogue is not an obvious characteristic; or when there is a discernible thrust toward formal inter-State agreements.

Finally, formal political or geographic regional boundaries are not particularly helpful in defining or identifying RCPs, despite the nomenclature. RCPs can be, but

often are not, recognizably regional in that sense. In some cases the region that an RCP covers is simply defined as the 'migration region' encompassed by the Process' members, which do not necessarily have common geographic or political boundaries. However, dedication to a recognized geographic or political region is not – and, in fact, never has been – a useful criterion for defining an RCP, as the North America-Europe-Oceania coverage of the primogenitor RCP, the IGC, would indicate. The use of 'regional' in the term 'regional consultative process' is best seen as the defining characteristic: RCPs concern one or more regions and are in that important way different from bilateral and global consultations on migration. For the purpose of this study, 'regional' will be understood in that way. As such, this paper approaches the definition and classification issues as follows.

The term 'inter-State consultation mechanism on migration' is used here to denote a broad grouping and includes both regional and global mechanisms. Global mechanisms may include the UN High Level Dialogue, the GFMD, the IOM plenary consultations and discussions on migration, and targeted migration consultations and discussions in global bodies that have specific responsibilities over certain elements of migration through international conventions and protocols (i.e., International Labour Organization (ILO), for migrant labour convention; United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), for refugee and asylum convention and protocol; and UNODC, for transnational crime convention and its protocols on smuggling and trafficking). (Note: The global processes are not subjects of attention in this paper.)

Within the regional grouping, the term 'RCP' is applied in its broadest sense, remaining true to the core definition, but allowing some variation on the particular characteristics and includes those RCPs that serve as distinct migration pillars within broader consultation mechanisms. Some RCPs are of the classic, stand-alone variety; others are pillars within broader consultation mechanisms.

Consultation processes that proceed as an integral part of a regional economic or trade body are somewhat problematic for characterization. While the region is particularly easy to recognize, an anomaly that may possibly characterize these few instances is that they can stray beyond the 'informality' and 'non-binding decisions' line that has long been ascribed to RCPs. The Intergovernmental Authority on Development Regional Consultative Process on Migration (IGAD-RCP) and the nascent Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) RCP are among the examples reviewed here. For now, these and similar processes are included in the RCP category, designated as RCPs where migration is a pillar within a broader consultation framework. Future review may suggest further refinement in the nomenclature.

Meaningful regional and interregional consultation mechanisms, nonetheless, fall outside the RCP definition. Some may have not yetfully established their identities

and purposes to be correctly classified as an RCP. Others may be less than fully State-owned or may be discussions on migration that intermittently occur within a consultation mechanism of some kind, but which do not have the strength of a designated migration pillar. Still others may be more akin to recurrent conference events or technical cooperation project activities, and, as such, do not display the more intimate, informal and regular discussion among States that has been a hallmark of established RCPs. Lastly, others may not self-identify as RCPs, that is, the main participants may not feel that they are engaged in the same kind of dialogue and consultation as in the RCPs that they are familiar with or are part of. It is in these key areas that these consultation mechanisms depart from the RCPs.

As mentioned, the term 'interregional forum on migration' (IRF) has emerged in the literature to capture cross-regional consultation mechanisms on migration that are clearly different from RCPs in some important way.[5] The term is useful and is also applied here; however, its interregional designation might add some confusion, as some consultation mechanisms on migration that are clearly not RCPs might be purely intraregional. Using the term 'IRF' to describe those mechanisms might result in more confusion in the nomenclature.

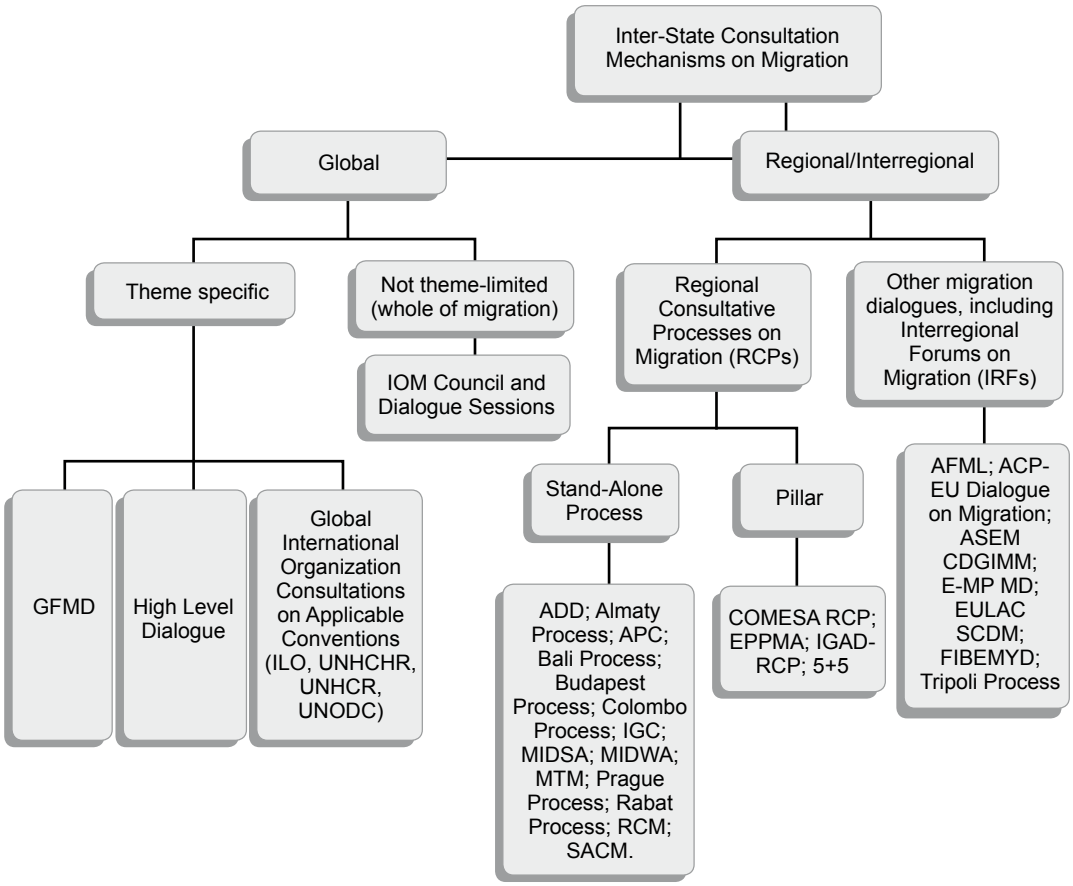
This paper uses the term 'IRF' to describe the interregional migration dialogues that are clearly not RCPs, while also acknowledging that there are other kinds of non-RCPs as well. Finally, it would be helpful to distinguish stand-alone mechanisms from those that operate as migration pillars within broader frameworks.

Despite the distinctions discussed, some cases will be less than clear-cut and the designations given in this paper may invite reasonable disagreement. Subsequent similar reviews may further adjust the taxonomy and the specific labeling. (Figure 1 presents the working taxonomy for this review.)

Applying this inclusive approach for RCPs, at least 18 RCPs can be identified with some confidence and are included in this review. The RCP group is intended to be as close to complete as possible and to include all the major processes. With the IRFs and others, only a sample of seven of these forums has been included here, and these were selected based on insights they reveal on the distinctions in the process, goals and structure of IRFs in particular, as compared with RCPs, and, in some cases, on the synergies between RCPs and other kinds of forums in the same region. It is hoped that subsequent reviews will continue to expand the sampling, so as to ensure a continuously updated picture of the role of these processes and forums in the development of migration governance at all levels.

Annex A offers a list of all the processes and forums reviewed, organized by region and subregion. Annex B provides more detailed information on each. Annex C provides a summary of recent meeting agendas for each. Annex D provides, in table format, the working classification of all reviewed processes and forums. Further and more in-depth background on most of the reviewed regional forums and processes can be found in earlier documentation, noted in this paper as reference citations.

Figure 1: A working taxonomy for inter-State consultation mechanisms on migration



3. MAJOR ACTIVITIES AND TRENDS OF REGIONAL AND INTERREGIONAL PROCESSES AND FORUMS

In this section, a brief note is made on the background of each of the 25 processes or forums reviewed, the recent evolution of their agendas and the meetings held since 2010. Where the agenda links with multilateral agreements or initiatives, the linkages are identified. The rationale for an entry's classification as an RCP, IRF or some other type, is also noted. The entries are organized geographically by region and subregion, then by type (RCPs, followed by RCPs that are pillars, and then by IRFs/others), and then arranged alphabetically.

3.1 Africa (intra-African)

3.1.1 Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa, *RCP*

Background

Established in 2000, Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa (MIDSA) grew directly out of the Southern African Development Community's (SADC) earlier and as-yet-unsuccessful efforts to promote and ratify a Protocol on the Facilitation of Movement among its Member States. Article 5 of the 1992 SADC treaty refers to the need to "develop policies aimed at progressive elimination of obstacles to the free movement of capital and labour, goods and services, and of the people of the region generally, among Member States."

In order to keep the discussion moving forward, and with a goal to eventually reach a satisfactory agreement within SADC on the facilitation of movement in the region, MIDSA was launched as an independent consultative process to enable SADC Member States to exchange views on the common challenges of and solutions to migration-related issues. MIDSA notes its purposes as follows:

- Assist SADC governments to respond to the African Union Strategic Framework on Migration and the African Union Common Position on Migration and Development.
- Stimulate discussion and debate on the implications of ratifying the SADC Draft Protocol on the Facilitation of Movement.
- Assist governments in participating in global debates about migration and development, for example, the Global Commission on International Migration, the HLDIM and the GFMD.[6]

MIDSA includes all 15 members of SADC, with the addition of Comoros. As its founding goals indicate, their complementarity with SADC is intentional. However, unlike the IGAD-RCP and the nascent COMESA RCP, MIDSA has no formal position within SADC and is a stand-alone RCP: an inter-State dialogue on migration established specifically and only to discuss and forge cooperation on migration-related matters. MIDSA has no official Secretariat, but IOM, jointly with the Southern Africa Migration Project, has from time to time provided closely related services and support for particular meetings.

Migration issues enter into the deliberations of and actions by SADC largely through two of its 11 integration themes,[7] namely: 1) social and human development; and 2) politics, defense and security. Attention to migration issues is occasionally given under other themes, such as economic development or health, but the two above-mentioned themes are where most migration-related discussions and actions have occurred within the SADC structure.

As indicated by the themes, migration is not a distinct area of focus for SADC, and neither is it one of its seven cross-cutting issues.[8] The SADC Secretariat is an Observer in MIDSA, as are the SADC Parliamentary Forum and the African Union Commission (AUC). MIDSA, as noted, has no formal standing within SADC; however, the MIDSA annual meetings are timed and coordinated with the SADC chairing cycle, and SADC commonly co-hosts MIDSA meetings.

Recent meetings and evolution of the agenda

MIDSA convenes yearly Conferences for Permanent Secretaries and Senior Officials, and these may be shaped around particular technical themes. Recently, MIDSA committed to hosting biennial ministerial conferences.

As the agendas in Annex C indicate, MIDSA has consistently paid attention to the same areas of focus over time, with shared attention to migrant labour and development themes, border management, refugee and asylum matters, migration and health, counter-trafficking and migration data issues. In 2012, MIDSA took special efforts to ensure complementarity, wherever possible, between its technical meeting discussions and its emerging 2012 Roadmap document on the one hand, and GFMD themes and issues on the other.

In April of 2013, MIDSA will hold a ministerial meeting with the theme 'Enhancing intraregional labour migration toward social and economic development in the SADC Region.' This meeting is dovetailed with the SADC Ministers of Employment and

Labour Sector and Social Partners' Meeting, which feeds into the SADC Council of Ministers and Heads of State.

Significantly, MIDSA has on more than one occasion invited other RCPs to MIDSA meetings for substantive interaction. The Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime, the Colombo Process (Ministerial consultation on overseas employment and contractual labour for countries of origin in Asia), the Regional Conference on Migration (RCM, also known as the 'Puebla Process') and Regional Ministerial Conference on Migration in the Western Mediterranean (5+5) participated in MIDSA meetings in the early to mid-2000s.

Linkages with multilateral agreements

As noted, MIDSA does not have the authority or intent to create binding agreements among its members through its own proceedings; however, as also noted, MIDSA can be said to serve the function of an inter-State consultation mechanism on migration for SADC. It is worth noting, for example, the first recommendation from the 2010 MIDSA Ministerial Conference: "…the Chair-in-Office of MIDSA and IOM to pursue the integration of current and future recommendations of the MIDSA ministerial meeting into SADC structures so that these recommendations lead to concrete actions."[9]

As also noted in the previous section, MIDSA has taken direct steps to ensure maximum complementarity between its 2012 Technical Meeting discussions and its emerging Roadmap document on the one hand, and GFMD themes, inclusive of soliciting GFMD advisors' input into the MIDSA agenda and documentation on the other. MIDSA also shared the conclusions and recommendations from their migration-and-development workshops with the first UN HLDIM and to the two subsequent GFMD Secretariats.

MIDSA stands as a particularly clear example of the balance most RCPs aim for between their desire for substantive discussion and practical follow-up action on the one hand, and their need for informality and for nurturing an environment free from the direct pressures of negotiating binding agreements on the other. The deference of MIDSA toward SADC for the latter is sensible, as it reinforces the contention that while RCPs may not strive toward formal agreements in most cases, neither are they apathetic about the value of such agreements, which they may promote through the most appropriate entities with proper authority and mission.

There is, however, an additional lesson on RCPs from the MIDSA experience. There is, as noted, a discernible push to more formally incorporate MIDSA and its decisions into formal SADC structures. This may also indicate that certain regions,

through their RCPs, may be moving toward a next stage of consultation – a next generation of RCPs – that includes clear ambitions to directly influence binding inter-State agreements on migration, building on the formal regional trade and development institutions' missions and processes.

Taxonomic placement

While closely linked and perhaps now moving toward a more formal linkage with SADC, MIDSA is today a stand-alone RCP. Like the Migration Dialogue for Western Africa (MIDWA), IGAD-RCP and COMESA RCP, it is among the RCPs that can be confidently defined as region-specific, as it mirrors the SADC region almost exactly.

3.1.2 Migration Dialogue for West Africa (MIDWA), *RCP*

Background

Founded in the same year as MIDSA (2000), MIDWA was inaugurated jointly by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and IOM to encourage ECOWAS Member States to discuss common migration issues in a regional context and pursue harmonized or complementary policies and practices through voluntary action. MIDWA addresses five key areas: 1) promotion of peace and stability in West Africa and protection of migrants' rights; 2) contributions of migrants to the development of their countries of origin; 3) poverty alleviation in emigration areas; 4) information, sensitization and research on the different aspects of international migration in West Africa; and 5) intraregional and interregional cooperation.

ECOWAS, the West African equivalent of SADC, is a regional group of fifteen countries founded in 1975. Its mission is to promote integration in all fields of economic activity through: 1) the liberalization of trade by the abolition, by Member States, of customs duties levied on imports and exports, as well as non-tariff barriers, in order to establish a free trade area at the community level; 2) the adoption of a common external tariff and a common trade policy vis-à-vis third countries; and 3) the removal, by Member States, of obstacles to the free movement of persons, goods, service and capital and to the right of residence and establishment. As with SADC, ECOWAS institutions include a Community Court of Justice.

Despite being launched by ECOWAS, MIDWA is not an official arm or activity of ECOWAS and stands as an independent RCP. However, in 2012, proposals were put forth to strengthen and better formalize the management/governance structure of MIDWA. The proposals included the recommendation that meetings of MIDWA

should be co-chaired by a representative of the ECOWAS Commission, as well as by the representative of the ECOWAS Member State currently serving as Chairman of the Authority of Heads of State of ECOWAS. These recommendations are yet to be fully reviewed or accepted.

At present, ECOWAS has no office or arm dealing exclusively with migration; rather, the issue cross-cuts and influences ECOWAS thinking in a number of areas, particularly the expansion of borderless trade and strategies for the maximum development and use of human resources in the region.

Recent meetings and evolution of the agenda

The most recent meeting of MIDWA, held in July 2012, focused on internal organizational and governance matters. The agenda recognized that weaknesses in the management structure existed, including a weak articulation of the linkage between MIDWA and ECOWAS. ECOWAS pledged financial support to MIDWA at this meeting and encouraged Member States to support an enhanced institutional framework for MIDWA. Instructively, the IGAD-RCP was presented as a model that more closely tied the RCP to the regional economic/trade body, and one with a well-articulated governance structure.

Linkages with multilateral agreements

In April and May of 2007, experts' meetings were organized to define a common approach to migration for the region, with the intent to present these recommendations to the ECOWAS Heads of State in early 2008. ECOWAS was, at the time, elaborating the ECOWAS Common Approach to Migration,[10] which was accepted by its members in 2008. The MIDWA efforts fed into and influenced the ECOWAS final document; however, it should be noted that MIDWA was not mentioned in the ECOWAS migration document.

Taxonomic placement

While closely linked and perhaps moving now into a more formal linkage with ECOWAS, MIDWA is today a stand-alone RCP. It is in its structure and process most easily comparable to MIDSA. Further, like MIDSA, IGAD-RCP, COMESA RCP and the South American Conference on Migration (SACM) – in relation to SADC, IGAD, COMESA and the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR), respectively – it is among the RCPs geographically aligned, with little exception, with their corresponding regional trade/development/common market authorities.

3.1.3 Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) RCP, *RCP (pillar)*

Background

As of March 2013, the COMESA RCP was still in its formative stage and awaiting full approval from all COMESA Member States for its initiation. As the notes further below indicate, key steps have been taken at the ministerial level and it is most likely that this new RCP would be formally initiated sometime in 2013. Although not yet launched, the COMESA RCP is of special interest and provides a useful perspective on the range of characteristics of RCPs.

COMESA began in December 1994, when it was formed to replace the former Preferential Trade Area, which had existed since 1981. COMESA (as defined by its Treaty) was established "as an organization of free independent sovereign states which have agreed to co-operate in developing their natural and human resources for the good of all their people." As such, it has wide-ranging objectives. However, due to the economic history and background of COMESA, it focuses mainly on the formation of a large economic and trading unit that is capable of overcoming some of the barriers that individual States face. COMESA focuses on enhancing shared economic prosperity through the regional integration of its 19 Member States. As migration issues are inextricably linked with trade and development issues, as well as with security, the addition of the focus on migration through the RCP is a natural development.

Recent meetings and evolution of the agenda

The COMESA Meeting of Ministers responsible for immigration, held in Lusaka in March 2011, decided, inter alia, in favor of the establishment of a regional consultative process for COMESA on migration management that will coordinate the implementation of pilot programs and enhance cooperation with other institutions, such as the East African Community (EAC) and the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC). The overall intent is to harmonize approaches and immigration instruments and policies as much as possible. The Ministers' decision was noted as one to be endorsed by their home governments, and this part of the process, while likely pro forma, was not yet complete as of March 2013.

Following the Ministers' decisions, the COMESA Taskforce Report was presented to the Chief Immigration Officers' Meeting held in Lusaka in October 2012. The report summarized the role of regional consultative processes in contributing to the

management of international migration. The Chief Immigration Officers supported the Ministers' decision from the 2011 Ministerial and voiced their recommendation in favour of launching the COMESA RCP in 2013.

The subsequent October 2012 COMESA Meeting of Ministers responsible for immigration, also held in Lusaka, discussed the recommendation of the Chief Immigration Officers and made the following decision: Member States are encouraged to endorse the concept of establishing a COMESA RCP and grant authority to proceed with the launch of the COMESA RCP in June 2013. Further, the Thirty-first COMESA Council of Ministers Meeting, held in Kampala, Uganda in November 2012, decided that Member States should be encouraged to endorse the concept of establishing a COMESA RCP and grant authority to proceed with the launch of the COMESA RCP in June 2013.

As of March 2013, the process of establishing the COMESA RCP has been moving forward. IOM has lent support of various kinds, as requested, throughout this formative process.

Linkages with multilateral agreements

The COMESA RCP is not yet established. Whether or not it will pursue a role in shaping multilateral agreements is yet to be decided by its constituting members.

Taxonomic placement

The COMESA RCP, once launched, will be one of the RCPs formed as a pillar within a broader framework (COMESA) that includes other complementing pillars.

3.1.4 Intergovernmental Authority on Development RCP, *RCP (pillar)*

Background

IGAD, as a formal intergovernmental entity focused on the political, economic, trade, development and security issues of its members, was established in 1996 by Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan and Uganda; South Sudan joined in 2011. It evolved out of the earlier-established (1986) Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development.

While not the largest economic/trade/development authority on the African continent, IGAD is a fully established intergovernmental institution, with a governance

structure familiar to such entities, including an Assembly of Heads of State and Government, a Secretariat with an Executive Secretary, a Council of Ministers structure and a Committee of Ambassadors. IGAD has significant political weight on issues affecting the Horn of Africa/East Africa and has the power to assemble its Member States to address critical security and development issues.

The IGAD-RCP grew out of a 2008 meeting of the senior officials of migration-related ministries of IGAD members, held at the African Union headquarters, which resulted in the Declaration on the Establishment of IGAD Regional Consultative Process on Migration. The IGAD Executive Secretary and the Council of Ministers endorsed the initiative, and the First IGAD-RCP Meeting was held in 2010.

IGAD-RCP, like the nascent COMESA RCP, exists as a distinct migration pillar within an official regional trade/economic body that has several other major pillars. It is situated within the Economic and Social Development Section of IGAD, to facilitate coordination and follow up on migration issues between IGAD and its Member States.

Recent meetings and evolution of the agenda

The First IGAD-RCP Meeting was held in Addis Ababa in October 2010. Among its significant outcomes were recommendations regarding the structure of the RCP and the specific means with which to tie the RCP closely to the IGAD governance structure. In this regard the following recommendations from the meeting, which have already been enacted, are most relevant:

- Designation of the officer responsible for migration matters within the IGAD Secretariat as the focal point for RCP matters;
- Establishment of a Regional Migration Coordination Committee (RMCC) composed of the Directors of Immigration, as well as a Steering Committee composed of sectoral officers (immigration, labour, national security, refugees and foreign affairs);
- Establishment of a Ministerial Committee of the RCP responsible for migration, to facilitate endorsement and adoption of recommendations proposed by Member States and relevant committees (e.g., RMCC);
- Establishment of a migration unit within the Economic and Social Development Section of IGAD.

Further, the Meeting called for the development of an IGAD Regional Migration Policy Framework[11] to provide a template for the development of harmonized or complementary policies, laws and practices within the region. This was later pursued and produced with support from IOM, making IGAD the first Regional Economic

Community of the African Union to replicate the continental guideline of the Migration Policy Framework for Africa at the regional level.

The second and most recent meeting of the IGAD-RCP took place in Addis Ababa in February 2012. The two-day meeting – attended by representatives from IGAD Member States, the UN, AUC, IOM and other development partners – was spent exchanging national and regional experiences and best practices on how to harness the development potential of migration. The delegates also discussed the possibility of a regional action plan for diaspora engagement in development and noted the need to enhance the exchange of information and closer cooperation. Furthermore, the meeting facilitated the exchange of information between stakeholders involved in HIV/AIDS intervention, especially in regard to better management of cross-border movements.

Several recommendations were formulated and passed. These included: 1) the development of national policies and legislation based on the African Union and IGAD Migration Policy Frameworks; 2) undertaking research and data collection to inform policy development, as well as 3) continuous sharing of knowledge and experience. The delegates also called for increased engagement with the diaspora and improved cost-effective mechanisms for remittances.

Recognizing the adoption of the Minimum Integration Plan by the Summit of Heads of State and Government in February 2012, IGAD Member States were encouraged to develop strategies that would cascade the provisions of the plan to lower levels of government and their citizens for its eventual roll-out, as envisaged in the broader African Integration Program, with specific reference to migration and development.

Linkages with multilateral agreements

IGAD-RCP actions have from the outset included a distinct focus on influencing and helping to shape broader agreements and initiatives supporting stronger regional integration in Africa and, in particular, among the IGAD Member States. For example, IGAD, together with COMESA and EAC, are jointly implementing the Regional Political Integration and Human Security Support program funded under the Tenth European Development Fund – which is, in effect, a multilateral agreement between the EU and Africa (through the African Union). The overall objective of that program is to support the political integration agenda of the regional organizations of East and Southern Africa and the Indian, with the end result of improving political governance, transparency, democratization processes, security, stability and sustainable development in the region through strategic regional cooperation. The overall goal is the achievement of poverty reduction and improved welfare for the peoples of the region.

The AU Summit in Banjul 2006, through its decision EX.CL/Dec.304(ix), adopted the Migration Policy Framework for Africa as a basic guideline and reference document for the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and African Union Member States to use in developing their own regional and national migration policies. The earlier-mentioned IGAD Regional Migration Policy Framework accomplishes this linkage with the Africa-wide initiative and thus links closely with, and supports, the multilateral European Development Fund agreement.

Further, among the recommendations from the First IGAD-RCP Meeting was "to ensure the active involvement and effective participation of the RECs and civil society partners in the implementation of the Africa-EU Migration, Mobility and Employment (MME) Partnership." The Meeting also resulted in a commitment to formulate a free-movement protocol among its members.

The IGAD-RCP, although still relatively new, works from a position of considerable strength in terms of its ability to influence and directly link its work with multilateral agreements. This strength is drawn from its position within a formal regional economic/trade/development body and from an inception directly linked with the African Union Migration Policy Framework for Africa.

Taxonomic placement

As mentioned earlier, RCPs such as IGAD – given their position within formal regional economic and development communities or common markets – are well-poised to pursue formal agreements or to directly influence their host entity to pursue them. In this regard they have the potential to bend the definition of an RCP as an essentially informal process and one that does not pursue formal agreements. This can be seen as a maturation of the concept of RCP to include both those processes strictly disinclined and not empowered to pursue formal agreements, and those predisposed to do so. The IGAD-RCP is included here, being an RCP operating as a pillar within a broader consultation mechanism.

3.2 Africa with Europe

3.2.1 Euro-African Dialogue on Migration and Development ('Rabat Process'), RCP

Background

What has become known as the 'Rabat Process' was first conceptualized at the Africa-EU Ministerial Meeting held in Mali at the end of 2005. Reacting to the new realities of, in particular, irregular migration from Central and West Africa, transiting through North Africa, toward Europe, and clearly recognizing the development and regional integration factors that underpinned these movements, the Ministers pledged to launch a dialogue on migration that would involve all key countries in this broad migration path, and address the core issues, as well as the more technical ones. In mid-2006 the Ministers with migration portfolios met again, this time in Rabat, Morocco, and effectively launched the Rabat Process, which was participated by nearly 60 North, West and Central African and approximately 30 European States. ECOWAS and the European Commission are among the members of the Process, and both serve on the Steering Committee.

As the full title of this RCP clearly indicates, the Rabat Process is anchored on the linkage between migration and development. The Process is based on three pillars: 1) organizing legal migration; 2) fighting irregular migration; and 3) strengthening the synergies between migration and development.

Prior to 2010, the Rabat Process proceeded largely through approximately biennial ministerial conferences and preparatory senior officials' meetings. Until that point, the Rabat Process closely resembled the Tripoli Process in its manner of consultation, although the latter encompasses the full African continent. Both processes were, to that point, formal and high-level political consultations that supported even larger multilateral agreements or aspirations, such as the Joint Africa-EU Strategy and the European Union's Global Approach to Migration and Mobility (GAMM). The high degree of formality and the linkage, with binding decisions and multilateral agreements, distinguished these consultations from those commonly defined as RCPs. Regular informal consultation is not a dominant characteristic in either case.

However, in 2010, the EU funded the multi-year project 'Support to the EU-Africa Partnership on Migration, Mobility and Employment,'[12] managed by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) and the International and Ibero-

American Foundation for Administration and Public Policies (FIIAP). This project supports both the noted Partnership and the Rabat Process. At that point the Rabat Process became able to undertake regular expert meetings aimed at reinforcing dialogue and strengthening cooperation mechanisms, as well as engaging other interventions meant to facilitate knowledge-sharing and enhance networking in general. As such, the Rabat Process has taken on a form consistent with those of other RCPs, including having a mix of annual or biennial high-level meetings and regular, less-formal consultations. The limited range of funding sources for most support partners has the potential to become problematic or skew the direction and effective ownership of the Process; however, this does not distinguish the Rabat Process from some other RCPs that may have a dominant support partner.

Recent meetings and evolution of the agenda

As noted, the Rabat Process proceeds through approximately biennial ministerial meetings (2006, 2008 and 2011), and preparatory Senior Officials' Meetings. A recent milestone was the adoption of what is termed the 'Dakar Strategy'[13] at the 2011 Ministerial Conference. This was followed by a complementing Roadmap[14] document presented at the mid-2012 Senior Officials' Meeting. Together they serve as a statement of broad principle and strategy and as an action framework for the Process through 2014. The principles articulated are consistent with the general characteristics of RCPs as set out in earlier RCP reviews, and specify that the Rabat Process will: 1) proceed as a working dialogue; 2) continue to use a flexible and balanced approach; 3) strive to be a coherent dialogue; 4) require committed partners; and 5) shall proceed as a shared responsibility of all of its Members.

The Declaration recommitted the Process to its three pillars: 1) organizing legal migration, 2) fighting against irregular migration and 3) strengthening the synergies between migration and development, and set out the following ten priority objectives:

1. Facilitate exchanges between the various parties involved in mobility.
2. Provide national and regional institutions with the means and capacities to implement mobility policies.
3. Guarantee that migrants' rights and integration are respected.
4. Improve border management, the efficiency of readmission procedures and return conditions of irregular migrants.
5. Reinforce the protection for vulnerable groups.
6. Render civil registers secure and streamline their management.
7. Adopt an inclusive approach to matters of migration and development.
8. Improve the mobilization of migrant remittances to the benefit of their countries of origin.

9. Realize the potential for migrant engagement with countries of origin.
10. Base policy consistency and coordination on acquiring and sharing information.

In 2012, the EU announced its intention to provide funding for a third phase of support to the Rabat Process; specifically, it aims to: 1) support the dialogue process; 2) coordinate and develop good practices; and 3) launch concrete actions to implement the Dakar Strategy.

Linkages with multilateral agreements

The Rabat Process supports in direct and indirect ways multilateral agreements within and between Europe and Africa, such as the Africa-EU Strategic Partnership, the Cotonou Agreement, the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, the European Pact on Immigration and Asylum, the GAMM and the MME, as well as intra-African multilateral agreements such as the ECOWAS Free Movement Protocol.[15]

While the Process does not itself propose and negotiate new formal agreements, it does strive to refresh and strengthen common political will among a broad group of States, and enhance practical cooperation through the implementation of projects that support its agenda. As a broad multilateral migration consultation and action model encompassing both developed and less-developed partners, it provides useful insights on migration-and-development policy development for global multilateral mechanisms, such as the GFMD and the HLDIM.

Taxonomic placement

The Rabat Process can be seen as an import dialogue element of the Africa-EU Strategic Partnership, and its areas focus are quite consistent with GAMM. The Rabat Process was identified in the most recent EC Communication on GAMM[16] as the priority dialogue of the EU with West Africa. Its inclusion of Central and West African, Maghrebian and EU members gives it a clear interregional character. While it is closely linked with, and intentionally supportive of, broad EU and African mechanisms, it is not a formal part of those mechanisms. As such, it is included here as a stand-alone RCP.

3.2.2 The Tripoli Process, *IRF (pillar)*

Background

The EU-African Union Meeting on Migration and Development, held in Tripoli in November 2006 was followed up closely by the Euro-African Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development in Rabat just four months earlier. Both can be seen as

elements of the broad GAMM, which was adopted by the EU in 2005 and refreshed in a 2011 EC Communication.[17] Establishing dialogue among the countries of origin, transit and destination is among the priorities of the Global Approach. While the Rabat meeting (and its follow-up) included mostly North and West African countries, and some from Central Africa on the linked migration routes, the Tripoli meeting was a full-African-continent ministerial with the EU.

The significance of the Tripoli meeting was that it resulted in the EU-Africa Declaration on Migration and Development and directly led to the establishment of the MME, adopted officially in Lisbon the following year as an element of the broader Africa-EU strategic agreement. The MME Partnership is now a key part of the Africa-EU Strategic Partnership.

The migration and mobility strand of the Africa-EU strategic agreement aims to provide comprehensive responses to migration, with a particular focus on facilitating the mobility and free movement of people in Africa and the EU. Among its focus, or thematic areas, are: 1) better managing legal migration between the two continents; 2) addressing the root causes of migration and refugee flows; 3) fair treatment of all migrants under applicable international laws; 4) finding concrete solutions to problems posed by irregular migration flows and the trafficking of human beings; and 5) ensuring that migration and mobility work for development.

What has become known as the Tripoli Process is essentially the follow-up to the 2006 Ministerial, and, in particular, the follow-up to the nine points in the Declaration from that meeting, as follows: 1) migration and development; 2) migration management challenges; 3) peace and security; 4) human resources and brain drain; 5) concern for human rights and the well-being of the individual; 6) sharing best practices; 7) regular migration opportunities; 8) illegal or irregular migration; and 9) protection of refugees. The Tripoli Process can be seen as an expansion on the above-listed themes of the then-just-concluded Rabat meeting, with emphasis on areas similar to items 1, 7 and 8. The follow up process, as noted in the Tripoli Declaration, includes the following:

- Regular, expert-level troika meetings on migration-and-development issues;
- Emphasis on exchanges of experiences and information on respective policies developed at the bilateral, regional and continental levels by African States and organizations, and on relevant policy initiatives and concrete actions by the European Union and its Member States within existing structures for dialogue [emphasis added by the author], in order to ensure coherence with other fields of cooperation;
- Mandating the African Union and EU Commissions to develop an implementation Roadmap for the Joint Declaration;

- Agreeing that an EU-Africa Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development should take place within three years to provide an initial review of migration and development in the context of the overall Africa-EU Dialogue;
- Further developing dialogue in the framework of the GFMD organized as a part of the follow-up to the UN High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development, including further work on migration and development within the UN system.

The Tripoli Process' migration-related agenda is substantially the same as that of the Rabat Process, which has more regular consultation meetings supported by the EU through special projects designated to ICMPD. The MME is a full-continent initiative, and as such is better suited for complementing the Tripoli process, whether explicitly or implicitly. As earlier highlighted, the Tripoli Declaration specifies that follow-up should take place "within existing structures for dialogue," in order to ensure coherence with other fields of cooperation. This reference is intended to ensure that the dialogues take place within the context of broader bilateral and multilateral EU framework consultations, such as strategic partnerships, association agreements or partnership and cooperation agreements, and joint cooperation councils.

Both the Rabat and the Tripoli Processes support, in practical ways, broader consultation and cooperation, for example, the Joint Africa-EU Partnership on MME and, for the EU, the GAMM. The Tripoli Process demonstrates, however, that high-level consultation on migration at the regional and interregional level does take place outside of the framework of recurrent RCPs. It demonstrates as well the unique role of high-level political meetings, which can result in meaningful multilateral agreements on migration-related issues. Further, when viewed together with the Rabat and the MME Processes, it usefully highlights the relationship of RCPs to more formal deliberations and consultations.

Recent meetings and evolution of the agenda

As earlier noted, following the November 2006 Tripoli Ministerial Meeting, the Second EU-Africa Summit was held in Lisbon in 2007. At that meeting, which may be seen as a follow-up to the Tripoli meeting, African and European leaders adopted the Joint Africa-EU Strategy. The Strategy's First Action Plan included the Africa-EU Partnership on Migration, Mobility and Employment (MME). The Second Action Plan, which covers the 2011–2013 period, was adopted at the Africa-EU Summit (again in Tripoli) in November 2010. The Plan shapes the ongoing Africa-EU dialogue, as well as various MME initiatives, which are geared toward achieving the goals of the Partnership.

While the Tripoli Process has designated follow-up meetings at a high level to follow up on the original Declaration, as with the Rabat Process, the bilateral or multilateral work necessary to implement or track the progress of the Declaration typically occurs between more junior officials on a more regular basis.

Linkages with multilateral agreements

The Tripoli Process encompasses the full African continent, whereas the Rabat Process covers mainly North, West and Central Africa and is focused on West African migratory routes and issues. Both serve to support and enact the GAMM, as well as the Africa-EU Strategic Partnership, and they both focus on enacting the MME component of that Partnership in particular – and both within the context of an migration-and-development perspective.

Taxonomic placement

The Tripoli Process can be characterized as a series of sequenced and formal, high-level political meetings following up on the original meeting's Declaration, and one in which binding decisions can be pursued or followed up. It is also a full-African-continent-with-full-EU initiative, and as such is not characterized by regular, close, informal consultations among all members. As such, the Tripoli Process falls outside the definition of RCPs used in this paper and is listed instead as an important IRF. Additionally, it can be viewed as a pillar within the broader Joint Africa-EU Strategic Partnership.

3.3 Americas and the Caribbean

3.3.1 Regional Conference on Migration (RCM, 'Puebla Process'), *RCP*

Background

Established in 1996, the RCM is an RCP composed primarily of Central and North American Member States (with the addition of the Dominican Republic). The RCM was created to explore common migration issues and encourage the establishment of common or complementing policies and practices among its members. The RCM focuses on the protection of migrants' and strengthening the integrity of each member country's migration laws, borders and security, as well as strengthening the links

between migration and development. The intent and actions of the RCM extend beyond the regular dialogue sessions and into various practical projects intended to meet specific operational and policy aims consistent with the Process' objectives.

The RCM is a particularly well-structured Process, with established focal points in two key ministries/departments in each of its 11 Member States: foreign affairs (encompassing consular affairs) and interior/security (normally encompassing immigration). The Annual Meeting of the Vice-Ministers of the key government agencies is the body that makes decisions on the overall strategy and framework of continued action. This meeting is prepared for, and complemented and followed up by, semi-annual meetings at the senior technical level, as well as by the work of two working networks at a highly technical level, namely, the Liaison Officers Network for Consular Protection and the Liaison Officers Network to Combat Migrant Smuggling and Trafficking.

One special characteristic of the RCM is the active participation of civil society organizations (CSOs). In the framework of the RCM, CSOs of the region comprise the Regional Network of Civil Society Organizations on Migration and not only meet in parallel to arrive at their own consensus, but make their representations to the Working Networks and the Vice-Ministers' Meetings. The CSOs are also invited to participate in the seminars, workshops and other activities of the RCM.

The RCM set up a Technical Secretariat, which reports directly to the RCM participant States and whose main purpose is to provide support to the Presidency Pro Tempore in the follow-up and coordination of its activities and initiatives. IOM houses the Technical Secretariat and provides administrative and logistical support to it.

The RCM can be usefully compared with the Bali Process in terms of how its institutional strength developed over time. As with Bali Process, the RCM benefits from stable funding (with all participating States contributing to an annual budget according to an agreed scale); a well-structured internal management and governance system; the use of derivative working groups and projects to further cooperative action; and the services of a well-established Secretariat.

Recent meetings and evolution of the agenda

The RCM agenda has remained true to its original tenets throughout its now-16-years of operation. Generally, migration-and-development-related agendas have been more dominant in recent years, with the following central themes from 2005 onward:

2005 Integration and Citizenship (Canada presidency)
2006 Linking Communities (El Salvador presidency)

2007 Effective Cooperation in Combating Trafficking (US presidency)
2008 Migration and Human Rights (Honduras presidency)
2009 Migration and Development (Guatemala presidency)
2010 Migration and Family (Mexico presidency)
2011 Migration and Work: Co-responsibility of the States (Dominican Republic presidency)
2012 Security in the Framework of Human Rights and Mixed Migration Flows (Panama presidency)
2013 (Topic Forthcoming) (Costa Rica presidency)
2014 (Topic Forthcoming) (Nicaragua presidency)

In addition to the annual meetings at the Vice-Minister level, RCM conducts many technical meetings and trainings and has established two active liaison officer networks in the region.

Linkages with multilateral agreements

The RCM is committed to informality and non-binding actions; however, the RCM is finely tuned to influence multilateral policy actions in other ways. An informal Plan of Action has been agreed, representing commitments for regional action and a basic framework for guiding and coordinating activities.

Among other particular actions that the RCM has taken through its deliberations is the endorsement of guidelines for the return of regional migrants by land, and for the implementation of the program on multilateral cooperation for the assisted return of extraregional migrants stranded in member countries of the RCM. It has also created an RCM Fund for the assisted return of vulnerable migrants from the region, financed by voluntary contributions and administered by IOM on behalf of participating States.

Taxonomic placement

The RCM is a classic free-standing RCP, characterized by regular close dialogue and cooperative action among its members. While not driven by the intent to forge binding agreements through its own processes, it does intend to have a strong practical effect on building trust and policy complementarity among its members.

3.3.2 South American Conference on Migration, *RCP*

Background

The 1999 South American Meeting on Migration, Integration and Development,[18] held in Peru, resulted in an agreement to establish continuous consultation on migration among South American countries. The following year, the first Annual South American Conference on Migration was held in Argentina. South American Conference on Migration (SACM) has since proceeded with an Annual Conference, various preparatory and technical meetings and the enactment of derivative projects to inform and, at times, implement SACM-vetted priorities.

The membership profile of SACM mirrors exactly that of UNASUR, which is the intergovernmental union for the broad region. UNASUR integrates the two existing customs unions in that region, namely, the Common Market of the South (MERCOSUR) and the Andean Community of Nations (CAN), and also includes Chile, Guyana and Suriname.[19]

The themes of SAMC include the following: rights of migrants, integration of migrants in their host countries/communities, migration and development, diasporas, information exchange, migration statistics, human trafficking and migrant smuggling. The current priorities of SACM include the following:

- Ensuring respect for the human rights of migrants regardless of their status (rejection of the criminalization of irregular status);
- Promoting the discourse on migration in relation to development;
- Strengthening dialogue and political coordination among States;
- Highlighting the value of contributions made by migrants to development in countries of destination;
- Highlighting the significance of migrants' contributions to the welfare and cultural enrichment of societies in countries of origin;
- Promoting the participation of representatives from civil society in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of programmes on migration matters.

Recent meetings and evolution of the agenda

SACM approved, at its Tenth Meeting in Cochabamba, Bolivia in October 2010, its Declaration of Migration Principles and Guidelines, which is intended to help governments in the establishment and development of migration policies. Furthermore, at this same meeting the South American Plan for the Human Development of Migrants (SAPHDM) was adopted.[20] SAPHDM, as an action and policy model, promotes a comprehensive approach towards migration. It addresses issues such as respect for

the rights of migrants, human mobility, return and reintegration, and citizenship, and emphasizes the positive impact of migration and the regional integration processes.

The Twelfth Meeting of SACM took place in 2012, under the Chilean Presidency Pro Tempore. This Meeting primarily reviewed strategic and programmatic matters, but in doing so highlighted several important issues. The core topic of this Meeting was to analyse the different components of the governance of international migration in South America and to do so within a holistic context, taking into consideration political, regulatory and institutional issues.

Among the new tasks assigned to the Technical Secretariat of SACM was the elaboration of an assessment of South-South cooperation mechanisms relevant to migration that can be implemented among the Member States of SACM. Additionally, the Secretariat was specifically charged to help SACM prepare for and maximally contribute to the 2013 UN HLDIM.

Additionally, the Meeting discussed the initiative within UNASUR to possibly incorporate SACM into UNASUR. This initiative is being discussed within UNASUR as one way to move forward on the long-standing agenda of establishing a 'South American citizenship.' Further discussion on this point was deferred, after acknowledgement of the fact that the Member States' representatives to SACM were not the same as their representatives to UNASUR, and as such, significant internal coordination at the national level is needed. However, many SACM members expressed a preference for SACM to remain independent from UNASUR, but to continue to serve as an important point of consultation.

Notably, representatives of both MERCOSUR and CAN attended the Meeting and reported on the progress of these regional integration groups regarding migration policies and norms. Also at this Meeting, SACM took steps to again strengthen the engagement of civil society in their deliberations.

Of particular note was the discussion and final Declaration of the meeting on the GFMD. SACM members expressed concern about the way the GFMD operates and its role in the international migration debate. The final Declaration goes on to note that discussions on migration and development should be conducted within the framework of the United Nations and aim at the approval of an 'International Convention on Migration.' This received widespread support among SACM members.

Linkages with multilateral agreements

As indicated in the agenda above discussion, SACM attempts, in a number of ways, to encourage the establishment of bilateral and multilateral agreements on

migration, while deferring formal action to other bodies with more explicit authority to take such steps. Additionally, the interplay between SACM and other regional economic and development communities, namely, CAN and MERCOSUR, is further indication of the influence of SACM on multilateral frameworks under development. SACM member States' explicit push for UN action on an international convention on migration is yet another indication of its link with existing or envisioned multilateral agreements on migration.

Further, derivative projects of SACM support the implementation of multilateral agreements in the region, although these agreements may not reach the level of international treaty law or be on the level of joint declarations. For example, the aforementioned SAPHDM, endorsed at the Tenth SACM Meeting as part of an engagement agreement ('acta de acuerdos y compromisos asumidos'), is supported at the practical level by an IOM project, funded by the IOM Development Fund (formerly called the '1035 Facility'). An additional element of the South American Plan dealt with the positioning of SACM before the GFMD. The noted Agreement is nested within broader framework agreements also agreed upon through the SACM process.

Taxonomic placement

SACM is a clear example of a well-established, stand-alone RCP with strong political elements augmented by practical cooperation enacted largely through vetted project initiatives.

3.3.3 Ibero-American Forum on Migration and Development, *IRF (pillar)*

Background

At the Fifteenth Ibero-America Summit,[21] held in Salamanca, Spain in 2005, the Heads of State and Government of the 22 Ibero-American countries[22] approved the Declaration of Salamanca, which positioned international migration as a central topic in the Ibero-American Community and initiated a process to design a coordinated agenda framed around a common vision of the positive contributions of migration toward development.

As part of the follow-up to Salamanca, the Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB) organized the Ibero-American Meeting on Migration and Development (FIBEMYD) in 2006. The document *Unidos por las Migraciones*[23] was created, and it set the stage for the deliberations of the Sixteenth Ibero-American Summit,

held in Montevideo later that year, which also focused on the topic of migration and development.

At the Montevideo Summit, the Heads of State and Government adopted the Commitment of Montevideo on Migration and Development, which clearly reflects the common view regarding the positive contributions of migration toward development, and which framed its direction and conclusions on principles of international law regarding human rights. While framed in an migration-and-development perspective, the Commitment addresses many key migration focus areas, commonly on the agenda of regional dialogues on migration, including the following: 1) coordinating government policies toward a more holistic approach to migration management; 2) promoting the human rights of migrants; 3) supporting the prevention and fight against human trafficking and migrant smuggling; 4) facilitating the effective integration of migrants in their destination communities; 5) eradicating all forms of discrimination; 6) giving special attention to the problems of migration of women and vulnerable groups; and 7) promoting experiences of co-development.

The Montevideo Commitment identified the following approaches or mechanisms as integral to its goals: 1) adherence of the countries to the regional and international instruments regarding human rights; 2) strengthening dialogues; 3) building consensus; 4) using diplomacy; and 5) focusing on multilateral agreements rather than unilateral action. To help strengthen its means and achieve the desired ends, FIBEMYD was established in 2008 as "a space to exchange good practices and coordinate consensus and actions shared by the Ibero-American nations…"[24] and to put into action the decisions made by the Heads of State and Government at the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Ibero-American Summits,[25] the latter being held in Santiago in 2007. FIBEMYD is seen as one of the basic pillars of the Ibero-American Conference and its annual summit meetings.[26]

FIBEMYD may be considered an important IRF, particularly considering its direct linkage with the Ibero-American Summit. It has thus far operated as a large-scale conference event and, as such, is distinct from the generally more intimate and government-focused RCPs. FIBEMYD has no dedicated Secretariat, but its Forum activities have been supported organizationally and financially by Fundación Carolina of Spain, IOM, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and UNHCR.

Recent meetings and evolution of the agenda

The first FIBEMYD event was held in Cuenca, Ecuador in 2008 and resulted in the *Cuenca Programme of Action*. The *Cuenca Programme* is a flexible, non-binding

instrument that reflects and enacts the recommendations and agreements made at the summit level. It has three main pillars or focus areas of action: migration and development, human rights and migration management.

The second, and as-yet most recent, meeting of the Forum was held in El Salvador in 2010. This meeting was called by SEGIB, in compliance with the mandates of the Heads of State and Government of Ibero-America, which were set out in the XVIII and XIX Summits, and, in particular, to support the earlier-crafted Montevideo Commitment (2006).

The 2010 Forum focused on migration-and-development issues in the context of the economic crisis. Generally, it sought to reach a common understanding of the principal impact of the economic crisis on migration and development, with the aim of identifying priority programmes and projects to mitigate the effects of the crisis on Ibero-America. More specifically, the Forum was intended to: 1) fulfill the mandates of the XVIII and XIX Ibero-American Summits; 2) share best practices and identify areas of intervention and priority actions to mitigate the effects of the crisis in the framework of the Montevideo Commitment and the Cuenca Programme of Action; 3) strengthen the institutional and programmatic convergence of the principal actors involved in migration-related matters in Ibero-America; 4) reach agreements on action by identifying specific initiatives, programmes and activities; and, 5) generate input for the GFMD, held later that year in Mexico City.

Consistent with its nature as a forum or conference event, the 2010 FIBEMYD attracted over 300 participants from Ibero-American Member States and other invited countries, including representatives from governments, civil society and academia. Worthy of note was the participation of representatives from the two major RCPs in the region, RCM and SACM, as did the representative of the Presidency Pro Tempore (Mexico) of that year's GFMD. Other organizations represented included: CAN, Caribbean community (CARICOM), Centro Escolar University, Inter-American Commission for Human rights (IACHR), Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Inter-American Institute of Human Rights (IIHR), ILO, MERCOSUR, Organization of American States, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Central American Integration System (SICA), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), UNFPA, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCHR), UNHCR, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), World Bank and the World Trade Organization.

Linkages with multilateral agreements

The Forum's role in supporting existing, and helping to promote future, multilateral agreements and frameworks is quite clear through its direct relationship with the

Ibero-American Summit Process. *The Cuenca Programme of Action* was developed at the first (2008) meeting of FIBEMYD in direct response to the directions given at the 2007 Santiago Summit.

The discussion at the 2010 meeting highlights the further role of the Forum in promoting multilateral agreements on migration – beyond those specifically created within the Ibero-American process. For example, the Minister representing the host country underlined the importance of intergovernmental spaces like FIBEMYD in supporting and promoting supranational processes, including their role in helping to support the signing of the Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and their Families,[27] and, in general, the need to move toward a global system of migration management and governance based on new multilateral legislative and institutional structures.

The summit process itself has contributed to the promotion of multilateral agreements and frameworks in migration in other practical ways. For example, the Multilateral Ibero-American Agreement on Social Security was adopted at the 2007 Santiago Summit. This Agreement represents a significant step forward in establishing the portability of social security benefits, benefitting, in particular, migrant workers. Here, the Summit Process, and its further promotion and articulation through FIBEMYD, creates models in concept and in practice that have both a practical effect among the concerned Ibero-American countries and a modeling and promotion effect, as they are promoted 'upward' through the GFMD, and perhaps the UN HLDIM and discussions at the level of international organizations. The modeling and promotion is explicit and intentional.

The synergies established with other key actors in the area of migration – particularly the regional consultative processes, the GFMD and networks of civil society organizations – are additional indications of the linkage of FIBEMYD with multilateral initiatives.

Taxonomic placement

FIBEMYD operates as a large-scale conferencing event, with largely unrestricted participation. It is a uniquely valuable example of those forums that can support well-articulated regional migration policy goals and is included here as an IRF. It can be viewed as a pillar of the summit process, from which it derives its mandate and agenda.

3.4 Asia (intra-Asian)

3.4.1 The Almaty Process, *RCP*

Background

Like the COMESA RCP, the Almaty Process was, as of early 2013, still a nascent one, but one that had completed considerable preparatory work. The idea for a new RCP centered primarily around the needs and issues of the post-Soviet Central Asian countries (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan – although Uzbekistan has not yet participated in the main preparatory meetings), grew out of a series of consultation and conferencing activities co-organized by IOM and UNHCR in 2011 and 2012. Parallel conferencing events have been held at various locations across the globe since 2008.[28] While focused on the noted Central Asian States, the process and concept thus far has been inclusive of some of the neighbouring countries in either formal or special participant roles.

The initial conference, entitled 'Refugee Protection and International Migration in Central Asia,' examined the protection challenges posed by mixed migratory movements in the region and the collaborative approaches needed to address them. The Almaty event was organized by UNHCR and IOM in cooperation with the United Nations Regional Center for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia and was supported by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). It was hosted by the Government of Kazakhstan and organized with financial support from the European Commission and the Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration of the U.S. Department of State.

More than 100 representatives, mostly at the ministerial level, from Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, China, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkey and Turkmenistan participated in the event. Governments, international agencies and civil society representatives discussed the following topics: 1) managing borders while ensuring refugee protection; 2) addressing the different needs of people on the move; 3) strengthening the integration of refugees, migrants, stateless people and minorities; 4) developing legal migration opportunities; and 5) preventing trafficking and protecting the victims, especially children.

The participating countries adopted the Almaty Declaration, which, inter alia, proposes to create a regional framework that would serve as a platform for further cooperation, dialogue and follow-up action among countries of origin, transit and destination, international organizations and civil society. The conference and its follow-up became known as the 'Almaty Process.'

After the 2011 Conference, partnerships at the national, regional and international levels were strengthened. Through national consultation processes, each of the Central Asian countries appointed a National Coordinator at the deputy minister level to act as its representative in the follow-up to the Conference and implementation of the Conference recommendations. At the same time, a regional cooperation framework and a regional action plan were developed and approved during national consultations.

In September 2012, and again in Almaty, UNHCR, in partnership with IOM, organized a follow-up meeting. Participants included the National Coordinators from the Central Asian countries and representatives from Afghanistan, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Russian Federation and Turkey, as well as from organizations like IOM, OSCE and UNODC, among others. At the follow-up meeting, the Central Asian countries agreed jointly on the adoption of the regional cooperation framework and regional action plan, the establishment of a Secretariat for the Almaty Process and its formal launch/operationalization in the near future through a ministerial conference. UNHCR, IOM and the Government of Kazakhstan pledged to organize the ministerial conference, now scheduled for mid-2013.

Recent meetings and evolution of the Agenda

As indicated in the background discussion, the conferencing activities leading up to the Almaty Process addressed a wide range of issues related to complex and multi-layered population movement within, from and through Central Asia. The activities were based on the UNHCR global strategy and, in particular, on the agency's Ten-Point Plan on mixed migration and refugee protection, as well as on the IOM Twelve-Point Strategy, which identifies priority areas in the IOM mission to address the migratory phenomenon from a holistic perspective. Under this framework, the pre-Almaty Process consultations included sessions on a number of related lines of inquiry which included border management, the protection of minors, the integration of refugees and stateless persons, among other topics.

Linkages with multilateral agreements

At the 2011 meeting that initiated the Almaty Process, participants emphasized the necessity of developing national migration policies that are generally consistent with international standards, as well as with relevant bilateral and regional agreements.

Relevant international legal instruments which could provide guidance were cited in the Almaty Declaration as guiding models, and these included the following: the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol; the International Statelessness Conventions; the 1990 International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of all Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families; and the 2000 UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and two of its Supplementary Protocols, that is, 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 Almaty Declaration notes that the ratification of, or accession to, these instruments and their incorporation into national law would promote the development of national legal frameworks to address mixed movements.

While the Declaration suggests a broad range of priorities for the Almaty Process, its initial areas of focus are likely to be urgent regional issues.

Taxonomic placement

The regular dialogue and consultation envisaged among a core set of States with common concerns indicates that the Almaty Process likely fits within the RCP category. Additionally, while international organizations played a prominent role in initiating the Process, the follow-up is structured as a State-owned process, again consistent with the RCP category. At this early stage, the Almaty Process is viewed here as a stand-alone RCP, albeit one that is not yet fully established in practice.

3.4.2 Ministerial Consultation on Overseas Employment and Contractual Labour for Countries of Origin in Asia ('Colombo Process'), *RCP*

Background

A ministerial consultation among ten Asian labour-sending countries was held in Colombo, Sri Lanka in 2003, initiating what was soon to be called the 'Ministerial Consultations on Overseas Employment and Contractual Labour for Countries of Origin in Asia,' or, simply, the 'Colombo Process'. The continuing importance to these countries of issues relating to the effective management of overseas employment and contractual labour led to the commitment to regular high-level meetings, the addition of Afghanistan to the core group and to a growing number of Observer States in the subsequent 2004, 2005 and 2011 ministerial meetings. The Colombo Process has shown significant strength and stability, although there have been gaps at times in securing timely leadership to move the agenda forward.

Within the Colombo Process, and through targeted EU project funding, the Asia-EU Dialogue on Labour Migration was initiated within the Colombo Process in 2008 and has met twice (the second, and most recent, meeting was in 2011). This particular element of the Colombo Process operates as a distinct interregional forum focused specifically on developing and enhancing inter- and intraregional exchange of ideas and strategies on facilitating managed and legal migration between Asia and the EU. It brings together representatives from the different governmental entities from the EU and the Colombo Process member countries involved in the labour migration process, as well as experts from outside the governmental sphere.

In 2008, the Colombo Process launched the complementary but separate Abu Dhabi Dialogue (ADD) and the its own Asia-EU Dialogue on Labour Migration. ADD membership includes the 11 Colombo Process countries[29] and the countries of the Arabian Peninsula in west Asia.[30] Japan, the Republic of Korea (i.e., 'South Korea'), Malaysia and Singapore have attended intermittently as observers. The Arabian Peninsula members and intermittent observers of the ADD create a broad Asia-region, destination-country counterpoint to the Colombo Process' exclusively Asian-origin-country membership. The Colombo Process moves forward through ministerial meetings (of which there have been four from 2003 to 2012), and through expert-level workshops, senior officials meetings and other informal meetings.

Recent meetings and evolution of the agenda

The Fourth Colombo Process Meeting was held in Dhaka, Bangladesh in April 2011. Participating were all 11 Colombo Process countries and over 25 observer countries, as well as the UN and other International Organizations. IOM served as the Secretariat for the Meeting and provided substantial support, including the production of the background documents. Of the non-Colombo ADD members, only the United Arab Emirates was represented in the observer group.

In a break from previous Colombo Process ministerial meetings, civil society organizations were provided with an opportunity to address the plenary meeting. In addition to a select group of national migrants' organizations, a joint representation by a regional civil society forum also made a statement on migrants' rights[31] and presented a set of recommendations. Those recommendations were adopted at the separate civil society forum held at the outset of the Colombo Process Ministerial.

Acknowledging the six-year gap since the previous ministerial meeting, the three-day agenda at the Dhaka Meeting, themed 'Migration with Dignity,' included a review of the best practices of the Member States and went on to focus on the protection of migrant workers' rights and well-being (migration with dignity) and the

opportunities for collaboration and honing institutional responses during emergencies that impact migrant workers. An expert paper prepared and presented by IOM also supported the meeting's discussions.

The participants adopted the Dhaka Declaration,[32] which reaffirmed that "sustained bilateral and regional consultations can significantly contribute to the pursuit of humane and orderly labour migration management." The Declaration sets out 22 recommendations in the following areas: 1) promoting the rights, welfare and dignity of migrants; 2) efforts toward service strengthening and capacity building; 3) dealing with labour migrants in emergency situations; and 4) further enhancing dialogue and cooperation.

Among the significant specific recommendations from the Meeting and the Declaration were the following: 1) a call for an operational guidelines/SOP for responding to humanitarian crises affecting migrant workers, which eventually led to the adoption of the IOM Operation Crisis Framework; 2) a call for setting up an emergency fund to respond to such crises and the eventual setting up of the Emergency Fund; and 3) a policy dialogue on migrants caught in humanitarian crisis, which informed an IOM International Dialogue on Migration session.

A separate document from the Dhaka meeting set out newly elaborated operating mechanisms for the Colombo Process.

At the Second Meeting of the Colombo Process' Asia-EU Dialogue on Labour Migration, also held in 2011, it was decided that this special Colombo Process dialogue mechanism would meet every two years. The meeting also adopted a negotiated set of joint recommendations spelling out key areas of priority activities and cooperation.

Linkages with multilateral agreements

It is notable that among the four recommendations put forth by the civil society umbrella group was a call for increased multilateral cooperation, including the promotion of the development of an Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) instrument for the protection and promotion of human rights. Another recommendation called for closer adherence to ILO Convention No. 181,[33] which none of the Colombo Process Member States have ratified, and to the ILO Multilateral Framework on Labour Migration,[34] which addresses the issue of prohibiting the charging of fees to workers for overseas work contracts. The Colombo Process members welcome the ILO Framework, which does not require ratification, as a useful guideline.

The predilection to use RCPs as a springboard or stepping stone toward the creation or enactment of binding conventions or formal multilateral agreements under more authoritative regional bodies is not unusual. The earlier-noted Dhaka Declaration adopted at this Meeting focuses on and prioritizes many of the same issues, but does not call for the pursuit of a formal linkage with international conventions or with ASEAN toward a multilateral agreement or treaty.

The agendas of the Colombo Process and ADD are complementary, and intentionally so. Both deal with international labour migration governance, and related migrant protection and rights issues. It is through those policy areas that the migration-and-development features of their discussions receive attention.

There is considerable commitment to and interest in the Colombo Process and its specific Asia-EU Dialogue on Labour Migration. This has been demonstrated in the consistent support to both provided through the EC thematic programme budget mechanisms.

Taxonomic placement

The Colombo Process is a classic, stand-alone RCP. It is clearly State-owned, was established as a process only to discuss migration and does not have ambitions to create, through its own governance, binding inter-State agreements. Rather, resolutions arising from discussions have led to joint-project undertakings, often supported by the EU.

3.4.3 ASEAN Forum on Migrant Labour, Other

Background

ASEAN was established in 1967 and is presently composed of ten members: Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam. ASEAN focuses on establishing three aspects of a regional community: security, sociocultural integration and economic integration. ASEAN has committed to establishing the ASEAN Economic Community by 2015, advancing this goal by five years from its original 2020 marker.

At the Thirteenth ASEAN Summit, held in 2007, the members mandated the creation of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Blueprint,[35] to set out specific goals and actions and ensure coordinated efforts to meet that aspect of

the regional community in a timely manner. The ASCC Blueprint sets out goals and activities in the following six areas: 1) human development; 2) social welfare and protection; 3) social justice and rights; 4) ensuring environmental sustainability; 5) building the ASEAN identity; and 6) narrowing the development gap.

Migration is addressed under Area 3 of the Blueprint: Social Justice and Rights. Here the ASCC sets out specific migration sector principles and cooperation goals, including: 1) the protection and promotion of the rights of migrant workers, through the operationalization of the ASEAN Committee on the Implementation of the ASEAN Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of Rights of Migrant Workers,[36]; 2) designating the ASEAN Senior Labour Officials Meetings (SLOMs) to take this work forward; 3) institutionalizing and convening on a regular basis the ASEAN Forum on Migrant Labour (AFML) as a platform for broad-based discussions on migrant labour issues under the auspices of the aforementioned Committee (the AFML reports to the SLOM); and 4) tasking the SLOM through this process to not only oversee implementation of the noted Declaration, but to work toward the development of an ASEAN instrument on the protection and promotion of the rights of migrant workers. This would be a substantive move from the political statement of solidarity in the Declaration toward a binding multilateral instrument supporting those shared goals.

It is within this formal context that the AFML was established in 2007 at the Thirteenth Summit, and it remains the raison d'être for the Forum and the basis of the Forum's agenda.

At the first meeting of the Committee on the Implementation of the noted Declaration, which was held in September 2008 in Singapore, the meeting adopted a work plan with four areas of cooperation. Under thrust number two, which pertains to strengthening the protection and promotion of the rights of migrant workers by enhancing labour migration governance in ASEAN countries, one of the recommended activities was to organize an ASEAN Forum on Migrant Labour. This call was echoed by the ASEAN leaders at their Fourteenth Summit, held in Thailand in March 2009.

Recent meetings and evolution of the agenda

AFML meets annually. The First ASEAN Forum on Migrant Labour was held in the Philippines in 2008 and had the following theme: 'Follow-up to the ASEAN Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers – A Way Forward to Operationalizing the Declaration.' Three themes were pursued in this inaugural meeting: 1) protection of migrant workers against exploitation, discrimination and violence; 2) labour migration governance; and 3) fight against trafficking in persons.

The Second AFML was held in Thailand the following year, with the theme 'ASEAN Declaration on Migrant Workers: Achieving Its Commitment.' This meeting aimed at encouraging stakeholders to express their concerns and solidify their commitment to achieving the objectives mentioned in the ASEAN Declaration.

The Third AFML was held in Viet Nam in 2010. The two-day forum, with the theme 'Enhancing Awareness and Information Services to Protect the Rights of Migrant Workers,' focused on increasing sustainable jobs for migrant workers through information services and on promoting safe and legal migration.

The Fourth AFML was held in Indonesia in late 2011 and was themed 'Effective Implementation of the ASEAN Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers.' Two sub-themes were covered: 1) Promoting Understanding, Harmony and Rights; and 2) Reintegration and Sustainable Alternatives.

The Fifth ASEAN Forum on Migrant Labour, which carried the theme 'Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers: Towards Effective Recruitment Practices and Regulations,' was held in late 2012 in Cambodia. Participants included representatives from ASEAN governments, employers' associations, workers' organizations, civil society and the ASEAN Secretariat. Additionally, ILO, IOM, UN Women and the Task Force for ASEAN Migrant Workers also participated.

At the Fifth Forum, participants agreed to recommend concrete actions to promote and protect the rights of migrant workers in ASEAN Member States, and, in particular, to align recruitment practices and regulations with those international instruments that the ASEAN Member States have ratified.

Linkages with multilateral agreements

AFML is an instrument of ASEAN and plays an important role in the advancement of progress toward the anticipated ASEAN regional community. Its role is a supporting one to the Committee, entrusted to ensure the implementation of the noted Declaration and to move toward the creation of a new and specific ASEAN legal instrument on the protection and promotion of the rights of migrant workers. Such an instrument would, if it could be achieved, provide multilateral legal status to the principles set out in the similarly titled Declaration.

It should be noted that in 2008 the ASEAN Member States also signed the Declaration against Trafficking in Persons, Particularly Women and Children.[37] This Declaration mandates ASEAN countries to promote fair and appropriate employment

protection, payment of wages and adequate access to decent working and living conditions for migrant workers.

Taxonomic placement

The AFML resembles FIBEMYD in its operation as a predominantly annual conferencing event. Furthermore, AFML is not underpinned by regular ongoing technical and policy consultations between the annual Forum events. (The number of participants for a meeting has reached nearly 200, drawn from government, civil society, academia and international organizations.) AFML departs from the usual definition of an RCP in those key ways and has been included here as an example of a particularly important example of an intraregional forum on migration, and one that operates as a pillar – with ASEAN in this case. As it is limited to the ASEAN region, the term 'IRF' is not appropriate.

3.5 The Arabian Peninsula in West Asia, with Other Asia

3.5.1 Ministerial Consultations on Overseas Employment and Contractual Labour for Countries of Origin and Destination in Asia ('Abu Dhabi Dialogue'), *RCP*

Background

The Ministerial Consultations on Overseas Employment and Contractual Labour for Countries of Origin and Destination in Asia. Otherwise known as the 'Abu Dhabi Dialogue' (ADD), the mechanism was established in 2008 and its agenda in many ways complements and broadens that of the Colombo Process, although the two processes are technically distinct and independent. As earlier noted, the Colombo Process is composed of 11 Asian origin countries as its core membership. The Abu Dhabi Dialogue is a voluntary, non-binding and informal State-led consultative process engaging seven Asian countries of labour destination (Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the United Ara Emirates [UAE] and Yemen), and 11 countries of origin (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam). Japan, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia and Singapore have participated as observers. While there is a strong overlap between the countries of the Arabian Peninsula and the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf, or, simply, the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), Yemen is on the Arabian Peninsula and in ADD, but not in GCC. While all Colombo Process members are also members of ADD, six of the ADD destination country members are observers in the Colombo Process.

IOM has served as the Secretariat for ADD since its inception in January 2008; however, following the April 2012 meeting, the role of IOM may be transitioning to that of observer and resource/thematic expert. The United Arab Emirates has agreed to set up a support structure to coordinate bilateral and multilateral activities initiated by ADD member governments.

ADD was initiated, in part, to broaden the base for the common understanding of issues and to influence practices and policies in the area of contractual labour for the region. The region is defined in large part by Asian migration mapping and includes the Arabian Peninsula in West Asia. While the participating States may have similar issues with countries outside of ADD membership, those discussions are not the ambition of ADD or the Colombo Process, and would need to take place through other consultation mechanisms.

Recent meetings and evolution of the agenda

As the agendas in Annex B indicate, ADD has met twice, in either full or partial session, since 2010: in January 2012, in Dubai, and April 2012, in Manila. ADD has, from its inception, focused on the relationship between contractual labour mobility and the development of economies and human resources in mutually beneficial ways. Through their participation, the governments "pledged to develop partnerships to share information about labour market developments in the countries, build capacity to more effectively match labour demand and supply across national borders, and cooperate to protect workers at all stages of the mobility process and enhance the development impacts of contractual labour mobility."[38]

These themes have remained consistent throughout the duration of ADD, and progress toward these goals has become increasingly concrete, as evidenced by the Framework of Regional Collaboration, 2012[39] presented during the April 2012 Meeting in Manila. The Framework specifies the following eight areas of increased voluntary cooperation and policy alignment: 1) enhance the employability and skills of workers; 2) improve the recruitment process; 3) ensure a better balance between labour supply and demand; 4) facilitate worker adaptation to foreign employment; 5) respond effectively to problems; 6) adequately prepare workers for return; 7) recognize knowledge and skills acquired through employment; and 8) facilitate the re-employment and reintegration of returning workers.

As ADD is a recently established RCP, and one focused on labour mobility in particular, it has naturally incorporated into its agenda a strong focus on migration-and-development linkages. Its foundation documents, including the Abu Dhabi Declaration,[40] specifically note the intention of the Dialogue to work on labour mobility toward the goal of maximized mutual development.

Linkages with multilateral agreements

ADD has encouraged the establishment of common ground on the Dialogue's key issue of international labour migration, both through discussions among its participating countries and through the participation of consulting specialists at key moments. At the April 2012 meeting of ADD in Manila, specialist consultants presented a substantive paper[41] reviewing issues in international labour recruitment, employment and return/reintegration, complete with recommendations for national, bilateral and regional approaches that would bring better consistency to the labour process through a common, voluntary regional framework approach. This paper supported the discussion on the Framework of Regional Collaboration, 2012, which presented clearly complementing themes, and which was ultimately adopted at the 2012 Manila meeting. The Framework provides interregional guidelines on international labour migration, identifying best practice recommendations at a practical level.

Illustrative of an RCM process that aspires toward the development of voluntary complementarity in approaches among RCP members, the participating Ministers from seventeen countries adopted the Manila Communiqué[42] to commit to adopting the Framework. Specific future operating modalities[43] for ADD were also approved at the Manila meeting.

Discussions in Manila were illustrative as well of the mutual tensions in viewpoints between the predominantly-origin and the predominantly-destination countries. Predictably, the predominantly-origin countries sought to highlight the need to address migrant protection gaps, while the predominantly-destination countries sought collaboration to align responses to shared challenges, within which worker protection is an important, but not the only, issue. Closely complementing these perspectives is the general tendency for the predominantly-origin countries to seek more formal linkage of the RCP discussions and agreements to existing international bodies and agreements, such as those of the UN and the ILO in particular, with the predominantly-destination countries commonly resisting such formal linkages. Despite the expected lack of consensus on that point, observable and formal progress was made in a unified and consensual manner toward many of the goals of such international instruments, as evidenced by the agreed Framework and Communiqué.

Through its discussions and through the Framework and Communiqué, ADD continues to build consensus on key migration policy areas of common concern. Rather than driving a new agenda, ADD is a new and important mechanism to respond to a recognized common agenda among its members.

Taxonomic placement

ADD is clearly a State-owned process, established for the sole purpose of discussing migration issues, and not currently focused on the establishment of binding intergovernmental agreements. Its departure from the typical RCP format is evident in the sparse meeting schedule, leaving relatively few recurrent opportunities for informal dialogue between the ministerial-level meetings. It operates as a free-standing RCP, rather than as a pillar within a broader process or institution.

3.6 Europe with African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States

3.6.1 African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States – European Union Dialogue on Migration, *IRF*

Background

The African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States - European Union (ACP-EU) Dialogue on Migration is based on the provisions of Article 13 on Migration of the Cotonou Agreement, signed in 2000 by the EU and the ACP Group of States. Building on the content of the 1985 ACP-EU Lomé III Convention, Article 13 of the Cotonou Agreement was not modified during the Agreement's revisions in 2005 and 2010 and, as such, remains as originally conceived.

The Cotonou Agreement in its entirety can be seen as the basis for a multi-pillar dialogue and cooperation process between the ACP States and the EU. In addition to the migration section of the Agreement, other sections or main themes included conflict prevention and resolution.

Recent meetings and evolution of the agenda

In June 2010, the ACP-EU Council released a Joint Declaration on Migration and Development setting the basis for increased cooperation between the EU and the ACP States, reflecting the priorities of Article 13. The Declaration identified three pillars for increased cooperation and dialogue: 1) migration and development; 2) legal migration; and 3) (using the terminology in the Declaration) illegal migration.[44] Both parties agreed to pursue collaboration aimed at concrete results during the 2011 ACP-EU Council of Ministers, the objective of the process being the reinforcement of the operational aspects of Article 13 on visas, remittances and readmission.

The 2011–2012 cycle of the ACP-EU Dialogue was therefore devoted to experts and ambassadors' meetings on the three aforementioned subjects. A series of recommendations were produced and shared in the framework of the June 2012 ACP-EU Council of Ministers.

The report of the 2011–2012 ACP-EU Dialogue on Migration was endorsed by the 2012 ACP-EU Council of Ministers, including the recommendations on the future of the ACP-EU Dialogue. Based on the outcomes of the process, the format of the Dialogue consists of an annual ACP-EU Ambassadors' Meeting in Brussels supported by a series of experts' meetings on visas, remittances and readmissions, and progressively extended to other topics, such as the mobility of skilled persons, legal migration, the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in human beings and migrants' rights.

Linkages with multilateral agreements

The ACP-EU Dialogue on Migration is a policy process, which aims at facilitating the implementation of the provisions of Article 13 of the Cotonou Agreement and defining possibilities for revising the content of the Article in 2015. The Dialogue is, therefore, primarily concerned with ACP-EU cooperation and has limited linkages with other agreements. Its main outcomes are recommendations that should be applied by ACP and EU countries. ACP-EU cooperation on migration issues outside the ACP-EU Dialogue has also led to the establishment of the IOM-managed Intra-ACP Migration Facility, which includes the ACP Observatory on Migration.

The 2011 revision of the GAMM committed to intensifying the ACP-EU dialogue, with a focus on the strengthening of the operational aspects of implementation of Article 13 of the Cotonou Agreement.

Taxonomic placement

While the ACP-EU Dialogue on Migration closely resembles some RCPs, its members have not defined their process as an RCP, perhaps due to the limited range of the discussions, shadowing the Cotonou Agreement. While this is apparently a grey area here and there is room for different interpretations, the ACP-EU Dialogue on Migration is treated in this paper as an IRF, and one which operates as a pillar within a broader political dialogue that has other main themes (another shared characteristic with the Cotonou Agreement), and from which it draws its mandate and authority.

3.7 Asia with Europe

3.7.1 Asia-Europe Meeting Conference of the Directors General of Immigration and Management of Migratory Flows, *IRF*

Background

Established in 1996 as an interregional forum of discussion between Europe and Asia, the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) seeks to deepen relations and create common ground in Asia-Europe relations along the following thematic lines: 1) political; 2) economic; and 3) social, cultural and educational. ASEM includes 49 Partner States and two international organizations.[45] The Asia-Europe Foundation, established in 1997, is the only physical institution created under ASEM. The Foundation promotes the goals of ASEM through regular conferences, workshop events and networking/ exchange programmes. The EU also finances the ASEM Dialogue Facility, which provides a forum for political dialogue and networking among ASEM partners, mainly through the organization of conferences on five sectors, including employment and social inclusion.

ASEM proceeds through biennial meetings of Heads of State and Government (Summits), and through regular ministerial meetings on specified subjects, and through various other meetings and events at lower levels, each organized to support one or more of the three main ASEM themes. Migration issues are handled primarily in the annual Conference of the Directors General of Immigration and Management of Migratory Flows (CDGIMM). Additional discussion on migration, particularly on human resource mobility between Asia and Europe, may also enter the agenda of the ASEM Ministers of Employment and Labour Meetings, the most recent of which took place in 2012. A single (not repeated) ministerial on migration was held in 2002. The Asia-Europe Foundation supports and augments the formal ASEM migration discussions through other conferencing, exchange and web-based activities on ASEM migration themes.

Recent meetings and evolution of the agenda

As noted, ASEM migration issues are handled primarily in the annual CDGIMM. The discussions at the Conference's eleventh annual meeting, held under the auspices of the Cyprus EU Presidency in 2012, showed evolution and harmonization of the agenda with the renewed GAMM,[46] and particularly focused on issues related to high-skilled labour and student migration, as well as the closely related issue of cross-border skills and certification recognition. Three key background papers were provided.[47]

The meeting was primarily financed by the European Union through the European Integration Fund, with technical support from IOM. The twelfth annual meeting is expected to take place in Japan in late 2013.

Linkages with multilateral agreements

In its structure and characteristics, the CDGIMM most closely resembles RCPs that proceed as pillars within broader consultation frameworks, such as the RCPs within Africa's RECs. Like those RCPs, the CDGIMM derives its multilateral strength from the broader programme or institution. As ASEM is not a multilateral institution itself, there is some distance between the activities of ASEM and its CDGIMM, and the formation of formal multilateral agreements. As with many RCPs and similar forums, the CDIGMM is a mechanism for advancing dialogue and collective action toward the goals of other agreements and toward shared principles.

Taxonomic placement

The CDGIMM is distinguished from forums such as FIBEMYD and AFML in that it is not formulated as a largely open conferencing event and that it is a direct consultation primarily among a limited group of key government representatives. CDGIMM also has shown stability and durability, with now an 11-year history of regular (annual) consultations. The CDGIMM has never self-identified as an RCP, and the purely annual meeting format within the context of the ASEM gives the CDGIMM a different character from most RCPs. It is included here as an IRF, and one operating as a pillar within ASEM.

3.8 Asia with Oceania

3.8.1 The Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime, *RCP*

Background

Initiated at the Regional Ministerial Conference on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime held in Bali, Indonesia, early in 2002, the Bali Process now includes 46 governmental members, an additional two international organizations with participant status (IOM and UNHCR), and 29 observers. It focuses on practical issues related to smuggling, trafficking and related transnational crime, and is co-chaired by Australia and Indonesia.

The Process has shown considerable organizational strength, proceeding over the past ten years through regular technical and other senior officials' meetings, and, since 2009, through biennial ministerial conferences. The monitoring and implementation of related Bali Process activities, follow-up workshops and related initiatives are guided by a Steering Group composed of the governments of Australia, Indonesia, New Zealand and Thailand, as well as IOM and UNHCR.

The strength of the Bali Process may be credited to the consistency and representation of its leadership; an adequate funding base for meetings, secretariat functions, and for initiating some of the linked follow-up action projects; and an agenda that is both clear and limited in scope. It may also draw strength from the fact that its agenda is closely allied with the intentions of the International Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its protocols on Smuggling and Trafficking,[48] which have generally broad support in principle, notwithstanding the fact that many (approximately one third) of the Bali Process members have yet to ratify or accede to the Convention or its two applicable Protocols.

Recent meetings and evolution of the agenda

As noted, the strength of the Bali Process has been its consistency and limited agenda. Within this consistent framework, though, the agenda has progressed and deepened in a number of recognizable ways, steadily building consensus and a common platform for stronger practical cooperation. The most significant example of this is the 2011 agreement to set up a Regional Cooperation Framework[49] specifically on the reduction of irregular migration among Process members, and to support its practical enactment through the establishment of a Regional Support Office.

Linkages with multilateral agreements

The Bali Process represents an approach to broadening practical participation in actions that support the intent of an international convention, and to do this among both signatories and non-signatories of that convention.

The Regional Cooperation Framework set up at the 2011 ministerial meeting has among its goals to better "enable [Member] States to enter into practical arrangements at the bilateral and multilateral level." Through the Framework, involved parties would agree to the processing of particular caseloads of irregular migrants in an agreed and consistent manner. An ad hoc group has been established to guide this process and, as noted, a Regional Support Office was created to aid in the conceptualization and implementation of activities.

While the Process' discussions often note the importance of root causes in the creation of conditions conducive to migrant smuggling and human trafficking, the process does not focus directly or substantively on migration and development. As with IGC, the influences of the Bali Process on migration-and-development discussions, such as the GFMD, and on the UN HLDIM, are indirect at best.

Taxonomic placement

The Bali Process can also be viewed as classic stand-alone RCP. It is clearly State-owned, does not aspire to create binding intergovernmental agreements under its own aegis, has shown strong durability, and was established only to discuss migration, and only certain aspects of migration. As with other processes inclusive of diverse and widespread Asian countries (for example, the Colombo Process), and as it also includes members from Europe (Turkey) and Oceania (Australia and New Zealand), the Bali Process can be viewed as interregional in character.

3.8.2 Inter-governmental Asia-Pacific Consultations on Refugees, Displaced Persons and Migrants, *RCP*

Background

Established in 1996, the Inter-governmental Asia-Pacific Consultations on Refugees, Displaced Persons and Migrants (APC) is an affiliation of Asia-Pacific governments which seek regional cooperation on matters relating to population movements, including those of refugees, displaced persons and migrants. The APC operates in an informal, consultative, non-binding manner, with Coordinators from various Asia-Pacific countries taking the reins on a rotating basis. The Chair, who serves a one-year term, appoints a Coordinator who is responsible for coordinating and managing the overall organization of activities, and a Permanent Secretariat, currently based in the Australian Ministry of Immigration, provides operational and administrative support to the Coordinator. IOM and UNHCR have been integral to the APC since its inception and provide various kinds of continuing support, as well as input into the deliberations.

APC meetings are held annually at the plenary level, where the Chair is elected, and more frequently at intervals during the year at the subregional levels (Pacific, Mekong and South Asia regional groupings), and further at working group levels. The Pacific Immigration Directors' Conference holds observer status.

Recent meetings and evolution of the agenda

APC agendas commonly focus on regional approaches and issues related to asylum-seekers, displacement in the region, trafficking and irregular migration, and have

extended into the area of emergency response and contingency planning. Generally, the APC has tended to focus on the most urgent issues at the moment in the region, and plays a meaningful role in helping concerned countries discuss and plan around those pressing concerns.

Like the IGC and the Bali Process, the APC does not include migration and development as a distinct recurring area of focus; however, it does not shy away from discussions on the causes and consequences of migration in the region. As such, migration-and-development issues have a justified place within the APC overall agenda, even if not a dominant or recurring one.

The APC has been largely inactive since about 2010, although it has not officially disbanded. At this point in time, it seems likely that the APC will move to formally dissolve in 2013, although this has not been agreed upon by all concerned Process members. Immigration and Citizenship of Australia continues to serve in a minimalist secretariat role during this transition or dissolution stage.

Linkages with multilateral agreements

The APC is consistent with other similar RCPs in not aspiring to create, through its own structure and governance, binding agreements among its members. The APC does seek to be a force to inform and facilitate discussions among its Members — discussions that may lead to bilateral or other agreements through other inter-State or intergovernmental processes.

Taxonomy Placement

The APC can also be viewed as a stand-alone RCP. It is clearly State-owned, does not aspire to create binding intergovernmental agreements under its own aegis, and was established only to discuss migration, and only certain aspects of migration. The APC has shown considerable durability over time, although, as noted, not in the past few years, and may move to dissolve in the near future. Its broad Asian and Oceania membership gives it an interregional character.

3.9 Europe with Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States

3.9.1 Intergovernmental Consultations on Migration, Asylum and Refugees, *RCP*

Background

Founded within UNHCR in 1985, the original IGC mission was to examine asylum issues in Europe. In 1991, the IGC became autonomous and this may be seen as its inception date as an RCP, as commonly defined, as its ownership then firmly moved to the participating States. The purposes, format and approach of the IGC have been largely consistent since its inception, as its participating members have expanded somewhat and now includes 17 nations (13 European States, plus Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States), two international organizations (IOM and UNHCR) and the European Commission.

The stated purposes of the IGC include discussion and information exchange on migration policies and their implementation. It is viewed as an intergovernmental process, rather than as an institution, and one with an informal and non-political nature, without a binding decision-making mission. Its approach emphasizes common interests and problems, limited participation and confidentiality and a view toward the whole of migration in its discussions, albeit within a clearly specified range of interests. IGC addresses, through its Working Group structure, the following seven areas of migration policy and practice: 1) admission, control and enforcement; 2) asylum and refugees; 3) country of origin information; 4) immigration; 5) integration; 6) technology; and 7) data.

IGC is managed through its Internal Secretariat, which is staffed by professionals funded through the annual budget. A rotating Chair oversees the Secretariat. The Secretariat hosts full-round meetings and establishes the current discussion themes through a clear consultation process with the IGC members. Discussions proceed largely through the Working Group and workshop meetings, which can number up to 20 per year, most often held in Geneva.

As with the Bali Process, the durability and success of the IGC can be linked with its clear and limited agenda and membership, and its secure base of support. IGC, however, has another strong element. It is unique among the RCPs in its Secretariat structure: professionally staffed and funded;[50] internal to the process itself and not

accomplished as a member function (i.e., not based in an international organization or provided gratis by a Process member); and one charged with the responsibility and imbued with the resources to produce particular and substantive documents and data sets for its members' exclusive use, as well as other resources for public access.

Recent meetings and evolution of the agenda

As mentioned, and as examples in Annex C indicate, the agenda of the IGC has remained substantively consistent in its major elements over the years. Within the seven earlier-noted areas of migration policy, integration is the most recent addition (to be specific, in 2006). However, within these set areas specific themes rise to the surface as priorities, guided by the incumbent Chairperson. Themes such as high-skilled labour migration and unaccompanied minors, placed under area numbers one (Admission, Control and Enforcement), two (Asylum and Refugees) and four (Immigration), as well as cross-area issues, are among recent examples.

Linkages with multilateral agreements

The IGC does not aspire to directly influence or set standards for formal bilateral or multilateral agreements. It does aspire, however, through information-sharing, to assist its members in coordinating their migration policies and practices to the best possible advantage of all parties. This is, in effect, what the members expect or are hoping to gain through their participation in the IGC. The Process' durability and the members' continuing investment in the IGC are strong indicators that it is effective in this role.

Among the notable products that IGC has developed are key publications and data sets, most of which are restricted for members' viewing only. One example of important unrestricted products of the IGC are its 'Blue Books,' produced periodically on a particular subject of common importance. The 2009 edition on Asylum Procedures[51] is one clear example.

The IGC has furthered multilateral cooperation in other direct ways, such as participating in joint meetings with other RCPs, for example, the Budapest Process and the APC. It is likely that some of the significant migration policy and practice changes put in place through national processes, or through formal bilateral and multilateral agreements, by States that are IGC members, have been in some fashion influenced by the discussions and by the perspective gained by those States' representatives to the IGC.

Like the Bali Process, the IGC does not shy away from discussions on root causes of migration and trafficking, but does not include a direct focus on migration and

development in its agenda. As such, the influence of the IGC on migration-and-development discussions, such as those occurring in GFMD deliberations and at the UN HLDIM, is indirect at best.

Taxonomic placement

The IGC can also be viewed as a classic stand-alone RCP, and even as a prototype for such processes. It is clearly State-owned, does not aspire to create binding intergovernmental agreements under its own aegis, has shown strong durability, and was established only to discuss migration, and only certain aspects of migration.

3.10 Europe with the former Soviet Union and selected neighbouring countries

3.10.1 The Budapest Process, RCP

Background

The Budapest Process is among the oldest RCPs and among the best documented. Its seeds were sown at a 1991 meeting of 27 European Ministers of Interior held in Berlin. Those ministers' concerns centered on reducing irregular migration into Europe, with a particular focus on the challenges in that regard generated by the dissolution of the former Soviet Union.

In 1993, the Process came to life through the recommendations of the Budapest Ministerial Conference, from which the Process draws its name. The Budapest Process has been supported by ICMPD as the Secretariat since its operationalization in 1993 and has grown considerably from its original composition. The Process has diversified its themes and perspective beyond its original focus through three discernible phases.[52]

The first phase (1993–2003) focused on cooperation with the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, which were at that time outside the EU framework, as well as with countries of South-East Europe. The second phase (2003–2009) brought the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States into the cooperative framework of the Budapest Process and established a durable network to the East. A third phase, which started in 2010, has a regional approach and has thus far produced another eastward expansion to include the so-called 'Silk Routes' countries (i.e., Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Iraq and Pakistan) as new participating States. This third phase has three

priority regions and three Working Groups: the South-East European Region (Chair: Croatia), the Black Sea Region (Chair: Bulgaria) and the Silk Routes Region (Chair: Turkey).

The Budapest Process is intergovernmental in character. It provides a forum for States and other stakeholders to meet on an equal footing, to address issues of common concern and exchange information. Participating States provide guidance and leadership in all activities undertaken within the framework of the Process, with the administrative support and coordination of the ICMPD Secretariat. It is a flexible forum, open to all interested States and international organizations active in the broad migration field, and has an informal working character on the basis of recommendations and conclusions.

Recent meetings and evolution of the agenda

Early Budapest Process agendas centered on the issue of irregular migration and, consistent with the times, were often addressed from the perspective of control and return of irregular migrants, and the overlaying issues of adequate process and protection for asylum-seekers. These themes continue to resonate within the Process agenda, but have taken on more nuances or sophistication, and are now balanced by a perspective increasingly based on migration-and-development paradigms.

The agenda of the April 2013 Budapest Process Ministerial Meeting reflects both the traditional themes of the Process and others that indicate its gradual maturation. The following five pillars have shaped the agendas of the preparatory meetings and will be addressed at the Ministerial Meeting:

1. Legal migration, including mobility (visa, short-term residence, etc.) and integration, as well as measures directed toward countering racism and xenophobia;
2. Migration and development;
3. Irregular migration, including the return and readmission, in addition to the smuggling, of migrants;
4. Trafficking in human beings;
5. International protection.[53]

The Ministerial Conference will also officially launch the Silk Routes Partnership for Migration, confirming the successful geographical extension of the Process to this group of countries, and establishing priorities, working modalities and operational cooperation for the future.

Linkages with multilateral agreements

The Budapest Process does not aspire to construct binding inter-State agreements among its members, although it does quite clearly aspire to serve as a tool to aid in the harmonization of policies and practices among participating States. Additionally, as a Process still very much linked with and funded by the EU, the Process serves to reflect and actualize the broad policies of the EU with partners outside of the Union. While recognizing the need to address the overlap between the Prague and Budapest Processes, and perhaps with the EPPMA as well, the EU has prioritized the recent inclusion of the Silk Routes Region as part of the Budapest Process among its geographic priorities in the GAMM.

Taxonomic placement

The Budapest Process is referenced as one of the original stand-alone RCPs. Its character has changed somewhat over the years, particularly in the growth of the number of its members, which now total more than fifty governments. The Process' challenge in retaining its RCP character is to find a means to ensure the continual and informal, but substantive, State-led consultation that defined it.

3.10.2 The Prague Process, *RCP*

Background

The 2007 European Commission 'Communication on circular migration and mobility partnerships between the European Union and third countries'[54] set out a refreshed rationale and strategies for new partnerships between the EU and third countries interested in working with the EU to fight illegal migration. In return for enhanced cooperation through this partnership, opportunities for legal migration (through, for example, the issuance of short-term visas leading to circular migration) could be offered to nationals of the partnering third countries, and greater attention would be given to shaping legal migration opportunities in favor of mutual development. The initiative was framed within the Global Approach to Migration,[55] which was launched by the EU in 2005 and periodically renewed through subsequent policy updates.

While the mobility partnerships (earlier termed 'mobility packages') were originally focused largely toward the South – the Mediterranean and Africa – and somewhat toward the Mideast, the renewed partnerships added a focus directly east, first toward the Western Balkans and the countries immediately east of the EU – Belarus, Moldova

and Ukraine (then the CBCP participating countries), and subsequently toward the southern Caucasus and Central Asia. The nearly concurrent 2007 EC Communication 'Applying the Global Approach to migration to the eastern and south-eastern regions neighbouring the European Union'[56] specified this intent for an eastward expansion of partners within the Global Approach.

This eastward expansion initiative was launched in 2009 at a ministerial conference in Prague. There, the Building Migration Partnerships (BMP) Joint Declaration was endorsed by the ministers of 49 states (the Republic of Belarus joined the BMP initiative shortly thereafter, in December 2010), as well as by the European Commissioner responsible for migration. The process of follow-up and enactment of the Joint Declaration was termed the 'Prague Process,' and is sometimes referred to as the 'BMP/Prague Process.'

The Prague Process is a targeted migration dialogue promoting migration partnerships among its participating States: the EU, the Schengen Area, South-Eastern and Eastern Europe, Central Asia, the Russian Federation and Turkey. ICMPD provides organizational assistance to the leading States, which were, originally, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia. In December 2010, the Czech Republic handed over the leadership of the Process to Poland.

The objectives of the Process are, generally, to strengthen cooperation in migration management and, specifically, to explore and develop agreed-upon principles and elements for close migration partnerships between the participating countries.

Among the products of the Process is the creation of a specific section for the Prague Process on the Interactive Map on Migration (the 'i-Map').[57] This web tool facilitates access to and the exchange of information on migration matters for several EU-supported migration dialogues and forums, including the Budapest Process, MTM and the Prague Process. It provides visualizations of data, interactive features, and profiles at regional, country and local levels.

As of 2012, 50 States and several international organizations and institutions participate in the Process.[58]

Recent meetings and evolution of the agenda

The Joint Declaration and its guiding principles from the 2009 Prague ministerial meeting outlined the following five areas for cooperation: 1) preventing and fighting illegal migration; 2) readmission, voluntary return and sustainable reintegration; 3) legal migration with a special emphasis on labour migration; 4) integration of legally residing migrants; and 5) migration, mobility and development.

Participants at the subsequent ministerial conference in Poland in November 2011 reaffirmed the mandate of the Process, and renewed their commitment to its guiding principles. At the conference, the Prague Process Action Plan (2012–2016) was adopted. The Action Plan covers six thematic areas and lays down concrete actions, as well as includes four specific supporting projects to be undertaken during the timeframe. In 2011, the EU confirmed funding for a three-year period in order to support the implementation of the Process and its Action Plan through expert-level workshops, information- and data-gathering, expert missions and concrete activities.

The thematic areas in the new action plan closely parallel the five areas of cooperation noted in the Joint Declaration and are as follows: 1) preventing and fighting illegal migration; 2) promoting readmission, voluntary return and sustainable reintegration; 3) addressing legal migration and mobility, with a special emphasis on labour migration; 4) promoting the integration of legally residing migrants in their host societies; 5) making migration and mobility positive forces for development; and 6) strengthening capacities in the area of asylum and international protection.

The Action Plan also envisions regular expert meetings and senior officials' meetings to further the discussions at the technical and policy management levels between the approximately biennial ministerials, and to guide and support the implementation of the related activities and projects.

Linkages with multilateral agreements

As noted, the migration partnerships are formulated within the GAMM. It is through the Global Approach that the mobility partnerships promoted through the Prague Process have their most direct link to multilateral migration agreements and initiatives. In addition, it is through mechanisms such as the Prague Process that the EU seeks to translate into concrete and operational terms its political objectives regarding migration. As noted on the EC Home Affairs website: "Migration cannot be managed by the EU alone. Finding ways to address the challenges and make the most of the benefits brought by migration requires dialogue and partnerships with non-EU countries. The Global Approach to migration is, since 2005, the EU's framework for dialogue and cooperation with non-EU countries of origin, transit and destination."[59]

As also noted in a 2008 Communication from the Commission: "… the EU and its Member States should adopt a higher profile and actively engage in promoting the Global Approach in various multilateral, global and regional cooperation frameworks such as the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD)…the United Nations and its relevant specialised agencies, the G8, the OECD, the OSCE, the Council of Europe, the International Organization for Migration, the World Bank and regional development banks, as well as the regional consultative processes."[60]

Further emphasized in the 2011 EC Communication on the Global Approach is the following: "The Global Approach also provides an appropriate framework for addressing the role of the EU in global migration and mobility governance. The Global Approach allows the EU to speak with one voice on migration and mobility matters at [the] global level, in particular at the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD), while starting to build broad alliances towards the UN High-Level Dialogue in 2013 and beyond."[61]

The Prague Process is intentionally and substantively linked with the strengthening of current multilateral agreements between the EU and external countries, and in promoting that model in regional and global multilateral platforms. It is worth noting that this approach has its critics who generally sound the alarm of a too-Eurocentric approach to multilateralism in migration policy creation.

Taxonomic placement

As noted and based on the 2012–2016 Action Plan, and with funding provided largely by the EU, the Prague Process is now inclusive of regular inter-State consultations at the technical and senior official level which augment the biennial ministerials. In this regard, the Prague Process is now developing in a manner consistent with traditional RCPs. While the Process is a derivative and tool of broad EU policy initiatives, such as the GAMM, it does not operate within a broader multi-themed inter-State consultation process or initiative, as the EPPMA (formerly the CBCP) now does within the Eastern Partnership (EaP).[62] It also departs from the IGAD and COMESA models in this important regard.

The Prague Process is presented here as an RCP along the lines of the Budapest Process: a generally freestanding RCP with strong roots and support from the EU side. While the Prague Process' political history goes back to 2009, the operational consultation mechanisms were only put in place in about 2012. The Process merits further review in the near future to see if it continues to develop in the manner of most RCPs; if regular informal and substantive dialogue can be sustained; how the obvious overlaps with the Budapest Process and the EPPMA will be resolved; and if equanimity in ownership of and influence in the direction of the Process can be fully established and maintained.

3.10.3 Eastern Partnership Panel on Migration and Asylum (formerly the Cross-Border Cooperation Process or the 'Söderköping Process'), RCP *(pillar)*

Background

Established in 2001 through the efforts of the Swedish Migration Board (SMB), the CBCP focused specifically on the transfer of expertise between certain new EU Member States[63] and the group of former Soviet Union States situated to the Union's immediate east, specifically, Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine. Over time, 13 countries participated in the Söderköping Process. Apart from the EU Member States at that time – Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Sweden – the membership of partner countries involved in the Process grew to include Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. Sweden's involvement was extended and deepened in December 2010, when Sweden formally joined as a participating country.

The new EU Member States have recently completed, through extensive technical cooperation with the EU, the alignment of their migration and asylum policies, laws and practices with the Union's *Acquis Communautaire*. While the non-EU CBCP countries had no formal need to align to the *Communautaire* in the same fashion, a concerted effort to harmonize approaches as much as possible across the EU near border was seen as a sensible means to improve cross-border movement facilitation and security.

The main goal of the CBCP was to strengthen the non-EU partners' migration and refugee/asylum policies and practices. The specific objectives included:

1. Strengthening asylum systems;
2. Facilitating dialogue between EU Member States and involved migration authorities in the non-EU States;
3. Building government capacity to manage migration;
4. Transferring the experience of recently acceded EU Member States from their experience in aligning with and adopting the Acquis Communautaire and other relevant international standards;
5. Enhancing information-sharing on migration statistics, policy development, legislation and similar areas.

The CBCP was funded largely by the EU from its initiation through 2011, with some additional funding from Sweden. UNHCR served as the contracting agent for the EU and IOM and SMB acted as key implementing partners. The original implementation phase of the CBCP ended in 2009. The involved States and partners then engaged

in a two-year forward planning process which focused on the following goals: 1) transforming the CBCP from a project-funded RCP to one with more diverse support and 2) repositioning the CBCP within more recent EU policy consultations with the concerned Eastern partners.

Recent meetings and evolution of the agenda

The final meeting of the CBCP in its original form and structure took place in December 2011, following two years of strategizing and discussion with all key partners, and in particular with the EU, largely through the SMB. As a result of these discussions, the CBCP was incorporated in a newly framed migration and asylum panel under the EaP, which is a multi-themed cooperation initiative.[64]

The EaP was first proposed by Poland, with collaboration from Sweden in 2008, at the EU General Affairs and External Relations Council.[65, 66] It was officially initiated in May of the following year and held its first meeting in December 2009. The strong involvement of Sweden from the outset provides linkage to the CBCP, which was, as earlier noted, initiated by SMB. The EaP includes the three post-Soviet CBCP (Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine) and Caucasus States (Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia), alongside the whole EU.

While the original Söderköping Process reached its negotiated conclusion at the December 2011 meeting, the process itself was given new life under the EaP as the EPPMA. Through its incorporation into the EaP, the Process added the South Caucasus and now covers all of the Eastern partners of the European Neighbourhood Policy. As such, it is not foreseen to grow further or change its membership.

Issues regarding possible overlap with the Prague Process and the Budapest Process are yet to be addressed. It is clear that the EPPMA concept, which focuses on technical level discussions, capacity-building and the harmonization of policies and practices among the EU Eastern Member States and their immediate non-EU neighbours, continues to have value for all concerned.

Linkages with multilateral agreements

The EaP was established through a Joint Declaration of Heads of State and Government in Prague in 2009. Its main goal is to support political association and further economic integration between the EU and six Eastern European partners (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine). The EaP supports the eastern dimension of the European Neighbourhood Policy of the EU through the deepening of bilateral relations and by focusing on regional cooperation. In the field of migration, it is fully aligned with the GAMM.

Consisting of summits, ministerials, thematic platforms and multiple panels, the EaP's regional dialogue structure addresses a wide range of policy areas, including the improvement and expansion of trade relations, the promotion of human rights, sustainable development and good governance. At the same time, the bilateral track of the EaP benefits from regional dialogue and capacity-building initiatives in support of the negotiation of EU Association Agreements and visa facilitation and readmission agreements. In this regard, the EaP Panel on Migration and Asylum will be positioned to directly influence binding agreements, if not actually mandated to negotiate them. The Panel's work is also relevant to the Eastern Partnership Panel on Integrated Border Management and its related capacity-building projects.

Taxonomic placement

With the change into a mechanism within the EaP, this Process moves from the stand-alone RCP character of the CBCP, to the 'pillar RCP' character of the EPPMA. It is now best seen as a pillar (or panel, in this case) within a broader consultation process from which this revamped RCP will draw its legitimacy and, to a great extent, its general agenda. It remains focused on a specific subregion of the former Soviet Union, albeit now a somewhat expanded one.

3.11 Europe with Latin America

3.11.1 European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean Structured and Comprehensive Dialogue on Migration, IRF

Background

The European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean Structured and Comprehensive Dialogue on Migration (EU-LAC SCDM), is a derivative mechanism of the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean Summit (EU-LAC). The Summit Process was established in 1999 and proceeds on a biennial meeting basis. The inaugural summit's Rio Declaration[67] establishes a basis for close cooperation in three broad areas: 1) political (in which migrants' rights are noted in relation to the elimination of racism and xenophobia); 2) economic (with some reference to international labour migration); and 3) cultural, educational scientific, technological, social and human fields.

As migration gained momentum globally through the HLDIM and the GFMD and in regional and cross-regional discussions and agreements in the decade following the Rio Summit, it rose in importance in the EU-LAC process. The growing dominance of the migration-and-development paradigm as a common platform for cooperative migration management provided an ideal basis for further focusing the attention of EU-LAC on migration in a manner consistent with its political and economic pillars, in particular.

At the Fifth EU-LAC Summit held in Lima, Peru in May 2008, the Heads of State and Government agreed, through the Lima Declaration,[68] to further develop a structured and comprehensive dialogue on migration between LAC and the EU. This priority was specified in the Social Inclusion and Sense of Belonging section of the Declaration, and noted that such a dialogue would serve to identify common challenges and areas for mutual cooperation.

In December 2008, the EU Council of Ministers concluded that the modalities for a structured and comprehensive dialogue on Migration decided at the EU-LAC Lima Summit should be pursued. For the EU, the European Pact on Immigration and Asylum, and the GAMM constitute the main policy reference points for the bi-regional dialogue.

At a subsequent senior officials' meeting held in Buenos Aires in March 2009, it was agreed that both regions would define an agenda of the modalities for this dialogue. In late June of that year, the EU and LAC countries endorsed the document 'Basis for Structuring the EU-LAC Dialogue on Migration,'[69] and announced the launch of the dialogue through a press release.[70]

Through the Basis for Structuring document, an indicative calendar of meetings through to the end of 2010 was agreed, and the EU-LAC SCDM was designated to include the following broad areas for dialogue: 1) link between migration and development; 2) regular migration; and, 3) irregular migration. Additionally, the following process elements were specified:

- High-level meetings (either in Europe or in the LAC region) between competent migration officials/experts from the Commission and the Member States on the one hand, and competent migration officials/experts of the LAC countries on the other, to exchange views on the concrete aspects of migration policies, legislation, practices, challenges, and others, with a view to deepening mutual understanding, and identifying best practices and key issues for cooperation.
- Meetings of a Brussels-based Working Group comprised of migration experts from the Commission, EU Member States and LAC countries to facilitate the

Dialogue and to prepare and follow up on the high-level meetings. Meetings at the ambassador level in Brussels can also be envisaged if necessary.

- Progress in the Dialogue will regularly be reported to the EU-LAC Senior Officials' Meetings, which is in charge of the preparation of and following up on the EU-LAC Summit.
- The EU and LAC will meet in order to take stock of the progress achieved in the Structured and Comprehensive Dialogue and decide the benefits and added value of convening a ministerial meeting to discuss issues that are sufficiently mature, to allow progress.

To further support the process through 2013, the EU funded the project 'Strengthening Dialogue and Cooperation between the EU and LAC to Establish Management Models on Migration and Development Policies,' with IOM and Spain's FIIAPP as the lead and supporting partners, respectively. The project seeks to launch a process of cooperation between the EU and the LAC region, and to build capacities for the exchange of information and good practices within the LAC region and between the LAC region and the EU.

Recent meetings and evolution of the agenda

The agenda of the regular high-level and other meetings of the EU-LAC SCDM have remained consistent with the three core areas of focus set out in the Dialogue's inception documents, namely: 1) enhancing the positive synergies between migration and development; 2) better organizing regular migration; and 3) addressing irregular migration. As of the end of 2012, six high-level meetings have taken place in this Dialogue and several technical cooperation actions have been launched under the earlier-noted IOM-FIIAPP Project. The IOM-FIIAPP Project has focused on: 1) strengthening migration data collection and use; 2) strengthening migration management capacities, particularly for managing and supporting migrants returning to their home communities; and 3) institutional strengthening for promoting the investment of remittances.

At the complementing summit level, the most recent (seventh) EU-LAC Summit, in January 2013, identified migration as one of the key areas for continued cooperation, particularly toward the goal of better linking migration with development.

While there are variations in emphasis or focus for the meetings, the EU-LAC SCDM remains consistent in addressing its core focus areas.

Linkages with multilateral agreements

The EU-LAC SCDM is an instrument or mechanism of the multilateral EU-LAC Summit. As such, it directly reflects the Summits' agreements on migration matters and seeks to reinforce and help put into practice those agreements. In the context of the GAMM, the EU-LAC Dialogue is one of the more recent processes, but has been identified as one growing in importance and requiring continued EU engagement.

EU-LAC has a number of different pillars or themes. Since the launch of the SCDM, migration may be seen as one of the thematic focus areas. The EU-LAC SCDM has demonstrated that regular consultation meetings are a priority, as are more technical-level consultations.

Taxonomic placement

The EU-LAC SCDM resembles in many aspects the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership Migration Dialogue (E-MP MD), which is discussed later in this review. As with the E-MP MD, the EU-LAC SCDM does not include the kind of ongoing, informal and substantive dialogue characteristic of RCPs. Rather, its interaction approach is largely that of technical meetings implemented as activities within a funded-project context. The EU-LAC SCDM is included in this review as an IRF, and one operating as a pillar within the broader EU-LAC initiative. As with other relatively new initiatives, time will tell if it develops more of an RCP character as it progresses.

3.12 The Mediterranean

3.12.1 Mediterranean Transit Migration Dialogue, *RCP*

Background

The Mediterranean Transit Migration Dialogue (MTM) serves Europe, the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean and parts of sub-Saharan Africa, representing a geographic alignment along certain well-established migration routes. It was initiated in 2002 at a time of intense activity and interest in, in particular, irregular migration through the Mediterranean area. As such, its original areas of emphasis included: 1) interception and apprehension of irregular migrants; 2) combating smuggling and trafficking; 3) reception and detention of irregular migrants; 4) asylum and refugee protection; and 5) migrant return and readmission.

As the process matured, and as the political and conceptual environment on migration governance evolved, the MTM agenda has expanded and has become more diverse. The process has moved into the migration-and-development-related areas of migration management, including, most recently, into the area of diaspora engagement policy and practice.

Unlike the Rabat Process and the MME, the MTM is primarily a technical and informal RCP. With its Secretariat provided by ICMPD, it is not an offshoot or platform of a specific inter-State agreement or programme, and does not include ministerial meetings or discussions, although it does hold senior technical officials meetings annually. It aspires for concrete projects or cooperative action in its thematic areas. It is not formally connected to any regional political or economic body.

Recent meetings and evolution of the agenda

As mentioned, the agenda of the MTM has evolved to include migration-and-development-related themes alongside its original five areas of focus, which were more aligned to addressing irregular migration and combating trafficking. The most recent agenda and activity focus is the strengthening of diaspora policy for the Process' African and Middle Eastern members. As with the Rabat Process and MME, the activities of the MTM depend largely on project funding from the EU or European sources; however, it has not been prioritized in the 2011 update to the GAMM. The most recent meeting of the MTM was May 2012.

Linkages with multilateral agreements

There is little direct linkage of MTM activities with multilateral agreements, although it can be said that they are generally supportive of some of the pillars or focus areas of earlier-mentioned agreements, such as the Africa-EU Strategy and, for the EU, the GAMM. However, and unlike the also-discussed MME, the MTM was not established with an explicit mission to enact such agreements in practical ways.

Taxonomic placement

The MTM can be tentatively considered a stand-alone RCP focused on technical cooperation within a defined migration space that crosses major regions. Its predominantly technical agenda resembles the approach of the IGC and the Bali Process. Its durability as an RCP is uncertain, given the narrowness of the funding base that supports its meetings and technical agenda, and that it has not been prioritized in the GAMM. Its level of equal ownership by all its participating members may also be somewhat weaker than IGC, due again to the dominant EU support for its activities.

3.12.2 Regional Ministerial Conference on Migration in the Western Mediterranean ('5 + 5 Dialogue'), RCP *(pillar)*

Background

Established in 2002, the Regional Ministerial Conference on Migration in the Western Mediterranean (or simply, '5+5') is an element or derivative aspect of the broader 5+5 Political Consultation and Cooperation Framework launched in 1990, as encompassed in the Rome Constitutive Declaration.[71] The broad cooperation framework had, at the time of its inception, several topical areas, most of which were derived from a dominant security perspective. Migration was not originally among the specified thematic areas of discussion, but would enter the discussions in an ad hoc manner, as a feature of other themes.

At this broad level, 5+5 represents the continued vision of a more politically harmonious and secure Mediterranean community, both north and south of the Sea, and one in which Europe acts as a whole or in broad agreement through its five most-involved European states (France, Italy, Malta, Portugal and Spain), with the south-shore partners (Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia) also acting in a unified manner. Occurring approximately once each year, 5+5 proceeds as a high-level, generally ministerial, consultation.

As mentioned, the migration angle in the 5+5 partnership developed more than a decade after the launch of the broad 5+5 cooperation framework. Foreign ministers of the 5+5 participating countries met in Lisbon in 2001 and agreed, with the support of IOM, to organize the first 5+5 meeting, at the ministerial level, in Tunis the following year. The 2002 Tunis meeting launched the activities of the 5+5 RCP and produced the Tunis Declaration,[72] which can be seen as the founding document of this RCP. From that point forward, the 5+5 RCP has continued to follow the mother process' general approach of annual ministerial meetings, although at times the high-level RCP meetings have been biennial (there have been seven such meetings between 2002 and 2012). Other topical meetings are organized from time to time, though there is no annual work plan nor a designated Secretariat.

The 5+5 RCP is essentially a periodic, very high-level, consultation on migration among the key States in a defined migration region. Whereas the previously discussed MTM is a nearly purely technical consultation process, 5+5 is nearly a purely political one. Together, they provide a useful perspective on the diverse nature of various RCPs.

Recent meetings and evolution of the agenda

The aforementioned Tunis Declaration established the thematic focus of the 5+5 RCP, and settled the agenda firmly in the link between migration and development, emphasizing the attention to root causes of both regular and irregular migration and focusing on the goal of harnessing migration as a force for co-development in the broad Mediterranean region. Discussions have, at times, been less from a purely control perspective and more from the perspective of reduction of the humanitarian cost of irregular migration across the 5+5 region.

The most recent meeting was the Rome Ministerial in 2012, which was followed by the broader 5+5 Summit in Malta the same year. The Malta meeting reinforced the previous discussions of the 5+5 RCP and included a section on migration and development in its Malta Declaration.[73] The Declaration reflected and reinforced the 2011 EU Communication on a Dialogue for Migration, Mobility and Security and the 2011 GAMM.

Linkages with multilateral agreements

As noted in the preamble of the Tunis Declaration, 5+5 serves to support broader multilateral agreements and declarations.[74] Likewise, the RCP supports the broad goals of the 5+5 partnership, as indicated in the aforementioned Rome Constitutive Declaration. Given that it is a derivative dialogue within the broader 5+5 consultations, and that its main forums are ministerial meetings, the points of discussion and commitment are undoubtedly framed to be consistent with and reinforce the principles and general direction of broader inter-State agreements among its members; the 5+5 RCP, however, has not itself developed and promoted particular binding agreements in the migration sphere. As indicated in the aforementioned *Malta Declaration*, the linkage with and integration of the 5+5 RCP into the broader 5+5 process and its goals is apparent.

Taxonomic placement

The 5+5 RCP is a useful example of an RCP operating as a pillar within a broader consultation framework, and one focused almost exclusively at the high political level of consultation. The infrequency of its meetings, which occur almost exclusively at the high political level, is an area where it departs somewhat from the classic RCP approach.

3.12.3 Euro-Mediterranean Partnership Migration Dialogue, *IRF (pillar)*

Background

The Barcelona Process[75] was launched in November 1995 at the Euro-Mediterranean Conference held in the Process' name-sake city. Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the (then-totaling) 15 EU Members, as well as Ministers from 14 non-EU Mediterranean States and territories,[76] participated. The meeting's Barcelona Declaration[77] provided the basis for the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership initiative of the EU, which continues to this day.

The Euro-Mediterranean partnership (EUROMED) spawned by the Barcelona meeting and Declaration included, at its formation, three broad areas of partnership: 1) political and security dialogue (creating a common area of peace and stability underpinned by sustainable development, rule of law, democracy and human rights); 2) economic and financial partnership (the gradual establishment of a free-trade area aimed at promoting shared economic opportunity through sustainable and balanced socio economic development); and 3) social, cultural and human partnership (promoting understanding and intercultural dialogue between cultures, religions and people, and facilitating exchanges between civil society and ordinary citizens, particularly women and young people).

Migration was not specified in the titles of the three partnership themes at this point in the Partnership's development; rather, it was noted in the detailing of theme number three. Despite the description of the section of the document in which it is referenced,[78] and indicative of the times (well before the UN HLDIM and the GFMD), the Declaration's section on migration emphasized certain criminal aspects – terrorism, drug trafficking, organized crime, illegal migration and police cooperation, offset only somewhat by a rather passing reference to improving the conditions of migrants living legally in the EU.

With the introduction of the EU's European Neighbourhood Policy[79] (ENP) in 2004, the Barcelona Process essentially became the multilateral forum of dialogue and cooperation between the EU and its external Mediterranean partners, while complementary bilateral relations are managed mainly under the ENP and through the (then-so-called) 'Association Agreements' signed with each partner country.

With the establishment of the ENP came the launch of the EUROMED Migration Programme (Phase 1: 2004–2007). Here, the basis for dialogue and joint action on migration among the Mediterranean partners began to expand and diversify. The

participating countries and territory included the following ten externals: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, the Occupied Palestinian State, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia and Turkey. The EUROMED Migration Programme in this phase promoted analysis and cooperation on questions linked to migration and the movement of persons, as well as the social integration of immigrants. Assistance to partner countries in their development of migration policy was provided through the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument of the EU. Research and data programmes were launched to map, analyse and forecast migratory movements through the Mediterranean region; studies in legal, economic and social aspects of migration were commissioned and completed; and an Annual Report on Mediterranean migration was produced.

During this phase, at the November 2005 Barcelona Summit, the leaders agreed on the priorities for the next five years of cooperation through the Barcelona Process, and added migration as a new (fourth) key pillar[80] of the partnership. This was echoed and specified in the complementing and enabling EUROMED five-year (2006–2010) Work Programme.[81] Here we see the migration agenda broadening in meaningful ways. While still reflective of security and crime agendas, the Programme now includes these elements: 1) promotion of legal migration while addressing brain drain factors; 2) facilitating the flow of remittances and the means for migrants to remain engaged in the development of their home countries; and 3) attention to issues affecting migrant children and mixed-nationality families that adheres to the principles of the 1989 UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Among other means to accomplish this cooperation, the Plan included intentions to develop mechanisms for enacting practical cooperation and to deepen the dialogue among the partners. Elements of this agenda anticipate the interests of the UN High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development, which was held less than a year later, but for which preparatory actions were well underway at the time of the 2005 Barcelona Summit. Here we see some early cross-fertilization between a regional cooperation and dialogue platform on migration and a global, multilateral one.

In 2008, the Barcelona Process evolved into The Union for the Mediterranean[82] (UfM), still articulated and supported through the EUROMED initiative. The UfM promotes economic integration and democratic reform across neighbours south of the Union, that is, North Africa and the Middle East. Along with the now-27 EU Member States, 16 Southern Mediterranean, African and Middle Eastern countries are members of the UfM.[83] As part of this maturation of relations, the former EU Cooperation Agreements with the affected countries were re-launched as UfM Agreements. The focus areas of these new agreements included migration, among others.[84]

With the establishment of the UfM and the maturation of the migration agenda, EUROMED Migration II (2008–2011) was launched. Here we see further diversification of the migration agenda, with clearer influence from the migration-and-development policy area. We also see an important change in the external partner countries, with Turkey moving out of that group – a reflection of Turkey's ongoing formal process for admission into the EU. Turkey is, at this stage, for purposes of external technical assistance to the Mediterranean countries, more of an EU insider than an external one. The ten externals from EUROMED Migration Phase I have now become nine in Phase II: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, the Occupied Palestinian Territory, the Syrian Arab Republic and Tunisia.

The EUROMED Migration Programme in Phase II includes, among others, these elements: 1) establishing four working groups composed of high-level government officials and other relevant decision makers to put forward concrete proposals on: a) legislative convergence and the need for reform of migration law and its institutional framework; b) labour migration; c) institutional responses and national strategies to combat illegal immigration; and d) migrant remittances; 2) organizing multiple training sessions designed for officials on key issues; 3) organizing multiple study visits to the EU for officials from the external partners; 4) conducting a study on women and migration in the MEDA region; and 5) creating a project internet website which will give tangible expression to the EUROMED migration community and provide a range of relevant information on its activities.

EUROMED Migration Phase III (2012–2014), framed as a project, is now underway, with ICMPD leading the project implementation consortium. Here we see continued focus on traditional EUROMED themes, alongside further emphasis on migration and development as a key area of policy cooperation. Various thematic meetings are provided for in the project budget, as well as other networking activities.

Recent meetings and evolution of the agenda

As indicated in the background discussion on the political and organizational development of the E-MP MD, the agenda has progressed gradually but clearly beyond its dominant early focus on migration control and enforcement elements. As the migration-and-development paradigm gained strength through, first, the HLDIM and, subsequently, the annual GFMD meetings, the agenda incorporated more and more elements from that paradigm.

The 1995 and 2005 Summits in Barcelona represent the only two Europe-Mediterranean Summits during this timeframe. Technical and thematic meetings within the E-MP MD continue to this day, and are now on a more regular basis due

to the current EU project funding base for those events. At least ten thematic regional meetings and three regional conferences will take place between 2012 and 2014 through the EUROMED Migration Phase III Project.

Linkages with multilateral agreements

The E-MP MD is a supportive technical cooperation programme on migration for the progressive (1995 and 2005) Barcelona Summit agreements and for the EU programme to enact those agreements (EUROMED). Further, it can be seen as a mechanism within the ENP for the Mediterranean region, now expressed as the UfM. The E-MP MD is not itself a mechanism to prepare or negotiate multilateral agreements.

Taxonomic placement

The E-MP MD does not include the kind of ongoing, informal dialogue characteristic of RCPs. Rather, its interaction approach is largely that of technical meetings implemented as activities within a funded project context. As the process has progressed now for several years through three phases, these technical meetings, punctuated by EUROMED higher-level meetings, have come to resemble RCPs in some ways.

However, RCP-type dialogue between the EU and the Mediterranean countries takes place through other avenues, such as through the Rabat Process, the MME, the MTM and, to some extent, 5+5. Additionally, the significance of the E-MP MD may be diminishing as its identity is subsumed into the UfM. The E-M MD is, nonetheless, an interregional technical cooperation programme and, for the purposes of this paper, can be considered an IRF, operating as a pillar within broader EU mechanisms and programmes.

4. IMPLICATIONS FOR THE HARMONIZED GOVERNANCE OF MIGRATION

In his earlier review exclusively focused on RCPs, Hansen closed with a number of conclusions, including possible future scenarios for RCPs. He noted three possibilities. One was that RCPs would continue to be region-specific and specific to the particular concerns of their constituency, and each one would likely wax and wane as their agendas took on more or less interest or immediacy. In a second scenario, RCPs would, in some yet-to-be-discerned way, lead directly to the establishment of a global governance protocol on migration, and perhaps to a new or refreshed international institution to oversee that governance. Third, RCPs would evolve into more consequential roles in establishing common standards for migration governance within regions, in part through closer affiliation with regional bodies that do have the authority or mission to craft binding regional agreements, such as common markets, regional intergovernmental economic and development authorities and other, similar, entities.

This review lends some credence to the first and third scenarios. Most RCPs and IRFs remain largely concerned with their own regions, and, clearly, some are strengthening while others may be weakening. The migration-and-development policy area is, however, an agenda that has consistently strengthened in interest and immediacy for many of the processes and forums.

Regarding the third scenario, the study has highlighted several examples of RCPs coupling with authoritative regional bodies, either as an integral element of that body (IGAD and COMESA RCPs, for example) or as a directly influential adjunct (MIDSA, MIDWA and SACM, for example). As noted on more than one occasion in the discussion, the linkage of an RCP with a regional development body does not automatically give the RCP decision-making power, or an agenda to negotiate binding inter-State agreements on migration. However, it may, in some instances, position the RCP to have a very direct path toward an agreement, and perhaps position it to take on the formal role itself with some ease as it develops. We see this to some, but a lesser, extent with the IRFs as well. Again, the priorities of the regional economic and development authorities now have an increasingly firm footing in the migration-and-development paradigm.

Further to this point, this kind of linkage of migration forums and processes with authoritative bodies need not be limited to the regional economic and development institutions. Some other intergovernmental mechanisms may also have this potential,

such as summit meetings that result in formal agreements among the participating States. Here we see the potential of many of the reviewed initiatives in the Mediterranean area, and between Africa and the EU in general. Summits and similar-level meetings and mechanisms have spawned a number of RCPs and IRFs which, depending on the intimacy of the linkage of the process/forum with the summit agreements, can be well-positioned to help further frame and manage the implementation of formal multilateral agreements on migration policies and practices.

The progress at the regional level is further enhanced through interregional sharing among the RCPs and IRFs. As noted in the cases examined, this sharing occurs between distant regions (for example, the Bali Process with MIDSA, and the recent Bali Process' Tenth Anniversary meeting that brought together several RCPs from different regions), as well as between neighbouring regions (for example, the IGAD-RCP with the nascent COMESA RCP). Additionally, the biennial meetings of the RCP Chairs and Secretariats is a key element in supporting and enhancing this kind of cross-fertilization.

To fully address the question of what kind of avenue the path from the regional level toward harmonized global governance on migration is, one needs also to look at the strengths or weaknesses at the global level. For the regional initiatives to influence or shape global or broad multilateral agreements, there must be institutions at the global level to influence in this regard, and ones inclined to take up the flag on global migration governance. Here the situation is evolving as well, with progressively stronger global institutions involved.

IOM has strengthened considerably over the last 20 or so years, more than doubling its membership and moving strongly into policy areas to complement its service-dominant role. IOM Member States passed a resolution[85] directing the Organization to take specific measures to prepare its Members for the HLDIM. The UN has strengthened its hand in migration as well, through the HLDIM, and indirectly through the GFMD, and through the renewed or newfound interest of many UN bodies in migration (including through the participation of fourteen UN agencies in the Global Migration Group, alongside IOM and the World Bank). The UN has passed two resolutions[86] calling upon IOM, among others, to bring RCP insights from the myriad of regional dialogues into the HLD process.

The GFMD has, in the past, acknowledged and encouraged RCPs and similar processes to present best practices and policies to influence the global discussions, and to take forward and adapt insights gained from the global processes.[87] The increased practical coordination between them, bridged by key international institutions and organizations, and by the biennial global meeting of the Chairs and Secretariats of

RCPs, speeds up the process and aligns the path. If more formal global harmonization of governance in migration has a chance for realization, it is certainly on the basis of the migration and development agenda, and through the coordinated processes of the major inter-State consultation mechanisms on migration.

One could say that three roads are being built toward more harmonized global migration governance: one from the ground, or region, going up toward the global mechanisms; another going from region to region; and a third descending from the global mechanisms to the regional hubs. Like a railroad network being built from different distant points toward common stations, there is a need for close coordination if the paths are to meet. Here we see most clearly the important role that migration and development, as a core migration policy paradigm, is playing. This conceptual platform has created a great deal of common ground. The HLDIM and the GFMD, and to some extent the Global Migration Group and IOM, serve to survey and mark the path from the global level, and many, but not all, of the RCPs and IRFs do the same from the regional level.

However, while the migration-and-development policy nexus is strong and is an increasingly inclusive paradigm under which many areas of migration policy can be placed, not all areas of migration policy and cooperation fit comfortably under that umbrella. The regional processes and forums, together, have a much broader portfolio, and a global agreement based on migration and development may not strongly affect some of the common areas of regional consultation and dialogue.

Further, the lead role in actual policymaking and practical cooperation on migration and development is predominantly at the national, bilateral and regional levels. RCPs and IRFs that have an interest in migration and development (an increasing number, but by no means all), address it not as a derivative or trickle-down imperative from above, but as their own local priority. The GFMD and the HLDIM serve largely to help consolidate and share the best thinking and practices in the migration-and-development sphere.

The use of RCPs and similar forums as a means to promote national policy agendas is understandable, as are efforts to secure national issues and approaches within formal regional or international legal frameworks, be they established or proposed. Efforts in that direction are unlikely to diminish, and RCPs and IRFs will be among the fulcrums used to leverage national positions into broader agreements. The success of these efforts will be based in part on all parties' inclinations toward formal multilateral arrangements, in part on the linkage of the migration process or forum with authoritative regional bodies, and in part on the ability of national and regional bodies to influence the readiness of global bodies to lead in this regard. All efforts will

depend on the ability to create common ground, or a common conceptual framework, upon which to build the governance system. Again, the migration-and-development paradigm has provided the most fertile and broadest area of common ground.

At the same time, RCPs and similar processes and forums cannot be fairly judged by their instrumental value in promoting global migration governance, as this is not part of their mission. Besides, there is no apparent international consensus that such a global agreement is needed or that it would be the best way to achieve harmonized approaches and policies. The de facto policy coherence that is developing among countries that belong to established RCPs and IRFs is the main achievement of these mechanisms, and this is the primary driver of increased global coherence in migration governance and the understanding of migration. The increasingly close linkage of some RCPs with their sister or parent regional economic and development body is especially significant, in that the potential to move from de facto to de jure policy coherence in migration governance is particularly strong in the linkage of migration with regional economic development agendas centered on trade and the common use of regional human resources.

International or even regional governance of migration is still a concept that is before its time in most areas of the world, in the formal sense of core common policies and practices set in place through binding treaties or similar inter-State instruments. However, this review provides some support to those who contend that, at least at the regional level, its time is approaching. Yet governance is not composed of only its treaty or legal basis; it is also constituted through the practical cooperation that is engendered to enact the intent of an agreement or fill an apparent vacuum created by the lack of a broad multilateral agreement or treaty. Here, in particular, regional migration processes and forums continue to lead the way.

5. CONCLUSION

Most of the reviews of migration processes and forums in this paper are samplings of what exist out there, with some samplings defined by the specific characteristics of the migration process or forum and others by the topics they cover. This review has examined 25 regional and interregional processes and forums on migration along these three criteria: 1) background, 2) evolution of the agenda and 3) linkages with multilateral agreements. The process of researching, writing and vetting this review has led the author to the following insights.

The number of RCPs and similar forums has expanded greatly, but it is unclear if further growth in number will add much value, except perhaps in the limited geographic regions or subregions not now well-served by such processes. Apart from that anomaly, the number of forums and processes has probably exceeded the level of need, and considerable duplication is beginning to emerge. The Budapest Process, in relation to the Prague Process and the renewed CBCP, the EPPMA, is one example; the several Mediterranean-focused initiatives are another. Each process requires commitment, tending and resources, and the emerging overlaps require considerable mental and political energy to untangle at times. As the EC noted in its earlier-cited Communication on the Global Approach to Migration and Mobility, the number of processes, considering their overlaps, is "unsustainable, from a political, financial and human resources perspective."[88]

Still, while an attempt has been made to be as inclusive as possible in this review, there are other mechanisms and forums that could have been usefully included. The Mercosur Specialized Migration Forum, for example, has been neglected in this review, as have the Central American Commission of Directors of Migration, the Pacific Immigration Directors' Conference, the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) dialogues, and many others. Given the importance of these processes, both for their specific regions and for their tie-in with broader migration governance initiatives, and given the rapid pace of change in their number and agenda priorities, a further and more inclusive review of the migration processes and forums would be worthwhile.

Additionally, this review has not focused on bilateral migration policy development initiatives that may form the foundation or a model for some of the regional actions. To gain a complete picture, a review of the most influential bilateral mechanisms and agreements, per region or subregion, would have added value.

Finally, this review has focused on regional mechanisms and has not taken comparable effort to analyse the global ones. A full picture of the interplay

between bilateral, regional and global migration governance would benefit from a complementing chapter on the global mechanisms themselves.

As this is, and will continue to be, an evolving landscape, there is value in having a regular comprehensive review that would cover all the regional and interregional processes and forums, the main bilateral influences, and the global actors as well, and which would continue to refine the taxonomy suggested here. This would be an appropriate role for, and a welcome contribution from, key international actors in the migration field.

ENDNOTES

1. Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD), "How can regional consultative processes (RCPs) and inter-regional fora (IRF) best include the migration and development nexus?," background paper for Session 3.3 of Roundtable 3 ('Policy and Institutional Coherence to Address the Relationship between Migration and Development') of the 2010 GFMD Civil Society Days (Puerta Vallarta, 2010). Available from www.gfmdcivilsociety.org/downloads/Mexico%20Background/doc_2_104_RCPNewland33.pdf.
2. International Organization for Migration (IOM), *An Assessment of Principal Regional Consultative Processes on Migration*, IOM Migration Research Series, Number No. 38 (Geneva, 2010).
3. See, for example, ICMPD (1998), Klekowski von Koppenfels, A. (2001), Channac, F. (2002), Klein Solomon, M. (2005), Thouez, C. and Channac, F. (2005), Thouez C. and Channac, F. (2006), Hansen, R. (2010), IOM (2011), Omelaniuk, I. (2012), Popp, K. (2012) and the GFMD Background Paper.
4. IOM, *Third Global Meeting of RCP Chairpersons and Secretariats: Enhancing Cooperation on Migration through Dialogue and Capacity Building* (Geneva, 2011). Available from http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/free/RCPReportENGA4web.pdf.
5. GFMD 2010, op. cit.
6. To learn more about MIDSA, visit www.migrationdialogue.org/midsa.
7. The 11 SADC regional integration themes are as follows: 1) politics, defense and security; 2) economic development; 3) disaster risk management; 4) infrastructure; 5) agriculture and food security; 6) natural resources; 7) meteorology and climate; 8) health; 9) social and human development; 10) poverty eradication and 11) policy dialogue.
8. The seven SADC cross-cutting issues are as follows: 1) gender; 2) science and technology; 3) information and communication; 4) environment and sustainable development; 5) private sector; 6) statistics; and 7) HIV and AIDS.
9. IOM, *Report and Recommendations on the MIDSA Conference on: Managing Migration Through Regional Cooperation* (Geneva, 2010).
10. Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Commission, "Meeting of ministers on ECOWAS common approach on migration," draft document (Abuja, 2007). Available from www.oecd.org/swac/publications/41400366.pdf.
11. Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), *Towards the IGAD Regional Migration Policy Framework* (Djibouti, 2012).
12. The Africa-EU Partnership on Migration, Mobility and Employment (MME) is considered a regional migration forum (RMF) in this paper and is described in the next entry.

13. Rabat Process (Euro-African Dialogue on Migration and Development), *Dakar Strategy: Declaration from the Third Euro-African Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development,* adopted 23 November 2011 in Dakar, Senegal. Available from www.dialogueeuroafricainmd.net/web/uploads/cms/Dakar-strategy_-Ministerial-declaration-migration-and-development_-EN.pdf.
14. Rabat Process, "The Rabat Process: The road ahead (2012–2014)," roadmap from the Madrid meeting of the High-Level Working Group on Asylum and Migration on 6 June (Madrid, 2012). Available from www.statewatch.org/news/2012/jun/eu-council-rabat-roadmap-migration-11387-12.pdf.
15. ECOWAS, *Protocol Relating to Free Movement of Persons, Residence and Establishment*, adopted 29 May 1979 in Dakar, Senegal. Available from www.ehu.es/ceinik/tratados/11TRATADOSSOBREINTEGRACIONYCOOPERACIONENAFRICA/111ECOWAS/IC1116.pdf.
16. European Commission (EC), "The global approach to migration and mobility," communication from the Commission to the Parliament, the Council and the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions (EC, Brussels, 2011). Available from http://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/news/intro/docs/1_EN_ACT_part1_v9.pdf.
17. Ibid.
18. Spanish: *Encuentro Sudamericano sobre Migraciones, Integración y Desarrollo.*
19. SACM and UNASUR Member States: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela. MERCOSUR Member States: Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay and Venezuela. CAN Member States: Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru.
20. The Tenth SACM Conference issued the Declaration on Migration Principles and General Guidelines of the South American Conference on Migration, which reasserts "the engagement to grant the permanent and unlimited respect of the human rights of migrants and their families, without distinction of any kind such as origin, nationality, gender, ethnicity, age, administrative migratory status, or any other cause of discrimination according to the existing international treaties over the subject, in order to allow the free mobility of South American female and male citizens." South American governments also declared their contempt for "racism, xenophobia and discrimination, migrant criminalization, unilateral laws and measures penalizing and discriminating migrants and abuse of authority, especially in cases of arbitrary detention and deportation taking place outside the region" and reaffirmed their "engagement for co-existence, social inclusion, citizen participation and inclusion of migrant people."
21. The Ibero-American Summit is formally the 'Ibero-American Summits of Heads of State and Governments' (Spanish: *Cumbres Iberoamericanas de Jefes de Estado y de Gobierno, Portuguese: Cimeiras [or Cúpulas] Ibero-Americanas de Chefes de Estado e de Governo*). The Summit is a yearly meeting of the heads of

government and state of the Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking nations of Europe and the Americas, as members of the Organization of Ibero-American States.

22. Member countries of the Organization of Ibero-American States include the following: Andorra, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala. Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, Peru, Spain, Uruguay and Venezuela.
23. Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB), "Gobernabilidad migratoria – I politicas y programas." In: *Unidos por las Migraciones* (Madrid, 2006). Available from www.rcmvs.org/documentos/SEGIB/8 cuartaParte.pdf.
24. SEGIB, "Ibero-American Forum on Migration and Development (FIBEMYD) convening document" (Cuenca [Ecuador], 2008). Available from www.segib.org/upload/File/CONVOCATORIAINGLes.pdf.
25. SEGIB, "Impact of the economic crisis on migration and development: Policy and programmatic responses in Ibero-America," final report presented at the 2010 Ibero-American Forum on Migration and Development (San Salvador, 2010). Available from http://segib.org/publicaciones/files/2010/10/MIGRATION-DEVELOPMENT-2010.pdf.
26. Recent and upcoming meetings of the Ibero-American Summit: 2005, in Salamanca, Spain (XV); 2006, in Montevideo, Uruguay (XVI); 2007, in Santiago, Chile (XVII); 2008, in San Salvador, El Salvador (XVIII); 2009, in Estoril, Portugal (XIX); 2010, in Mar de Plata, Argentina (XX); 2011, in Asunción, Paraguay (XXI); 2012, in Cádiz, Spain (XXII); and 2013, in Panama City, Panama (XXIII).
27. The United Nations Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and their Families was signed on 18 December 1990 and entered into force on 1 July 2003 after the threshold of 20 ratifying States was reached in March 2003. The Committee on Migrant Workers (CMW) monitors implementation of the Convention.
28. Meetings in this series: Yemen (May 2008), Senegal (November 2008), Costa Rica (November 2009), the United Republic of Tanzania (September 2010) and Almaty (2011).
29. Colombo Process countries: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam.
30. Countries of the Arabian Peninsula in West Asia: Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen.
31. Migrant Forum in Asia, CARAM Asia and Human Rights Watch, "Protecting Asian migrants' human rights: Recommendations to governments of the Colombo Process," report prepared for the Fourth Ministerial Consultation for Asian Labour-Sending Countries (the 'Colombo Process') (Dhaka, 2011). Available from www.hrw.org/en/news/2011/04/19/protecting-asian-migrants-rights.

32. The Dhaka Declaration of Colombo Process Member Countries was adopted in Dhaka, Bangladesh, on 21 April 2011 by the attending Ministers of the following countries: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam.
33. International Labour Organization (ILO), *Private Employment Agencies Convention*, 1997 (Geneva, 1997). Available from www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:12100:0::NO::P12100_ILO_CODE:C181.
34. ILO, "Multilateral framework on labour migration: Non-binding principles and guidelines for a rights-based approach to labour migration" (Geneva, 2006). Available from www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_protect/---protrav/---migrant/documents/publication/wcms_178672.pdf.
35. Association of South-east Asian Nations (ASEAN), "2009 Blueprint on the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community" (Jakarta, 2009). Available from http://cil.nus.edu.sg/2009/2009-blueprint-on-the-asean-socio-cultural-community.
36. ASEAN, *Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers*, adopted 13 January 2007 in Cebu, Philippines. Accessible from www.bic.moe.go.th/th/images/stories/ASEAN/declaration/ProtectMigrantsRights2007.pdf.
37. ASEAN, *Declaration Against Trafficking in Persons, Particularly Women and Children*, adopted 29 November 2004 in Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic. Available from: www.cfr.org/women/asean-declaration-against-trafficking-persons-particularly-women-children/p26362.
38. Abu Dhabi Dialogue (ADD), *Framework of Regional Collaboration, 2012,* adopted 19 April 2012 in Manila, Philippines. Available from www.gfmd.org/en/rcp/abu-dhabi.
39. Ibid.
40. ADD, *Abu Dhabi Declaration of Asian Countries of Origin and Destination*, adopted 22 January 2008 in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. Available from www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/shared/shared/mainsite/published_docs/brochures_and_info_sheets/abu_dhabi_declaration_eng.pdf.
41. M. Abella and P. Martin, "Regional framework of collaboration among Asian countries of origin and destination on the administration of the contract employment cycle: A technical technical report prepared for the Abu Dhabi Dialogue" (ADD, Manila, 2012).
42. ADD, *Manila Communiqué: Adopting the framework of regional collaboration and interim operating modalities of the Abu Dhabi Dialogue*, adopted 19 April 2012 in Manila, Philippines. Available from www.gfmd.org/documents/rcp/abu_dhabi_dialogue2012_joint_communique.pdf.
43. ADD, *Interim Guidelines for Operating Modalities*, adopted 19 April 2012 in Manila, Philippines. Available from www.gfmd.org/en/rcp/abu-dhabi.

44. European Union, "Report to the ACP-EU Joint Council on the 2011-2012 dialogue on migration and development." Available from http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/12/st02/st02115.en12.pdf (accessed 20 February 2013).
45. ASEM Partner States and organizations: Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, China, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mongolia, Myanmar, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, the Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Kingdom, Viet Nam, the European Commission, and the ASEAN Secretariat.
46. EC 2011, op. cit.
47. The sessions of the 11th Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Conference of the Directors General of Immigration and Management of Migratory Flows (30–31 October 2012, Nicosia, Cyprus) were as follows: Session 1: 'Highly Skilled Migration and Student Mobility between Asia and Europe: Framing the Discussion'; Session 2: 'Policies Related to the Migration of Highly Skilled Persons and Tertiary Education Students in Europe and Asia'; Session 3: 'Recognition of Qualifications and Skills in Europe and Asia.' (Copies of the background notes to these sessions are available at www.aseminfoboard.org/conference-documents.html.)
48. The United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime was adopted through UN General Assembly Resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000 and entered into force: on 29 September 2003). The UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, Supplementing the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime was entered into force 25 December 2003. The UN Protocol Against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air was entered into force 28 January 2004.
49. Bali Process, *Regional Cooperation Framework*, webpage on the Bali Process website. Available from www.baliprocess.net/regional-cooperation-framework.
50. The IGC Secretariat is funded at approximately CHF 2 million and has approximately five professional and two support staff.
51. Intergovernmental Consultations on Migration, Asylum and Refugees (IGC), *Asylum Procedures: Report on Policies and Practices in IGC Participating States* (Geneva, 2009).
52. The following two paragraphs are drawn from: *Factsheet on the Budapest Process* (ICMPD), available from www.icmpd.org/fileadmin/ICMPD-Website/ICMPD-Website_2011/Migration_Dialogues/Budapest_Process/Factsheets/Budapest_Process_Factsheet_11_03_2013.pdf.

53. Budapest Process, "20 years anniversary – A Ministerial Conference to take stock and move forward," communication on the twentieth anniversary of the Budapest Process: A Silk Routes Partnership for Migration. Available from www.icmpd.org/fileadmin/ICMPD-Website/Budapest_Process/ October_2012_Update/Communication_BP_2012_2013-updated.pdf.
54. EC, "Circular migration and mobility partnerships between the European Union and third countries," communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament (Brussels, 2007). Available from http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-07-197_en.pdf.
55. EC, "The global approach to migration one year on: Towards a comprehensive European migration policy," communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament (Brussels, 2006). Available from http://ec.europa.eu/development/icenter/repository/COMM_PDF_COM_2006_0735_F_EN_ACTE.pdf.
56. EC, "Applying the Global Approach to Migration to the Eastern and South-eastern regions neighbouring the European Union," communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions (Brussels, 2007). Available from http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-07-195_en.htm#PR_metaPressRelease_bottom.
57. Interactive Process on Migration (i-Map), *Prague Process i-Map*, webpage on the i-Map website. Available from www.imap-migration.org.
58. Prague Process participants (2012): States: Albania, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kosovo/UNSCR 1244, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Malta, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, the United Kingdom and Uzbekistan. Organizations and institutions: European Asylum Support Office, European Commission, European External Action Service, Europol, Frontex, ICMPD, IOM, Regional Centre of the Migration, Asylum, Refugees Regional Initiative (MARRI) and UNHCR.
59. EC, *Global Approach to Migration*, webpage on the European Commission website. Available from http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/international-affairs/global-approach-to-migration/index_en.htm.
60. EC, "Increasing coordination, coherence and synergies," communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on Strengthening the Global Approach to Migration (Brussels, 2008). Available from http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2008:0611:FIN:EN:PDF.

61. EC 2011, op. cit.
62. At present, the Eastern Partnership (EaP) includes the European Union, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine.
63. New EU Members (2004): Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia. New EU Members (2007): Bulgaria and Romania. CBCP EU Members: Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania and Slovakia.
64. EaP themes include: a) democracy, good governance and stability (including asylum, migration and border management components); b) economic intregration an convergence with EU policies; (including international labour migration issues); c) energy security; d) contacts between people (educational and cultural exchange); e) interaction with other stakeholders; and f) horizontal cooperation.
65. E.A. Korosteleva, *Eastern Partnership: A New Opportunity for the Neighbors?* (Routledge, London, 2011).
66. E.A. Korosteleva, *The European Union and its Eastern Neighbors: Towards a More Ambitious Partnership?*, Russian and Eastern Studies Series (BASEES/ Routledge, London, 2012).
67. European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean (EU-LAC) Foundation, *Final Declaration of the 1st EU-LAC Summit of Heads of State and Government* ('Rio Declaration'), adopted 29 June 1999 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Available from http://eulacfoundation.org/documents/1999-rio-declaration.
68. EU-LAC, *Final Declaration of the 5th EU-LAC Summit of Heads of State and Government: Addressing our Peoples' Priorities Together* ('Lima Declaration'), adopted 16 May 2008 in Lima, Peru. Available from http://eulacfoundation.org/documents/2008-lima-declaration.
69. EU-LAC, "Basis for structuring the EU-LAC Dialogue on Migration," background paper for the launch of the EU-LAC Dialogue on Migration (Brussels, 2009). Available from www.europarl.europa.eu/meetdocs/2009_2014/documents/dlat/dv/basis/basisen.pdf.
70. Council of the European Union, "Launch of the EU-LAC Structured Dialogue on Migration," press release (Brussels, 2009). Available from www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/en/misc/108821.pdf.
71. 5+5 Dialogue, "Rome Constitutive Declaration," In *Dialogue History*, webpage on the 5+5 website. Available from www.5plus5.tn/english/historiquedudialogue.htm.
72. 5+5 Dialogue, Tunis Declaration, adopted 17 October 2002 in Tunis, Tunisia. Available from www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/shared/shared/mainsite/policy_and_research/rcp/5+5/Tunis_Declaration_2002_En.pdf.
73. 5+5 Dialogue, *Declaration Concluding the Second Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Member States of the Western Mediterranean Forum* ('Malta Declaration') (5+5 Dialogue, Valletta, 2012). Available from www.statewatch.org/news/2012/oct/malta-declaration.pdf.

74. For example: the 1995 Barcelona Declaration; the conclusions of the Presidency of the Foreign Affairs Ministers' Conference of Western Mediterranean Countries (2002); the Declaration adopted by the Meeting of Ministers of Interior Meeting of the Dialogue (5+5), held in Tripoli on 9–11 July 2002; the social, cultural, and human components of the 1995 Barcelona Declaration on the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership Process; the conclusions of the Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Meeting held in Valencia on 22–23 April 2002; the conclusions of the European Council held in Seville on 21–22 June 2002; the provisions of the social component of the Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreements reached between a number of countries of the southern Mediterranean (Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia) and the European Union; The Valencia Euro-Mediterranean Conference (22–23 April 2002) framework document entitled 'Regional Cooperation Program on justice issues, the fight against drug-trafficking, organized crime, and terrorism, and on cooperation towards the social integration of migrants, migration and movement of people'; and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Protocol on Trafficking in Persons).
75. EC, *The Barcelona Process*, webpage on the European Union External Action website. Available from www.eeas.europa.eu/euromed/barcelona_en.htm.
76. Fourteen non-EU States and territories represented at the 1995 Summit: Algeria, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Mauritania, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, and the Occupied Palestinian Territory.
77. EC, *Barcelona Declaration*, adopted 28 November 1995 in Barcelona, Spain. Available from www.eeas.europa.eu/euromed/docs/bd_en.pdf.
78. Migration is included in the following section of the Barcelona Declaration: IV. Partnership in Social, Cultural and Human Affairs: Developing Human Resources, Promoting Understanding between Cultures and Exchanges Between Civil Societies.
79. The *European Neighbourhood Policy* website of the European Commission is accessible at http://ec.europa.eu/world/enp/index_en.htm.
80. The four pillars of cooperation specified in the 2005 Barcelona Summit, and in the complementing updated EUROMED Programme, are: 1) political and security partnership; 2) sustainable socioeconomic development and reform; 3) education and socio cultural exchanges; and, 4) migration, social integration, justice and security.
81. EUROMED, "Five-year work programme," programme statement (EUROMED, Barcelona, 2005). Available from www.eeas.europa.eu/euromed/summit1105/five_years_en.pdf.

82. EU, *Euro-Mediterranean Partnership (EUROMED)*, webpage on the European Union External Action website. Available from www.eeas.europa.eu/euromed/index_en.htm.
83. UfM participants that are non-EU members: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Occupied Palestinian Territory, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia and Turkey.
84. Areas of cooperation in the UfM Agreements: economy, environment, energy, health, migration and culture.
85. IOM Council Resolution No. 1244 was adopted at the 101st Session of the IOM Council in November 2012 in Geneva, Switzerland.
86. The original UN Resolution on International Migration and Development (A/RES/65/170) is available from http://daccess-ods.un.org/TMP/1442808.80689621.html. The revised draft is available from www.un.org/esa/population/migration/ga/A_C2_67_L15_Rev1.pdf.
87. GFMD 2010, op. cit.
88. EC 2011, op. cit., pp. 7-8.

REFERENCES

Abella, M. and Martin, P.

2012 Regional framework of collaboration among Asian countries of origin and destination on the administration of the contract employment cycle: A technical report prepared for the Abu Dhabi Dialogue. Report presented at the Abu Dhabi Dialogue Meeting, 17–19 April 2012, in Manila.

Abu Dhabi Dialogue (ADD)

2012a *Framework of Regional Collaboration, 2012*. ADD, Geneva. Available from www.gfmd.org/en/rcp/abu-dhabi.

2012b *Interim Guidelines for Operating Modalities.* ADD, Geneva. Available from www.gfmd.org/en/rcp/abu-dhabi.

2012c Manila Communiqué: Adopting the framework of regional collaboration and interim operating modalities of the Abu Dhabi Dialogue. ADD, Manila. Available from www.gfmd.org/documents/rcp/abu_dhabi_dialogue2012_joint_communique.pdf.

Betts, A. (ed.)

2011 *Global Migration Governance*. Oxford University Press, Oxford.

Channac, F.

2002 The evolution of international decision-making processes concerning migration: A comparison between formal and informal multilateral fora. In: *Immigration Politics: Between Centre and Periphery; National States and the EU* (G. Zinconne, ed.). The ECPR Press, Colchester.

Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD)

2008 Regional consultative processes on migration (RCPs): Involvement of civil society. Background paper relating to Session 3.3 of GFMD Government Days ('Regional Consultative Processes at the interface of migration and development') of the 2008 GFMD Civil Society Days. GFMD, Manila. Available from http://archives.migrationanddevelopment.net/research-publications/regional-consultative-processes-on-migration-rcps-involvement-of-civil-society/at_download/file.

International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)

1998 Overview of the Activities of the Budapest Process (1991–1998). Budapest Group Secretariat/ICMPD, Vienna.

International Organization for Migration (IOM)
2001 *The Role of Regional Consultative Processes in Managing International Migration*. IOM, Migration Research Series, No. 3, IOM, Geneva.
2005 International migration management through inter-State consultation mechanisms: Focus on regional consultative processes on migration, IOM's International Dialogue on Migration, and the Berne Initiative. IOM paper prepared for the United Nations' Expert Group Meeting on International Migration and Development (6-8 July 2005). IOM, Geneva. Available from www.un.org/esa/population/meetings/ittmigdev2005/P13_MKSolomon.pdf.
2010 *An Assessment of Principal Regional Consultative Processes on Migration.* IOM Migration Research Series, No. 38, IOM, Geneva.
2011 Regional consultative processes on migration. Information sheet, IOM, Geneva. Available from www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/shared/shared/mainsite/microsites/rcps/RCP-Infosheet.pdf.

Omelaniuk, I.
2012 Global migration institutions and processes. In: *Foundations of International Migration Law* (B. Opesin, R. Perruchoud and J. Redpath-Cross, eds.). Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Popp, K.
2012 Regional processes, laws and institutional developments on migration. In: *Foundations of International Migration Law*. (B. Opesin, R. Perruchoud and J. Redpath-Cross, eds.). Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Thouez, C. and F. Channac
2005 *Regional Consultative Processes for Migration: An Evaluation Based on IMP's Work.* United Nations Population Fund, New York.
2006 Shaping international migration policy: The role of regional consultative processes. *West European Politics*, (29)2:370–87.

ANNEXES

Annex A: Summary list of the reviewed consultation mechanisms on migration

Africa (intra-African)	
RCP	Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa (MIDSA)
RCP	Migration Dialogue for West Africa (MIDWA)
RCP, Pillar	COMESA Regional Consultative Process on Migration (Tentative title; anticipated initiation: 2013)
RCP, Pillar	Inter-governmental Authority on Development Regional Consultative Process on Migration (IGAD-RCP)
Africa with Europe	
RCP	Euro-African Intergovernmental Dialogue on Migration and Development (or, simply, the 'Rabat Process')
IRF, Pillar	Tripoli Process
Americas and the Caribbean	
RCP	Regional Conference on Migration (RCM, or, simply, the 'Puebla Process')
RCP	South American Conference on Migration (SACM)
IRF, Pillar	Ibero-American Forum on Migration and Development (FIBEMYD)
Asia (intra-Asian)	
RCP	Almaty Process
RCP	Ministerial Consultation on Overseas Employment and Contractual Labour for Countries of Origin in Asia ('Colombo Process')
Other, Pillar	ASEAN Forum on Migrant Labour (AFML)
Arabian Peninsula, with other Asia	
RCP	Ministerial Consultations on Overseas Employment and Contractual Labor for Countries of Origin and Destination in Asia (Abu Dhabi Dialogue)
Asia with Europe	
IRF, Pillar	Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Conference of the Directors-General of Immigration and Management of Migratory Flows (ASEM CDGIMM)
Asia with Oceania	
RCP	Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime
RCP	Inter-governmental Asia-Pacific Consultations on Refugees, Displaced Persons, and Migrants (APC)
Europe with African, Pacific and Caribbean States	
IRF, Pillar	APC-EU Dialogue on Migration
Europe with Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States	
RCP	Intergovernmental Consultations on Migration, Asylum and Refugees (IGC)

Europe with the former Soviet Union	
RCP	Budapest Process
RCP, Pillar	Eastern Partnership Panel on Migration and Asylum (EPPMA) (formerly, the Cross-Border Cooperation Process [CBCP], or, simply, the 'Söderköping Process')
RCP	Prague Process (Building Migration Partnerships)
Europe with Latin America	
IRF, Pillar	European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean Structured and Comprehensive Dialogue on Migration (EU-LAC SCDM)
Mediterranean	
RCP	Mediterranean Transit Migration Dialogue (MTM)
RCP, Pillar	Regional Ministerial Conference on Migration in the Western Mediterranean (5+5 Dialogue, or, simply, '5+5')
IRF, Pillar	Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, Migration Dialogue (E-MP MD)

Annex B: Summary of the key features of the reviewed consultation mechanisms

Full Name/Acronym and Main Objectives	Members, Observers/Partners, Secretariat		Date of Initiation/ Cessation
Africa			
Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa MIDSA *(RCP)* MIDSA focuses on seven main themes: • irregular migration • migration and development • migration and health • capacity-building in migration management • forced migration • labour migration • migration policies	**M:**	Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.	2000 – (ongoing)
	O:	Australia, Canada, Denmark, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States of America. Southern African Development Community (SADC) Secretariat, SADC Parliamentary Forum (immigration and labour arms), AUC. Others, such as relevant UN agencies and diplomatic missions, on an ad hoc/theme basis.	
	S:	No official Secretariat. IOM provides support in collaboration with Southern African Migration Project.	
Migration Dialogue for West Africa MIDWA *(RCP)* MIDWA addresses five key areas, as follows: • promotion of peace and stability in West Africa and protection of migrants' rights • contribution of men and women migrants to the development of their countries of origin • alleviating poverty in emigration areas • information, sensitization and research into the different aspects of West African international migration • intraregional and interregional cooperation	**M:**	Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, the Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, the Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo.	2001 – (ongoing)
	O:	France, Switzerland. Council of Non-Governmental Organizations for Development Support (CONGAD), ECOWAS, Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD), ILO, IOM, UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) , Organization of African Unity (OAU), OECD, West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA), UNAIDS, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNODC and World Food Programme (WFP).	
	S:	No official Secretariat. IOM provides support for capacity-building activities, targeting both ECOWAS institutions and its Member States.	

Full Name/Acronym and Main Objectives	Members, Observers/Partners, Secretariat		Date of Initiation/ Cessation
Africa			
Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa, Regional Consultative Process on Migration COMESA RCP *(RCP, pillar)* COMESA addresses the following key areas: • migration and development • integration • migration management • migration policies • migration mobility • remittances • irregular migration • migration health • mixed migration • labour migration	**M:**	Expected/potential member states and governments: Burundi, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, the Sudan,South Sudan, Swaziland, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.	Expected to launch in 2013
	O:	None currently.	
	S:	Eventually, the COMESA Centre.	
Intergovernmental Authority on Development – Regional Consultative Process on Migration IGAD-RCP *(RCP, pillar)* The IGAD-RCP focuses on the following priority areas: • migration and development • labour migration • social integration of migrants • protection of migrants' rights • smuggling and trafficking in persons • migration data and research • migration and health • migration and trade • migration and environment • migration and security • voluntary return of migrants • mixed migratory flows and protection of refugees • movement of pastoralist communities • brain drain and unethical recruitment • remittances	**M:**	Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, the Sudan and Uganda. (Eritrea has temporarily suspended its membership.)	2008 – (ongoing)
	O:	Chad, Egypt, Libya, the Niger, Tunisia and Yemen. AUC, Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD), EAC, Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), ECOWAS, IOM, SADC and IGAD partners/ Forum members (Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Greece, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, United Kingdom, USA, EC, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank).	
	S:	IGAD serves as Secretariat, in collaboration with the AUC and IOM.	

Full Name/Acronym and Main Objectives	Members, Observers/Partners, Secretariat		Date of Initiation/ Cessation
Africa with Europe			
Rabat Process *(RCP)* The Rabat Process addresses the connection between migration and development. Its objectives include the following: • facilitating exchanges between the various parties involved in mobility • providing national and regional institutions with the means and capacities to implement mobility policies • guaranteeing that migrants' rights and integration are respected • improving border management, the efficiency of readmission procedures and return conditions of irregular migrants • reinforcing the protection for vulnerable groups • rendering civil registers secure and streamlining their management • adopting an inclusive approach to matters regarding migration and development • improving the mobilization of migrants' remittances to the benefit of their countries of origin • realizing the potential for migrant engagement with countries of origin • basing policy consistency and coordination on acquiring and sharing information	**M:**	Austria, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, Benin, the Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Côte d'Ivoire, Latvia, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, the Netherlands, the Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Togo, Tunisia and the United Kingdom.	2006 – (ongoing)
	O:	Algeria, African Development Bank, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Frontex, ICMPD, ILO, IOM, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UNICEF, UNHCR, UNODC and the World Bank.	
	S:	Belgium, Burkina Faso, the European Commission (EC), ECOWAS, Equatorial Guinea, France, Italy, Morocco, Senegal and Spain.	
Tripoli Process *(IRF, pillar)* The joint AFRICA-EU Declaration on Migration and Development held in Tripoli on 22–23 November 2006, also known simply as the 'Tripoli Process,' focuses on the following areas: • migration and development • migration management challenges • peace and security • human resources and brain drain • concern for the human rights and well-being of migrants • sharing best practices • opportunities for regular migration • illegal or irregular migration • protection of refugees	**M:**	Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, the Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo.	2001 – (ongoing)
	O:	France, Switzerland. CONGAD, ECOWAS, IRD, ILO, IOM, UNOCHA, OAU, OECD, UEMOA, UNAIDS, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNODC and WFP.	
	S:	No official Secretariat. IOM provides support to capacity-building activities targeting both ECOWAS institutions and its Member States.	

Full Name/Acronym and Main Objectives	Members, Observers/Partners, Secretariat		Date of Initiation/ Cessation
Americas and the Caribbean			
Regional Conference on Migration RCM, or, simply, the 'Puebla Process' *(RCP)* The main areas of discussion are: • migration policy and management • human rights of migrants regardless of status, with special attention to vulnerable groups such as women and children • migration and development • enhancing border cooperation • developing guidelines for the return of unaccompanied migrant minors • promoting migration and health activities • ensuring international protection of refugees • enhancing cooperation in the return and reintegration of repatriated migrants • promoting cooperation to combat migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons • undertaking activities in the area of integration	**M:**	Belize, Canada, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama and the United States.	1996 – (ongoing)
	O:	Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador, Jamaica and Peru. Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Inter-American Commission for Human Rights (ICHR), IOM, SEGIB, SICA, UNFPA, UNHCR and the UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants. Frequent contributor/non-observer: Regular Network of Civil Society Organizations on Migration.	
	S:	IOM serves as Technical Secretariat.	
South American Conference on Migration SACM, or, simply, the 'Lima Process' *(RCP)* The following are the main areas of concern: • migrants and development • diasporas • rights of migrants • integration • information exchange • migration statistics • human trafficking and smuggling	**M:**	Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).	2001 – (ongoing)
	O:	Australia, Canada, France, Italy, Mexico, Spain, Switzerland and the United States. CAN, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), ILO, IOM, Latin American Economic System, UNESCO and UNHCR.	
	S:	IOM serves as Technical Secretariat.	
Ibero-American Forum on Migration and Development FIBEMYD *(IRF, pillar)* The main goals of the forum are to: • provide input for the design of programs and projects that will help mitigate the effects of the crisis on migration and development • continue to promote migration's positive contributions and the protection of migrant and refugee human rights, regardless of immigration status • promote remittance movement, co-development, inclusion of migrants in the labour market, human rights, health and social protections of migrants	**M:**	Andorra, Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Paraguay, Portugal, Spain, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).	2008 – (ongoing)
	O:	None currently.	
	S:	Ibero-American Secretary General: Enrique Iglesias.	

Full Name/Acronym and Main Objectives	Members, Observers/Partners, Secretariat		Date of Initiation/ Cessation
Asia			
Almaty Process *(RCP)* The Almaty Process addresses challenges and issues faced by States and neighbours of States in Central Asia posed by mixed migration in the region. The Almaty Process focuses on the following primary topics: • environmental degradation • irregular migration • migrant smuggling and human trafficking • asylum • border security • migration policymaking • mixed migration or mixed movement	**M:**	**Expected/Potential members**: Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, China, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Turkey, and Uzbekistan.	Expected to be launched in 2013
	O:	**Expected**: the United States, Japan and the EU.	
	S:	IOM and UNHCR.	
Ministerial Consultation on Overseas Employment and Contractual Labour for Countries of Origin in Asia The 'Colombo Process' *(RCP)* The Colombo Process focuses on the following principal thematic areas: • protection of and provision of services to overseas temporary contractual workers • optimizing the benefits of organized labour mobility (This includes the development of new overseas employment markets, increasing remittance flows through formal channels and enhancing the development impact of remittances.) • capacity-building, data collection and inter-State cooperation (This includes institutional capacity-building and information exchange to meet the challenges of labour mobility; increasing cooperation with destination countries in the protection of overseas temporary contractual workers and access to labour markets; and enhancing cooperation among countries of origin.)	**M:**	Afghanistan, Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam.	2003 – (ongoing)
	O:	(Intermittent/Situational): Bahrain, Italy, Kuwait, Malaysia, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. Asian Development Bank (ADB), ASEAN, Department for International Development (DFID), EC, GCC, ILO, United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and the World Bank.	
	S:	IOM	

Full Name/Acronym and Main Objectives	Members, Observers/Partners, Secretariat		Date of Initiation/ Cessation
Asia			
ASEAN Forum on Migrant Labour AFML *(Other)* The AFML has the following objectives: • implementation of the ASEAN Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers • implementation of the ASEAN Labour Ministers' Work Programme 2010–2015 • establishment of an open platform for discussion and the exchange of views, with specific attention to the access to information for the protection of the rights of migrant workers	**M:**	Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam.	1967 – (ongoing)
	O:	None currently.	
	S:		
Arabian Peninsula, with Asia			
Ministerial Consultations on Overseas Employment and Contractual Labour for Countries of Origin and Destination in Asia The 'Abu Dhabi Dialogue' (ADD) *(RCP)* Participating States identified the following four key partnerships through which they wish to foster information-sharing and promote capacity-building, technical cooperation and inter-State cooperation: • enhancing knowledge in the areas of labour market trends, skills profiles, temporary contractual workers and remittance policies and flows, and their interplay with development in the region • building capacity for effective matching of labour demand and supply • preventing illegal recruitment practices and promoting welfare and protection measures for contractual workers, supportive of their well-being and preventing their exploitation at origin and destination • developing a framework for a comprehensive approach to managing the entire cycle of temporary contractual mobility that fosters the mutual interests of countries of origin and destination	**M:**	**Destination countries**: Bahrain, Kuwait, Malaysia, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen. **Origin countries/Colombo Process countries**: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam.	2008 – (ongoing)
	O:	France, Germany, Japan, Mauritius, Poland, Republic of Korea and the United States. The European Commission.	
	S:	Ministry of Labour of the United Arab Emirates, in partnership with IOM.	

Full Name/Acronym and Main Objectives	Members, Observers/Partners, Secretariat		Date of Initiation/ Cessation
Asia with Europe			
Asia-Europe Meeting Conference of the Directors-General of Immigration and Management of Migratory Flows ASEM CDGIMM *(IRF, pillar)* The main thematic areas since 2010 are as follows: • highly-skilled migration • encouraging skilled migration • preventing irregular employment • preventing trafficking in persons and protecting its victims • detection of unaccompanied minors and irregular migrants • labour migrants and students	**M:**	Australia, Austria, ASEAN Secretariat, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, China, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, the EC, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mongolia, Myanmar, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the United Kingdom and Viet Nam.	1996 – (ongoing)
	O:	None currently.	
	S:	ASEM Secretariat.	
Asia and Oceania			
Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime The 'Bali Process' or 'Bali Conference' *(RCP)* The objectives of the Bali Process are as follows: • improved cooperation among regional law enforcement agencies to deter and combat people smuggling and trafficking • enhanced cooperation on border and visa systems • increased public awareness • cooperation in verifying the identity of irregular migrants and trafficking victims • enactment of national legislation to criminalize people smuggling and trafficking • provision of protection and assistance to victims, particularly women and children • enhanced focus on tackling the root causes of irregular migration, such as increasing opportunities for legal migration between States • assisting countries to adopt best practices in asylum management, in accordance with the principles of the UN Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees.	**M:**	Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Fiji, Hong Kong SAR, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Japan, Jordan, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Macau SAR, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, New Caledonia (France), New Zealand, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Turkey, Vanuatu and Viet Nam. **Co-Chairs**: Australia and Indonesia.	2002 – (ongoing)
	O:	None currently.	
	S:	Steering Group composed of: Australia, Indonesia, New Zealand and Thailand, with IOM and UNHCR.	

Full Name/Acronym and Main Objectives	Members, Observers/Partners, Secretariat		Date of Initiation/ Cessation
Asia and Oceania			
Inter-governmental Asia-Pacific Consultations on Refugees, Displaced Persons and Migrants APC *(RCP)* APC focuses on the following main areas: • population movements • refugees displaced • data collection and information-sharing • prevention and preparedness • reintegration and its sustainability • comprehensive and durable solutions to refugee situations • trafficking in women and children • illegal immigrants/workers • people-smuggling and irregular migration • emergency response and contingency planning	**M:**	Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Fiji, Hong Kong SAR, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Macau SAR, Malaysia, Micronesia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, New Caledonia (France), New Zealand (through 2003), Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Vanuatu and Viet Nam.	1996 – (ongoing)
	O:	IOM, UNHCR and PIDC Secretariat.	
	S:	Permanent Secretariat established in 2007.	
Europe with African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) States			
African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States-European Union Dialogue on Migration ACP-EU Dialogue on Migration *(IRF, pillar)* Its purpose includes exchanging information and experiences on topics such as: • regular and irregular migration • asylum • visas • border management • trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants • readmission and return • human rights of migrants • migration and development • international protection.	**M:**	ACP and EU States.	1991 – (ongoing)
	O:	None currently.	
	S:	Permanent ACP Secretariat based in Brussels.	
Europe with Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States			
Intergovernmental Consultations on Asylum, Refugee and Migration Policies in Europe, North America and Australia IGC *(RCP)* The main focus areas of IGC are as follows: • asylum/refugees • admission, control and enforcement • integration • immigration • integration • information- and data-sharing		Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States.	1984 – (ongoing)
		IOM, UNHCR and the EC.	
		IGC Secretariat	

Full Name/Acronym and Main Objectives	Members, Observers/Partners, Secretariat		Date of Initiation/ Cessation
Europe with the former Soviet Union and selected neighbouring countries			
The Budapest Process *(RCP)* Overall focus: Developing comprehensive and sustainable systems for orderly migration. The purpose of the Process includes exchanging information and experiences on topics such as: • regular and irregular migration • asylum • visa • border management • trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants • readmission and return • human rights of migrants • migration and development • international protection	**M:**	Albania, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Malta, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom and Uzbekistan. New participating countries of the Silk Routes Region are: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Iraq and Pakistan.	1991 – (ongoing)
	O:	Australia, Canada and the United States. Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization (BSEC), CIS Executive Committee, Council of Europe, EC, European Police Office (EUROPOL), Frontex, ICMPD, IGC, ILO, International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), IOM, MARRI, Southeast European Cooperative Initiative (SECI) Centre, UN Centre for International Crime Prevention (UN-CICP), UNHCR and UNODC. Partner Countries for the 'Silk Routes' Initiative: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, China, Iraq, Pakistan and the Syrian Arab Republic.	
	S:	ICMPD	
Eastern Partnership Panel on Migration and Asylum (formerly, the Cross-Border Cooperation Process, or, simply, the 'Söderköping Process') EPPMA *(IRF, pillar)* Its purpose includes exchanging information and experiences on topics such as: • regular and irregular migration • asylum • visas • border management • trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants • readmission and return • human rights of migrants • migration and development • international protection	**M:**	Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Sweden and Ukraine.	2001– 2011 (In 2011, CBCP was subsumed into the broader EU Eastern Partnership Platform 1: Asylum & Migration)
	O:	EC, IOM, SMB, UNHCR and numerous non-governmental organizations.	
	S:	Swedish Migration Board (SMB).	

Full Name/Acronym and Main Objectives	Members, Observers/Partners, Secretariat		Date of Initiation/ Cessation
Europe with the former Soviet Union and selected neighbouring countries			
The Prague Process *(RCP)* • The Process was initiated under the Czech presidency of the EU through the endorsement of the 'Building Migration Partnerships' joint declaration and supports the Global Approach to Migration and Mobility (GAMM) of the EU. It proceeds through Action Plans endorsed through regular Ministerial Conferences and annual Senior Officials Meetings and focuses on the following issues: asylum, legal migration, irregular migration and migration and development. *	**M:**	Albania, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kosovo/UNSCR 1244, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom and Uzbekistan. The European Commission. (50 participating states in total).	2009 – (ongoing)
	O:	None currently.	
	S:	Secretariat is termed 'Project Support Unit' and is run by ICMPD.	
Europe with Latin America			
European Union-Latin America and the Caribbean Structured and Comprehensive Dialogue on Migration EU-LAC SCDM *(IRF, pillar)* EU-LAC addresses the following topics: • the link between migration and development • regular migration and irregular migration • migration and human rights, including the protection of migrants in accordance with international obligations • the fight against all forms of discrimination, racism and xenophobia • legislative and administrative measures applicable to migrants in an irregular situation • issues related to return on a dignified basis and voluntary return • measures to combat trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants • the prevention of document fraud	**M:**	EU Member States and Latin American and Caribbean States.	1999 – (ongoing)
	O:	None currently.	
	S:	No official Secretariat.	

** European Commission (2011). Ibid.*

Full Name/Acronym and Main Objectives	Members, Observers/ Partners, Secretariat		Date of Initiation/ Cessation
Mediterranean			
Mediterranean Transit Migration Dialogue MTM *(RCP)* The objectives of the MTM are as follows: • Implement capacity-building and operational projects encompassing a dialogue component to facilitate the dissemination of results at the regional level and provide a solid platform to discuss exchange. • Elaborate recommendations, and agree on future steps and build up spin-off initiatives. • Address the issues related to irregular and mixed migration (irregular migration/human smuggling; trafficking in human beings; asylum and protection; and return and readmission). • Address medium- and long-term issues related to migration and development (the mapping of institutional frameworks; capacities and practices of countries of origin and destination in the field of migration and development; and strengthening African and Middle Eastern Diaspora policies for more development, notably through South-South and South-North exchange). • Promote cooperation on labour and circular migration. Initially focusing on transit migration, the MTM extended its scope over the years to cover the various aspects of irregular and mixed migration, as well as migration and development. The MTM Secretariat and MTM Partner States also actively participated in other frameworks and ensured dissemination of results and cross-fertilization, notably with the 5+5 Dialogue, the Rabat Process, the African-EU MME Partnership and EUROMED.	**M:**	Arab Partner States (7): Algeria, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, the Syrian Arab Republic and Tunisia. European Partner States (30): the 27 EU member states, with the addition of Norway, Switzerland and Turkey.	2003 – (ongoing)
	O:	Australia, CEN-SAD, DCAF, Eurojust (the Judicial Cooperation Unit of the EU), General Secretariat of the European Council, IGC, IOM, International Organization for Peace, Care and Relief (IOPCR), League of Arab States (LAS), MARRI, OSCE, UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA). Specific Project/Activity Partners: Caritas, European Police Office (EUROPOL), Frontex, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), IOM, UNHCR and UNODC.	
	S:	ICMPD	
Regional Ministerial Conference on Migration in the Western Mediterranean 5+5 Dialogue *(RCP, pillar)* The Dialogue has discussed topics such as: • migration trends • irregular migration and trafficking in human beings • migration and co-development • the role of diasporas • migrants' rights and obligations • integration • movement of people and regular migration flow management • labour migration and vocational training • migration and health • local cooperation • gender equality in the context of migration	**M:**	Algeria, France, Italy, Libya, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Portugal, Spain and Tunisia.	2002 – (ongoing)
	O:	ICMPD, ILO and IOM	
	S:	No official Secretariat. IOM has provided Technical Secretariat functions when requested.	

Full Name/Acronym and Main Objectives	Members, Observers/Partners, Secretariat		Date of Initiation/ Cessation
Mediterranean			
Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, Migration Dialogue E-MP MD *(IRF, pillar)* The purpose of this project is to strengthen Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in the management of migration, so as to build the Mediterranean partners' capacity to provide an effective, targeted and comprehensive solution for the various forms of migration, which includes: • setting up mechanisms to promote opportunities for legal migration • mixed-flow migration management • legal migration • trafficking and illegal immigration • the relationship between migration and development.	**M:**	The Dialogue is an EC/ MEDA regional project (with Mediterranean partner countries) participated by the following countries and territories: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Kingdom of Morocco, the Occupied Palestinian Territory and Tunisia.	1995 – (ongoing)
	O:	None currently.	
	S:	No official Secretariat.	

Annex C: Summary agendas and declarations: 2010–2013

Meeting/Conference	Date and Venue	Meeting theme or agenda
Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa (MIDSA) *(RCP)*		
Ministerial Conference	2–5 April 2013 Maputo, Mozambique	'Enhancing Intraregional Labour Migration Towards Social and Economic Development in the SADC Region'
Technical Meeting	27–29 August 2012 Balaclava, Mauritius	'Enhancing Intraregional Labour Migration Towards Social and Economic Development in the SADC Region'
Ministerial Conference	15–17 November 2010 Windhoek, Namibia	'Managing Migration Through Regional Cooperation'
Migration Dialogue for West Africa (MIDWA) *(RCP)*		
Conference	9 July 2012 Dakar, Senegal	'The Institutional Capacity of the Migration Dialogue for West Africa (MIDWA)'
Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa, Regional Consultative Process on Migration (COMESA RCP) *(RCP, pillar)*		
It is anticipated that the COMESA RCP will be initiated in 2013.		
Intergovernmental Authority on Development – Regional Consultative Process on Migration (IGAD-RCP) *(RCP, pillar)*		
IGAD–RCP Meeting	7–8 February 2012 Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	'Migration and Development'
IGAD–RCP Meeting	20–22 October 2010 Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	'Migration Management in the IGAD Region'
Euro-African Dialogue on Migration and Development ('Rabat Process') *(RCP)*		
High-Level Officials' Meeting	6 June 2012 Madrid, Spain	'Follow-up to the 3rd Euro-African Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development'
3rd Ministerial Conference	23 November 2011 Dakar, Senegal	Consolidating the Rabat Process
Meeting of High-Level Representatives	18 October 2011 Paris, France	Prepare for the 3rd Euro-African Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development
Meeting of Experts on Civil Registry	9–11 May 2011 Warsaw, Poland	'Improving Civil Status Registration Systems and Combating Document Fraud'
Meeting of Experts of the Social Rights of Migrants	31 March – 1 April 2011 Rabat, Morocco	'The Social Rights of Migrants and Their Portability Under a Transnational Framework'

Meeting/Conference	Date and Venue	Meeting theme or agenda
Joint AFRICA-EU Declaration on Migration and Development ('Tripoli Process') *(IRF, pillar)*		
Africa–EU Summit	29–30 November 2010 Tripoli, Libya	Adoption of the Second Action Plan, which covers 2011–2013
The EU-African Union meeting ('Tripoli Conference')	22–23 November 2006 Tripoli, Libya	'The Joint Africa–EU Declaration on Migration and Development'
Regional Conference on Migration (RCM, 'Puebla Process') *(RCP)*		
Forthcoming: 18th Regional Conference on Migration (RCM)	June 2013 San José, Costa Rica	To be announced
Meeting of the Regional Consultation Group on Migration	4–6 December 2012 Panama City, Panama	Child protection; protection of the human rights of migrants; mechanisms for the identification of missing migrants
Meeting of the Regional Consultation Group on Migration	19–20 June 2012 Panama City, Panama	Trafficking in persons; returned migrants; migrant children; protection of migrant workers' labour rights, adolescents and refugees
17th Regional Conference on Migration (RCM)	21–22 June 2012 Panama City, Panama	'Security within the Framework of Human Rights and Mixed Migration Flows'
16th Regional Conference on Migration (RCM)	9–10 June 2011 Bayahibe, La Romana, Dominican Republic	'Migration and Labor: Co-Responsibility Among the States'
Meeting of the Regional Consultation Group on Migration	16–18 November 2010 Querétaro, Mexico	Migration policy, trafficking and migrant smuggling' migrant women and family; social integration of refugees.
15th Regional Conference on Migration (RCM)	20–21 May 2010 Tapachula, Chiapas, Mexico	Strengthen the Process through new collaborative mechanisms
South American Conference on Migration (SACM) *(RCP)*		
12th South American Conference on Migration: 'Governance of Migration in South America'	4–6 November 2012 Santiago, Chile	The implementation of the South American Plan for the human development of migrants, a study on the South American overview on migration
11th South American Conference on Migration: 'Towards the South American Citizenship'	19–21 October 2011 Brasilia, Brasil	Respect for and promotion of the human rights of migrant persons and their families, regardless of their migration status, nationality, ethnic origin, gender, age or any other consideration
Conferencia Sudamericana Sobre Migraciones VI Reunion Intersesional	12–13 May 2011 Santiago, Chile	Reviewed strategic and programmatic matters
10th South American Conference on Migration: 'Towards a South American Citizenship'	25–26 October 2010 Cochabamba, Bolivia	'Declaration of Migration Principles and General Guidelines of the South American Conference on Migration'

Meeting/Conference	Date and Venue	Meeting theme or agenda
Ibero-American Forum on Migration and Development (FIBEMYD) *(IRF, pillar)*		
2nd Meeting of the Ibero-American Forum on Migration and Development (FIBEMYD)	22–23 July 2010 San Salvador, El Salvador	Analysing the effects of the economic crisis on migration and development in Ibero-America and reflecting on possible specific actions in response to it
Ibero-American Forum on Migration and Development (FIBEMYD)	10–11 April 2008 Cuenca, Ecuador	Sharing best practices and coordinating consensus and actions shared by the Ibero-American nations on the matter
Almaty Process *(RCP)*		
Forthcoming: Ministerial Conference	6–7 June 2013 Almaty, Kazakhstan	Official launch of the Almaty Process
Meeting of National Coordinators	7 September 2012 Almaty, Kazakhstan	Preparing the ground for the official launch/operationalization of the Almaty Process
Regional Conference on Refugee Protection and International Migration in Central Asia	15–16 March 2011 Almaty, Kazakhstan	The Almaty Declaration (adopted by Participating States at the Regional Conference on Refugee Protection and International Migration)
Ministerial Consultation on Overseas Employment and Contractual Labour for Countries of Origin in Asia ('Colombo Process') *(RCP)*		
4th Ministerial Consultation on Overseas Employment and Contractual Labour for Countries of Origin in Asia	19–21 April 2011 Dhaka, Bangladesh	'Migration with Dignity' (including the promotion and protection of migrant workers' human rights)
ASEAN Forum on Migrant Labour (AFML) *(Other, pillar)*		
5th ASEAN Forum on Migrant Labour	9–10 October 2012 Siem Reap, Cambodia	'Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers: Towards Effective Recruitment Practices and Regulations'
4th ASEAN Forum on Migrant Labour	24–25 October 2011 Bali, Indonesia	Effective implementation of the ASEAN Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant workers
3rd ASEAN Forum on Migrant Labour	19–20 July 2010 Hanoi, Viet Nam	'Enhancing Awareness and Information Services to Protect the Rights of Migrant Workers'
Ministerial Consultations on Overseas Employment and Contractual Labour for Countries of Origin and Destination in Asia ('Abu Dhabi Dialogue' [ADD]) *(RCP)*		
2nd Ministerial Consultation on the Abu Dhai Dialogue	17–19 April 2012 Manila, Philippines	Adoption and signing of the Manila Communiqué, which outlines the framework of collaboration and the ADD operating modalities

Meeting/Conference	Date and Venue	Meeting theme or agenda
2nd Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) of the Abu Dhabi Dialogue	17 April 2012 Manila, Philippines	Regional cooperation framework and operating modality of the Abu Dhabi Dialogue
High-level Meeting of Officials of Labour Ministries	25 January 2012 Dubai, United Arab Emirates	Enhancing cooperation and developing a comprehensive framework to maximize the mutual benefits from labour mobility in the region
Asia-Europe Meeting Conference of the Directors General of Immigration and Management of Migratory Flows (ASEM CDGIMM) *(IRF, pillar)*		
11th ASEM Conference of the Directors General of Immigration and Management of Migratory Flows	30–31 October 2012 Nicosia, Cyprus	Highly skilled migration
10th ASEM Conference of the Directors General of Immigration and Management of Migratory Flows	5–7 November 2011 Ulan Bator, Mongolia	Encouraging skilled migration and preventing irregular employment and preventing trafficking in persons and protecting its victims
9th ASEM Conference of the Directors General of Immigration and Management of Migratory Flows	21–23 November 2010 Terhulpen, Belgium	Detection of unaccompanied minors and irregular migrants; selection of labour migrants and students
Bali Procress on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime ('Bali Process') *(RCP)*		
7th Bali Process Ad Hoc Group Senior Officials' Meeting	4–5 March 2013 Sydney, Australia	Provide an opportunity to progress outcomes from the 10th Bali Process anniversary commemoration events
Bali Process Workshop	12–14 December 2012 Bangkok, Thailand	Ratification and the implementation of the UNTOC and its protocols
Bali Process 10th Anniversay Commemmoration	12–13 November 2012 Bali, Indonesia	Highlight the achievements of the past 10 years and focusing on ways to move the Bali Process forward, including on possible future approaches
Co-chairs' Meeting	13 November 2012 Bali, Indonesia	Advance regional cooperation on trafficking in persons
Bali Process Technical Experts' Workshop	29 October – 1 November 2012 Singapore	Document examination education
Bali Process Ad Hoc Group Workshop	23–26 July 2012 Bangkok, Thailand	Visa integrity for foreign mission staff
4th Meeting of the Bali Process Ad Hoc Technical Experts' Working Group on Irregular Movements	11–14 June 2012 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	Irregular movements

Meeting/Conference	Date and Venue	Meeting theme or agenda
6th Bali Process Ad Hoc Group Senior Officials' Meeting	1 June 2012 Bali, Indonesia	Take forward the implementation of the Regional Cooperation Framework through the establishment of a Regional Support Office (RSO)
Technical Experts' Workshop on Trafficking in Persons	28–30 May 2012 Bali, Indonesia	'Combating Trafficking in Persons – A Coordinated Response'
Bali Process Ad Hoc Group Meeting	23–26 April 2012 New Delhi, India	'Workshop on Biometrics for Identity Integrity in immigration'
Bali Process Ad Hoc Group Meeting	7–10 February 2012 Auckland, New Zealand	'Immigration Intelligence Best Practice Workshop'
Ministerial Conference on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime	12–13 January 2012 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	'Workshop on 'Victim Protection'"
3rd Meeting of the Bali Process Ad Hoc Technical Experts' Working Group on Irregular Movement by Air	14–16 November 2011 Negombo, Sri Lanka	Effective removal strategies for people refused entry
5th Bali Process Ad Hoc Group Senior Officials' Meeting	12 October 2011 Sydney, Australia	Take forward the operationalization of the Regional Cooperation Framework
Bali Process Workshop on the Immigration Aspects of Airport Security	7–10 June 2011 Bangkok, Thailand	Immigration and security in the airports
Technical Experts' Workshop on Mutual Legal Assistance	30 May – 1 June 2011 Bangkok, Thailand	'Mutual Legal Assistance and Law Enforcement Cooperation'
2nd Meeting of the Bali Process Technical Experts' Working Group on Irregular Movement by Air	10–11 May 2011 Colombo, Sri Lanka	Address the issue of irregular movement by air
4th Regional Ministerial Conference	29–30 March 2011 Bali, Indonesia	Agreement to set up a regional cooperation framework on the reduction of irregular migration
Bali Process Senior Officials' Meeting	10 March 2011 Bali, Indonesia	Make recommendations for the 4th Bali Process Ministerial Conference
4th Meeting of Ad Hoc Group Senior Officials	9 March 2011 Bali, Indonesia	Make recommendations to the 4th Bali Process Ministerial Conference on irregular migration
Bali Process Ad Hoc Group Workshop	7–9 December 2010 Maldives	'Visa Integrity Workshop'
Technical Workshop on Repatriation and Reintegration	23–24 November 2010 Manila, Philippines	Repatriation and reintegration assistance
Ad Hoc Group UNHCR Regional Cooperation on Refugees and Irregular Movements Workshop	22–23 November 2010 Manila, Philippines	Regional cooperative approach to address the issue of refugees, asylum-seekers and irregular movement
Ad Hoc Group Workshop	26–29 July 2010 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	'Group Workshop on Passport Integrity'

Meeting/Conference	Date and Venue	Meeting theme or agenda
Workshop on the Immigration Aspects of Seaport Security	12–15 July 2010 Singapore	Best practices and capacity-building in the immigration aspects of seaport security
3rd Meeting of the Ad Hoc Group Senior Officials	10–11 June 2010 Bali, Indonesia	Irregular migration and preparation for the ministerial conference
Bali Process Ad Hoc Group	7–8 June 2010 Bali, Indonesia	Workshop on protection, resettlement and repatriation
1st Meeting of the Bali Process Technical Experts' Working Group on Irregular Movement by Air	22–23 March 2010 Colombo, Sri Lanka	Discuss the establishment of a Regional Immigration Liaison Network (RILON) to assist in combating irregular movement by air across international immigration borders
Inter-governmental Asia-Pacific Consultations on Refugees, Displaced Persons and Migrants (APC) *(RCP)*		
No meeting has taken place since 2010. The APC remains inactive.		
African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States – EU Dialogue on Migration (APC-EU Dialogue on Migration) *(IRF, Pillar)*		
ACP-EU Council of Ministers' Meeting (37th Session)	14–15 June 2012 Port Vila, Vanuatu	Report to the ACP-EU Joint Council on the 2011-2012 dialogue on migration and development
ACP-EU Ambassadors' Meeting	7 May 2012 Brussels, Belgium	Adoption of experts' meeting recommendations on visas, remittances and readmissions
ACP-EU Council of Ministers' Meeting (36th Session)	31 May 2011 Brussels, Belgium	Report on the first cycle of dialogue and agreed on the mobility of skilled persons, legal migration, readmission, visa, smuggling of migrants and trafficking in human beings, migrants' rights and remittances
ACP-EU Council of Ministers' Meeting (35th Session)	21–22 June 2010 Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso	The ACP-EU Council released the Joint Declaration on Migration and Development.
Intergovernmental Consultations on Migration, Asylum and Refugees (IGC) *(RCP)*		
Workshop on Syria	27–28 September 2012 Geneva, Switzerland	Humanitarian and security situation within Syria
Workshop on Managing the Asylum Influx from Serbia	30–31 January 2012 Nuremberg, Germany	Prevention, refugee status, assisted voluntary and forced returns
Meeting of the Working Group on Data	Second week of June 2012 Geneva, Switzerland	Asylum data
Chair's Theme Workshop	29 March 2012 Geneva, Switzerland	Motives for migration and host society objectives
Senior Officials' Meeting: Steering Group	11 May 2012 Berlin, Germany	Planning of the meeting session in Fall 2012; administrative issues

Meeting/Conference	Date and Venue	Meeting theme or agenda
Senior Officials' Meeting: Full Round	9–11 May 2012 Berlin, Germany	Trends in asylum applications and implemented returns; heads of Delegation Meeting
Meeting of the Working Group on Country of Origin Information	24–25 April 2012 Geneva, Switzerland	Databases and library systems
Meeting of the Working Group on Admission, Control and Enforcement	12–13 April 2012 Geneva, Switzerland	Return and readmission; assisted voluntary return
Meeting of the Working Group on Integration	29–30 March 2012 Geneva, Switzerland	Integration, motives for migration and host society objectives
Meeting of the Working Group on Immigration	28 – 29 March 2012 Geneva, Switzerland	Labour migration, motives for migration and host society objectives
Meeting of the Working Group on Asylum/Refugees	27–28 March 2012 Nuremberg, Germany	The caseworker/decision maker, safe countries of origin, detention and monitoring during the asylum procedure
Meeting of the Working Group on Technology	22–23 March 2012 Geneva, Switzerland	Implementation of VIS, multi-spectral fingerprints and automated border control gates
Country of Origin Information (COI) Expert Workshop on Somalia	21–23 March 2012 The Hague, Netherlands	Safety situation, tools for origin verification, information on clans and minorities, sharing of sources and documentation
Budapest Process *(RCP)*		
5th Ministerial Conference	19 April 2013 Istanbul, Turkey	'Silk Routes' partnership for migration
4th Preparatory Meeting	18 April 2013 Istanbul, Turkey	5th Ministerial Conference Preparatory Meeting
3rd Preparatory Meeting	4–5 March 2013 Budapest, Hungary	5th Budapest Process Ministerial Conference on 'A Silk Routes Partnership for Migration'
2nd Preparatory Meeting	10–11 December 2012 Istanbul, Turkey	2nd Ministerial Conference Preparatory Meeting
3rd Meeting of the Budapest Process Working Group on the Black Sea Region	12–13 November 2012 Sofia, Bulgaria	Links between regular and irregular migration in the Black Sea region
1st Ministerial Conference Preparatory Meeting	27–28 September 2012 Izmir, Turkey	Laying the groundwork for the priorities, working modalities and operational cooperation for the road ahead
Meeting of the Budapest Process Working Group on the Silk Routes Region	28–29 June 2012 Tbilisi, Georgia	'Fostering Cooperation in the Area of Migration with and in the Silk Routes Region'
Budapest Process Working Group on the South-east European Region	25–26 April 2012 Zagreb, Croatia	Mixed migration flows throughout the South-east European region

Meeting/Conference	Date and Venue	Meeting theme or agenda
1st Intergovernmental Meeting of the Silk Routes Project	18 November 2011 Ankara, Turkey	Launch the project 'Fostering Cooperation in the Area of Migration with and in the Silk Routes Region'
17th Senior Officials' Meeting	17 November 2011 Ankara, Turkey	Reflect upon the first year of implementation of Phase III of the Budapest Process
2nd Meeting of the Budapest Process Working Group on the Silk Routes Region	7–8 June 2011 Nevsehir, Turkey	Fostering cooperation on migration issues between the countries of the Budapest Process and the Silk Routes Region
2nd Meeting of the Budapest Process Working Group on the Black Sea Region	9–10 February 2011 Sofia, Bulgaria	Cooperation structures within and between Border Guard authorities in the Black Sea Region
1st Meeting of the Budapest Process Working Group on the Silk Routes Region	4 November 2010 Istanbul, Turkey	Establish a common ground for cooperation in this new framework
16th Senior Officials' Meeting	3 November 2010 Istanbul, Turkey	'The Future Direction of the Budapest Process'
Budapest Process Ad Hoc Working Group Meeting	18–19 May 2010 Utrecht, Netherlands	'Migration flows from the Horn of Africa: Emerging Eastern Routes'
Eastern Partnership Panel on Migration and Asylum (successor to the Cross-Border Cooperation Process, or 'Söderköping Process') (EPPMA *(RCP, Pillar)*		
Panel Meeting	18–19 October 2012 Chisinau, Moldova	Information exchange on the general developments in the area of migration and asylum
Experts' Workshop	10–11 September 2012 Bucharest, Romania	Country of Origin Information (COI) in the context of the refugee status determination process
Panel Meeting	3–4 May 2012 Tbilisi, Georgia	Migration and asylum
High-Level Meeting	8 December 2011 Stockholm,Sweden	'Summing up Ten Years of Cooperation: Lessons Learned, Best Practices and Recommendations for the Future'
Meeting of National Coordinators	4 May 2011 Chisinau, Moldova	EU mobility partnerships
Meeting of National Coordinators	6 October 2011 Tbilisi, Georgia	The work of the new panel on asylum and migration and migration management
Meeting of National Coordinators	16 March 2011 Riga, Latvia	'Return to and Reintegration in Eastern Neighbour States'
Meeting of National Coordinators	29 November 2010 Budapest, Hungary	The results of the implementation of the strategy for the future since June 2010
High-Level Meeting	13–14 December 2010 Budapest, Hungary	Implementation of the strategy for the future of the Söderköping Process (overview)

Meeting/Conference	Date and Venue	Meeting theme or agenda
High-Level Meeting	10–11 December 2009 Stockholm, Sweden	Further elaborate the strategy for the future of the Söderköping Process
Prague Process *(RCP)*		
Senior Officials' and Core Group Meeting	27 – 28 February 2013 Prague, Czech Republic	The results achieved in 2012, as well as develop and decide on the workplan for 2013
Expert-Level Workshop on Migration Profiles	23–24 January 2013 Florence, Italy	Come to a common understanding of expectations for the Migration Profiles project and decide on a workplan for the development and/or the updating of existing profiles
Core Group Meeting	20 November 2012 Warsaw, Poland	Prepare for the SOM in 2013
Kick-off Workshop of the Illegal Migration Pilot Project	8–9 November 2012 Lvov, Ukraine	Discuss and decide on the principles, workplan and objectives of the Illegal Migration Pilot Project
Kick-off Workshop/Round Table for the International Protection and Asylum Pilot Project	30–31 October 2012 Stockholm, Sweden	Discuss and decide on the principles, workplan and objectives of the International Protection and Asylum Pilot Project.
Kick-off Workshop for the Legal Migration Pilot Project and Kick-off Workshop for the Migration and Development Pilot Project	25–26 September 2012 Budapest, Hungary	Discuss and decide on the principles, workplan and objectives of the Pilot Projects and provide the first substantial discussions on both topics.
2nd Ministerial Conference	4 November 2011 Poznań, Poland	Adoption of the Action Plan for 2012–2016
3rd Preparatory Meeting for the 2nd Prague Process Ministerial Conference	5–6 October 2011 Moscow, Russian Federation	Discussions on the latest draft of the Prague Process Action Plan
2nd Preparatory Meeting for the 2nd Prague Process Ministerial Conference	30–31 May 2011 Budapest, Hungary	'Building Migration Partnerships' project; Prague Process Action Plan
Ministerial Conference	28 April 2009, Prague Czech Republic	'Building Migration Partnerships' project; Joint Declaration
European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean Structured and Comprehensive Dialogue on Migration (EU-LAC SCDM) *(IRF, pillar)*		
7th EU-LAC Summit	26–27 January 2013 Santiago, Chile	Adoption of the EU-LAC Action Plan 2013-2015
6th EU-LAC Summit	18 May 2010 Madrid, Spain	'Towards a New Stage in the Bi-regional Partnership: Innovation and Technology for Sustainable Development and Social Inclusion'
High-Level Meetings	17–18 February and 15–16 March 2010 Madrid, Spain	Migration, education and health; families and vulnerable groups

Meeting/Conference	Date and Venue	Meeting theme or agenda
Mediterranean Transit Migration Dialogue (MTM) *(IRF, pillar)*		
AMEDIP Workshop	7–8 November Gammarth, Tunis, Tunisia	Inter-institutional coordination on migration and development
Commemoration of the 10th anniversary of MTM	22 May 2012 Valletta, Malta	Analyse the place, role, and use of the MTM Dialogue in regional and national migration policy and strategy development
AMEDIP Workshop	17–18 July 2012 Dakar, Senegal	South-South cooperation in migration and development
Regional Ministerial Conference on Migration in the Western Mediterranean (5 + 5) *(RCP, Pillar)*		
2nd Summit of the Heads of State and Governments of the Member States of the Western Mediterranean Forum	5–6 October, 2012 Valletta, Malta	Strengthening of relations and cooperation between the Arab Maghreb Union and the European Union
Ministerial Meeting	20 February 2013 Rome, Italy	Issues discussed: Regional security, migration flows, energy, environmental protection and development
Euro-Mediterranean Partnership Migration Dialogue (E-MP MD) *(IRF, pillar)*		
Forthcoming: Annual Regional Conference	26 June 2013 Brussels, Belgium	To be announced
Forthcoming: Peer-to-Peer Meeting	10–14 June 2013 Budapest, Hungry	Irregular migration
Peer-to-Peer Meeting	27–28 February 2013 Paris, France	Legal migration
EUROMED Migration III: 1st Peer-to-Peer Meeting	18–19 December 2012 Madrid, Spain	Migration and development

Annex D: Working classification of all reviewed consultation mechanisms

	Type of Regional ICMM		Organizational Governance Aspect	
	RCP	IRF/Other	Stand Alone	Pillar
ADD	X		X	
AFML		X (Other)		X
Almaty Process	X		X	
APC	X		X	
APC-EU Dialogue on Migration		X (IRF)		X
ASEM CDGIMM		X (IRF)		X
Bali Process	X		X	
Budapest Process	X		X	
Colombo Process	X		X	
COMESA RCP	X			X
E-MP MD		X (IRF)		X
EPPMA	X			X
EU-LAC, SCDM		X (IRF)		X
FIBEMYD		X (IRF)		X
IGAD-RCP	X			X
IGC	X		X	
MIDSA	X		X	
MIDWA	X		X	
MTM	X		X	
Prague Process	X		X	
Rabat Process	X		X	
RCM	X		X	
SACM	X		X	
Tripoli Process		X (IRF)		X
5+5	X			X

Note: ICMM is Inter-State Consultation Mechanisms on Migration.

IOM Migration Research Series

1. *Myths and Realities of Chinese Irregular Migration*
   Ronald Skeldon, December 2000

2. *Combating Trafficking in South-East Asia: A Review of Policy and Programme Responses*
   Annuska Derks, December 2000

3. *The Role of Regional Consultative Processes in Managing International Migration*
   Amanda Klekowski von Koppenfels, May 2001

4. *The Return and Reintegration of Rejected Asylum Seekers and Irregular Migrants: An Analysis of Government Assisted Return Programmes in Selected European Countries*
   Khalid Koser, May 2001

5. *Harnessing the Potential of Migration and Return to Promote Development*
   Savina Ammassari and Richard Black, August 2001

6. *Recent Trends in Chinese Migration to Europe: Fujianese Migration in Perspective*
   Frank N. Pieke, March 2002

7. *Trafficking for Sexual Exploitation: The Case of the Russian Federation*
   Donna M. Hughes, June 2002

8. *The Migration-Development Nexus: Evidence and Policy Options*
   Ninna Nyberg-Sorensen, Nicholas Van Hear and Poul Engberg-Pedersen, July 2002

9. *A Review of Data on Trafficking in the Republic of Korea*
   June J.H. Lee, August 2002

10. *Moroccan Migration Dynamics: Prospects for the Future*
    Rob van der Erf and Liesbeth Heering, August 2002

11. *Journeys of Jeopardy: A Review of Research on Trafficking in Women and Children in Europe*
    Elizabeth Kelly, November 2002

12. *Irregular Migration in Turkey*
    Ahmet Içduygu, February 2003

13. *Bordering on Control: Combating Irregular Migration in North America and Europe*
    Philip Martin, April 2003

14. *Migration and Development: A Perspective from Asia*
    Graeme Hugo, November 2003

15. *Is Trafficking in Human Beings Demand Driven? A Multi-Country Pilot Study*
    Bridget Anderson and Julia O'Connell Davidson, December 2003

16. *Migration from Latin America to Europe: Trends and Policy Challenges*
    Adela Pellegrino, May 2004

17. *The Development Potential of Zimbabweans in the Diaspora: A Survey of Zimbabweans Living in the UK and South Africa*
    Alice Bloch, January 2005

18. *Dynamics of Remittance Utilization in Bangladesh*
    Tom de Bruyn, January 2005

19. *Internal Migration and Development: A Global Perspective*
    Priya Deshingkar and Sven Grimm, February 2005

20. *The Millennium Development Goals and Migration*
    Erica Usher, April 2005

21. *Migration and Development: New Strategic Outlooks and Practical Ways Forward: The Cases of Angola and Zambia*
    Dr Savina Ammassari, May 2005

22. *Migration and Development: Opportunities and Challenges for Policymakers*
    Macha Farrant, Anna MacDonald, Dhananjayan Sriskandarajah, April 2006

23. *Migration, Human Smuggling and Trafficking from Nigeria to Europe*
    Jorgen Carling, September 2006

24. *Domestic Migrant Remittances in China: Distribution, Channels and Livelihoods*
    Rachel Murphy, September 2006

25. *Remittances in the Great Lakes Region*
    Tom de Bruyn and Johan Wets, October 2006

26. *Engaging Diasporas as Development Partners for Home and Destination Countries: Challenges for Policymakers*
Dina Ionescu, November 2006

27. *Migration and Poverty Alleviation in China*
WANG Dewen and CAI Fang, March 2007

28. *A Study of Migrant-Sending Households in Serbia Receiving Remittances from Switzerland*
Nilim Baruah and Jennifer Petree, April 2007

29. *Trafficking in Human Beings and the 2006 World Cup in Germany*
Jana Hennig, Sarah Craggs, Frank Laczko and Fred Larsson, April 2007

30. *Migration, Development and Natural Disasters: Insights from the Indian Ocean Tsunami*
Asmita Naik, Elca Stigter and Frank Laczko, June 2007

31. *Migration and Climate Change*
Oli Brown, January 2008

32. *Irregular Migration from West Africa to the Maghreb and the European Union: An Overview of Recent Trends*
Hein de Haas, April 2008

33. *Climate Change and Migration: Improving Methodologies to Estimate Flows*
Dominic Kniveton, Kerstin Schmidt-Verkerk, Christopher Smith, and Richard Black, April 2008

34. *Migration and Development: Achieving Policy Coherence*
Asmita Naik, Jobst Koehler, Frank Laczko, September 2008

35. *Migration, Development and Environment*
Frank Laczko, November 2008

36. *IOM Global Database Thematic Research Series: Trafficking of men – a trend less considered: The case of Belarus and Ukraine*
Rebecca Surtees, December 2008

37. *The Impact of Financial Crises on International Migration: Lessons Learned*
Khalid Koser, December 2009

38. *An Assessment of Principal Regional Consultative Processes on Migration*
Professor Randall Hansen, January 2010

39. *Angola: A Study of the Impact of Remittances from Portugal and South Africa*
Sandra Paola Alvarez Tinajero, February 2010

40. *Migrant Resource Centres: An Initial Assessment*
Paul Tacon, Elizabeth Warn, April 2010

41. *The Role of Migrant Care Workers in Ageing Societies: Report on Research Findings in the United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and the United States*
Sarah Spencer, Susan Martin, Ivy Lynn Bourgeault, Eamon O'Shea, December 2010

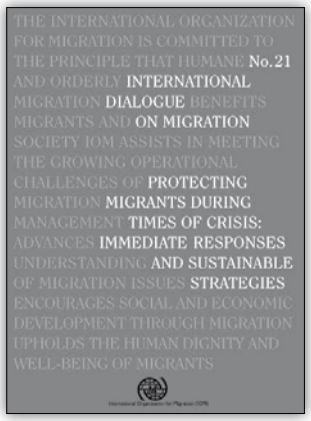
42. *Climate Change, Migration and Critical International Security Considerations*
Robert McLeman, January 2011

43. *Gallup World Poll: The Many Faces of Global Migration*
Neli Esipova, Julie Ray, Anita Pugliese, PhD, November 2011

44. *Ending the 2006 Internal Displacement Crisis in Timor-Leste: Between Humanitarian Aid and Transitional Justice*
Peter Van der Auweraert, June 2012

45. *Regional Inter-State Consultation Mechanisms on Migration: Approaches, Recent Activities and Implications for Global Governance of Migration*
Charles Harns, April 2013

International Dialogue on Migration N°21 - Protecting Migrants during Times of Crisis: Immediate Responses and Sustainable Strategies



This publication contains the report and supplementary materials of a workshop on 'Protecting Migrants during Times of Crisis: Immediate Responses and Sustainable Strategies' held in Geneva, Switzerland on 13 and 14 September 2012. The workshop, which took place under the overarching theme of the 2012 IOM International Dialogue on Migration, 'Managing Migration in Crisis Situations,' focused on the plight of migrants who are caught up in conflicts and natural disasters in their destination countries, as well as, wider repercussions for countries of origin, transit and destination.

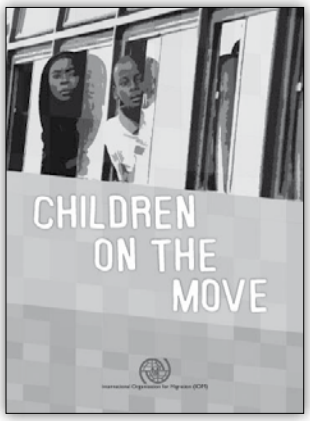
2012/Softcover/98 pages, English
ISSN 1726-2224 / ISBN 978-92-9068-664-4
USD 12.00

IOM publications are available from:
International Organization for Migration, Research and Publications Unit
17 Route des Morillons, CH-1211 Geneva 19, Switzerland
Te.l: +41 22 717 91 11; Fax: +41 22 798 61 50; E-mail: **pubsales@iom.int**

IOM publications are sold through the online bookstore at:
http://publications.iom.int/bookstore

IOM accepts credit card payments in two major currencies (EUR and USD).
Payments may also be made by international bank draft or money order payable to
International Organization for Migration, Publications Unit, Geneva.

Children on the Move



Millions of children are on the move, both within and between countries, with or without their parents. The conditions under which movement takes place are often treacherous, putting migrant children, especially unaccompanied and separated children, at an increased risk of economic or sexual exploitation, abuse, neglect and violence. Policy responses to protect and support these migrant children are often fragmented and inconsistent and while children on the move have become a recognized part of today's global and mixed migration flows they are still largely invisible in debates on both child protection and migration.

This publication targets policymakers and practitioners in the field of migration and child protection, along with academics and activists, and sheds light on the situation of migrant children. The publication is the result of a collective effort by a number of specialists from different organizations, was edited by Mike Dottridge (an independent child rights specialist) and includes a foreword by Professor François Crépeau (United Nations Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants).

2013/English/114pages/Available for PDF download

IOM publications are available from:
International Organization for Migration, Research and Publications Unit
17 Route des Morillons, CH-1211 Geneva 19, Switzerland
Te.l: +41 22 717 91 11; Fax: +41 22 798 61 50; E-mail: **pubsales@iom.int**

IOM publications are sold through the online bookstore at:
http://publications.iom.int/bookstore

IOM accepts credit card payments in two major currencies (EUR and USD).
Payments may also be made by international bank draft or money order payable to
International Organization for Migration, Publications Unit, Geneva.

IOM Migration Research Series (MRS)

Editor: **Frank Laczko**
Head, Migration Research Division
International Organization for Migration
17 Route des Morillons
1211 Geneva 19
Switzerland
Tel.: +41 22 717 91 11
E-mail: flaczko@iom.int

Titles in the series are available from:

International Organization for Migration, Publications Unit
17 Route des Morillons, 1211 Geneva 19 Switzerland, Tel.: +41 22 717 91 11;
Fax: +41 22 798 61 50, E-mail: pubsales@iom.int.
ⓘ The MRS can be dowloaded for free or purchased from IOM website at
http://publications.iom.int/bookstore.

Single issue: USD 16 + postage

Payments may also be made by international bank draft or money order payable to International Organization for Migration, Publications Unit, Geneva.

Also available online at:
http://publications.iom.int/bookstore

Effective migration policy requires cooperation among states, and the agenda for cooperation has become increasingly complex and multifaceted. These factors and others motivate states to create and participate in inter-state consultation mechanisms of various kinds. These mechanisms may be topic-specific, or they may be established based on the geographic proximity of the participants, or by similarities in level of economic development, or on a combination of these and other factors. They may be specific to recognizable regions, or span regions and continents. Many operate as purely independent stand-alone mechanisms, while others may be specific migration-related pillars within broader consultation and cooperation mechanisms. Different levels of formality are apparent among them as well.

The term regional consultative process on migration (RCP) has been in common use to describe many of these mechanisms since their inception. The number and kinds of consultative mechanisms have grown remarkably over the past several years. With this proliferation has come greater diversity in the nature of these mechanisms, and a good case can be made for more specific categorization and differentiation among them.

This study reviews 25 inter-state consultative mechanisms on migration: 18 RCPs and seven others, here termed interregional forums on migration (IRF) that appear to depart from the classic RCP model in some meaningful way. Each case review includes background on the origin and development of the mechanism, a brief discussion of the evolution of the agenda, identification of any linkages with multilateral agreements, and a note on the placement of the mechanism within the taxonomy of mechanisms suggested by the author.

The study concludes with implications for harmonized governance of migration. The increasingly close linkage of some RCPs with regional economic/trade bodies is seen as especially significant, providing an opportunity for movement toward formal regional migration agreements. At the same time, RCPs and similar processes and forums cannot be fairly judged by their instrumental value in promoting global migration governance, as this is not part of their explicit mission and there is no apparent international consensus that such a global agreement is needed. The study concludes that the de facto policy coherence that is developing among countries that belong to established RCPs and IRFs is the main achievement of these mechanisms, and this is the primary driver of increased global coherence in migration governance.

IOM • OIM

ISSN 1607-338X
ISBN 978-92-9068-675-0

USD 16.00