

MC/INF/266

**Original: English
10 November 2003**

EIGHTY-SIXTH SESSION

IOM'S ROLE IN ENHANCING REGIONAL DIALOGUES ON MIGRATION

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1. The management of migration remains a sovereign prerogative. Nonetheless, States are coming to recognize that national level efforts need to be supplemented by international cooperative efforts. As a result, regional consultation mechanisms have developed around the world as an integral component of migration management approaches.
2. The regional consultative forums bring together representatives of States, international organizations and, when possible, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in order to discuss regional migration issues in a cooperative manner. Because of their informal and non-binding nature, these consultative processes serve to lay the groundwork for developing common orientations and directions with regard to migration and, in some cases, regional policies.
3. IOM has played an active role in regional consultation mechanisms since 1996, when several processes were established, such as the *Regional Conference to Address the Problems of Refugees, Displaced Persons, Other Forms of Involuntary Displacement and Returnees in the Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and Relevant Neighbouring States (CIS Conference)* in Europe, the *Regional Conference on Migration (RCM or "Puebla Process")* in the Americas and the *Manila Process* in Asia. Over the years, IOM has continued to expand its role in assisting regional consultative processes.
4. With its broadened and evolving role as a forum for enhanced understanding on migration issues,¹ IOM is actively engaged in fostering and nurturing consultative mechanisms. Through its Field Missions worldwide, it brings its experience to bear in establishing, supporting and promoting neutral forums for discussion and cooperation on regional migration challenges. In some regional processes, IOM offers technical assistance, research and information dissemination as well as project implementation, at the request of the participating countries.
5. This paper describes IOM's involvement in the existing regional consultative processes on migration.² It also provides information on recent dialogues and seminars on migration which have taken place at the regional level. Annex I provides more detailed examples of IOM's forum activities undertaken in each region. More information on each regional process on migration can be found in Annex II.

¹ IOM Constitution, Article 1.1 (e): "The purposes and functions of the Organization shall be: ..., to provide a forum to States as well as international and other organizations for the exchange of views and experiences, and the promotion of co-operation and co-ordination of efforts on international migration issues, including studies on such issues in order to develop practical solutions". See also Resolution No. 1055 (LXXII) of 29 November 2001, Role of the Council as a Forum for Migration Policy Dialogue.

² Following the discussion on regional consultative strategies at the June 2002 *Round Table on Managing Migration at the Regional Level*, this paper serves as a background document for the session on *Updates on Significant Migration Developments* at the IOM Council 2003 *International Dialogue on Migration*.

IOM's Contributions to Regional Dialogues on Migration

6. IOM has actively provided support to regional migration dialogues³ in all regions of the world. These include:

- **In the Americas and the Caribbean:** IOM serves as the secretariat for the *Regional Conference on Migration (RCM or "Puebla Process")* and the *South American Conference*.
- **In Europe and the Former Soviet Union:** IOM served on the joint secretariat for the *CIS Conference* and continues to provide technical support to the *Follow-up to the 1996 Geneva Conference on the Problems of Refugees, Displaced Persons, Migration and Asylum Issues*. IOM also serves on the joint secretariat for the *Söderköping Process*.
- **In Asia and Oceania:** IOM has played an important role in the *Manila Process* which it helped establish, in the *Inter-Governmental Asia-Pacific Consultations on Refugees, Displaced Persons and Migrants (APC)* and most recently in the *Bali Process*.
- **In Africa:** IOM serves as the secretariat for the *Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa (MIDSA)* and the *Migration Dialogue for West Africa (MIDWA)*.

7. At the interregional level, IOM provides a forum for countries of origin, transit and destination, to explore common principles and means of cooperation to manage flows, such as in the *5+5 Dialogue on Migration in the Western Mediterranean* and the *Cluster Process*. IOM also contributes to other interregional processes such as the *Inter-Governmental Consultations on Asylum, Refugee and Migration Policies in Europe, North America and Australia (IGC)*, through information sharing with the participating States.

8. In addition to offering continued support to existing regional consultative processes, IOM recently organized several meetings at the request of governments, on specific migratory concerns in their regions. These include the *Asian Labour Migration Ministerial Consultation for Sending Countries*, *International Seminar on Irregular Migration and Security in the Black Sea Region* and the *Conference on Arab Migration in a Globalized World*. These conferences can potentially be developed as ongoing processes, if the participating States decide to do so during follow-up meetings.

9. While promoting and supporting these processes, IOM works with a range of partners to foster collaboration in addressing migration issues. For example, in conjunction with the International Migration Policy Programme (IMP) and others, IOM has collaborated with existing regional bodies focused on economic integration,⁴ such as the Southern African Development Community (SADC) in order to establish the MIDSA, and with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) to create the MIDWA. In addition, IOM works with United

³ For more information on Regional Consultative Processes, see A. Klekowski von Kopenfels, *The Role of Regional Consultative Processes in Managing International Migration* IOM Migration Research Series No. 3, *Managing Migration at the Regional Level: Strategies for Regional Consultation* from IOM's Round Table on Managing Migration at the Regional Level, 5 June 2002, and *IOM World Migration 2003*.

⁴ See Annex III.

Nations regional bodies and other agencies in implementing projects within the framework of the regional consultative processes.

10. IOM's contributions to regional migration dialogues vary, depending on the nature of the request by the participating States and the stage of the process. IOM's role can range from assistance in creating a forum for discussion to more operational and technical assistance. The main functions include:

- **Secretariat functions** – In cooperation with the governments in the region, IOM contributes to the development of a regional consultative framework. The role of the secretariat includes providing strategic guidance, assisting governments in drafting the agenda and preparing a plan of action. Within the framework of the process, IOM provides, *inter alia*, logistic and administrative assistance to various ministerial and vice-ministerial meetings, regional consultative groups, or technical seminars. IOM may provide funding in conjunction with the host countries or other organizations. In addition, IOM provides substantive inputs through its participation and presentations in the various meetings. In some processes, IOM maintains a web site for information sharing among its members.
- **Research and information dissemination** – In contributing to a common understanding on migration issues, IOM has undertaken various studies on regional migration, particularly on migration challenges and recent migration trends. Through updating and expanding the governments' understanding of migration trends and issues, IOM assists participating countries in identifying possible common approaches to managing migration.
- **Capacity-building and technical cooperation** – At the request of governments involved in some regional processes, IOM strengthens the capacity of governments to manage migration, particularly in strengthening and harmonizing migration policy, legislation, data collection and management at a regional level. These activities include organizing training sessions, technical workshops and seminars on specific migration issues, and assisting governments in developing national migration management programmes and establishing migration information systems.
- **Implementing partner** – In several processes, IOM has been asked to implement projects, as set out in the plans of action adopted by the participants. In addition to providing a forum at which participating States can informally address the issues, IOM can also implement projects to deal with specific migration concerns, such as voluntary return and reintegration of victims of trafficking.

Conclusion

11. During the near decade of IOM's involvement in regional consultative processes on migration, the Organization has provided the means for policy makers to share information, policies, and experiences within various regions in the world. This has served to enhance the understanding and the capacity of the participating States to manage migration and has promoted a solid network for close regional cooperation on migration-related issues. From its involvement

in these processes, IOM has accumulated experiences as well as lessons learned in various regions, which it is able to put to the benefit of other evolving regional dialogues on migration.

12. IOM's involvement in regional consultations provides an opportunity for closer cooperation on broader migration topics with national governments, other international agencies, and relevant NGOs. Given its expanding role in supporting regional consultative dialogues on migration in many parts of the world, IOM is looking forward to bringing its expertise and experience to assist in enhancing cooperation in research, capacity-building and project implementation with relevant partners.

13. Informal and non-binding principles for cooperation emanating from regional dialogues could serve as a foundation for a common framework for migration management. With the expanding and deepening regional and interregional consultations, IOM contributes toward the creation of common approaches on migration, which can serve to promote further international cooperation for a broader framework for the more effective management of migration.

Annex I

IOM ACTIVITIES IN MAJOR REGIONAL CONSULTATIVE PROCESSES AND REGIONAL DIALOGUES ON MIGRATION

AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST

1. IOM and its collaborating partners initiated the **Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa (MIDSA)** in November 2000 in close consultation with the governments of the Southern African Development Community (SADC).⁵ A special working group was established that initially included IOM as a lead agency, alongside the Southern African Migration Project (SAMP), the International Migration Policy Programme (IMP), the International Labour Organization (ILO), and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).⁶ IOM has been asked by the SADC Member States to serve as the secretariat with main responsibility for the overall programme design and logistics management. IOM's role includes convening MIDSA forums and preparing follow-up technical workshops and seminars on various migration issues for senior migration officials from SADC members, including: *Workshop on Regional Migration in Southern Africa (2000)*; *Workshop on Migration and Border Management (2001)*; *Second Forum on Regional Labour Migration (March 2002)*; *Workshop on Trafficking in Persons in the SADC Region (October 2002)*; *Workshop on Extra-Regional Irregular Migration and Migrant Smuggling To, Through, and From the SADC Region (June 2003)*; *Workshop on Forced Migration, Including Refugees, Externally and Internally Displaced Persons (October 2003)*; and *Workshop/Third Forum on Harmonization of Migration Policies and Legislation (December 2003)*.

2. Building on an initial IOM/IMP initiative, the follow-up process to the Dakar Declaration (October 2000), established the West African regional consultative process, the **Migration Dialogue for Western Africa (MIDWA)**. IOM's Regional Office for Western Africa and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) serve as a joint secretariat. In facilitating regional cooperation and assisting governments in the design, implementation, and reinforcement of migration legislation and policies, IOM, in conjunction with ECOWAS, organized the *Workshop on International Migration in West Africa: Concepts, Data Collection and Analysis, and Legislation*, (30 September to 4 October 2002, Dakar) for the ECOWAS member States. The workshop succeeded in fostering greater dialogue and coordination on migration terminology, data collection and analysis, and migration legislation.

3. Within the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding in December 2000 between IOM and the League of Arab States (LAS), IOM and the LAS, with the support of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), undertook the joint organization of a regional conference. The Conference, entitled **Arab Migration in a Globalized World** (2 to 4 September 2003, Cairo), provided a forum for Arab

⁵ Countries usually participate with two delegates from the relevant line ministry/ies dealing with a theme. Since 2003, Madagascar is also invited to participate in MIDSA.

⁶ At present the Steering Committee consists of IOM and SAMP, but ILO, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNODC, UNOCHA, WHO, UNDP, as well as relevant NGOs and academic institutions attend the meetings according to the theme.

decision makers and international experts to discuss their priorities for the formulation of national policies with regard to migration issues in general, and the geographical mobility of human resources in particular, at the national as well as the regional level. The participating States are planning to hold a technical meeting to explore the possibility of a future conference.

4. Within the framework of the Cooperation Agreement signed between IOM and OAU (Organization of African Unity), IOM is promoting dialogue with OAU/AU (African Union) member States on migration issues, particularly on human trafficking, migration and HIV/AIDS and human resource development including reversing the brain drain. Furthermore, IOM is following up with member States on the implementation of the decisions on the *Establishment of a Strategic Framework for a Policy of Migration in Africa* adopted in July 2001, and on the *Development of Human Resources for Health in Africa: Challenges and Opportunities for Action* adopted in July 2002. IOM also participates and presents papers in various regional and subregional conferences in the area of migration and development, HIV/AIDS, peace and human security, and democracy and good governance.

AMERICAS AND THE CARRIBEAN

5. Since the inception of the *Regional Conference on Migration (RCM or "Puebla Process")* in 1996, IOM's Regional Office for Central America and Mexico, based in San José, Costa Rica, has provided technical assistance and support. It has assisted in the planning, preparation, coordination, and follow-up of each of the annual meetings and the various workshops and seminars. This technical support role was formalized in September 2001 when, at the request of the RCM, IOM supplied the technical, administrative and logistical support necessary to establish the RCM Technical Secretariat. In addition to coordinating meetings, the Secretariat provides institutional support to the Presidency Pro-Tempore (rotating chair of the RCM) and follow-up of RCM activities and initiatives contained in its Plan of Action.

6. IOM has also undertaken studies covering a wide range of subjects within the context of the RCM, including: *Combating Irregular Migration and Migrant Trafficking (1997)*; *Development and Migration (1998)*; *Migratory Impact of Hurricane Mitch in Countries of Origin and Destination (1999)*; *Modernization of Migration Management in Central America (2000/2001)*; *individual country case studies on Migrant Trafficking and Smuggling for all Central American countries and the Dominican Republic (2000/2001)*; and *Convergence of Regional Processes on Migration Matters (2001)*. IOM has also assisted in compiling and maintaining a comparative matrix of legislation and laws of RCM member countries relating to migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons.

7. Furthermore, IOM has provided technical support in the realization of RCM seminars and workshops held on high-interest migration topics such as: *Migrant Trafficking (1998)*; *Migrants' Human Rights (1998)*; *International Migration and Development in North America and Central America (1998)*; *Migration, Return and Reinsertion of Migrants (1999)*; *Consular Protection and Assistance (1999)*; *Migrant Women and Children (2000)*; *Modernization of Migration Management and Cross-border Cooperation (2002)*; *Regional Development and the Productive Potential of Remittances (2002)*; *Migration Management and Inter-State*

Cooperation (2002); and Development of a Regional Work Plan to Combat Migrant Smuggling and Trafficking in Persons (2003).

8. As a result of the above activities, the RCM has incorporated into its Plan of Action a number of significant projects implemented by, or to be carried out in cooperation with IOM. These include the *Pilot Welcome Home programmes in El Salvador and Honduras for returning migrants (begun in 1998 and ongoing); a multi-phased project on Modernization of Migration Management in Central America (2001-2003); the establishment of a Statistical Information System on Migration for Central America and Mexico (SIEMCA/SIEMMES, begun in 2001 and ongoing); Reintegration and Assistance to trafficked street children from Central America (initiated 2003); and a Pilot Project to establish a shelter for victims of Trafficking (initiated 2003).*

9. The ***South American Conference on Migration***, initiated in Lima in 1999, is also inextricably linked to the development of subregional, multilateral, and bilateral actions, both in the Andean Community and the South American Common Market (MERCOSUR). IOM, through two of its Missions with Regional Functions (MFR Buenos Aires and MFR Lima), and also through national missions, has played a fundamental role in preparing and funding the three Conferences and the two Technical Consultative Meetings. In addition, it has performed the function of Technical Secretariat to the Conference, becoming a significant support to this dialogue process.

10. During the *First Technical Consultative Meeting* (Colombia, 2001), the Plan of Action prepared with assistance from IOM was submitted for consideration at the Third South American Conference on Migration in Quito. IOM also organized the *Second Technical Consultative Meeting* (Paraguay, 2003) in preparation for the *Fourth South American Conference on Migration*, with the participation of representatives from the ten South American countries involved in the process. The aims of the workshop were to analyse activities carried out, identify problems, and establish priorities for the Plan of Action, adopted at the *Third South American Conference*.

11. In view of the research component of this process, IOM also prepared documents for submission at the *Third South American Conference on Migration*, including: *Comparative Analysis of Legal Tools on Migrant Trafficking in South American Countries; South American Observatory on Migration*, and the *Comparative Analysis of Migration Structures in South America; Proposal Model for the Modernization of Migration Management* and the Conclusions of the Forum, *Education for Migration*, which was jointly organized by IOM and the Organization of Iberoamerican States in August 2001.

ASIA AND OCEANIA

12. In cooperation with the Government of the Philippines, IOM organized the first *Seminar on Irregular Migration and Migrant Trafficking in East and South East Asia*, held in Manila in December 1996; governments of East and South East Asia, as well as the Pacific, participated. In the following years, governments gathered at annual seminars on irregular migration and trafficking; a series was later called the ***Manila Process***. IOM has arranged a series of

meetings, including *International Cooperation to Prevent and Better Manage Irregular Migration in East and South East Asia (December 1997, Manila)*; *Irregular Migration and Labour Migration in East and South East Asia during the Economic Crisis (September 1998, Bangkok)*; and *Migration and Migrant Trafficking in East and South East Asia (October 2000, Jakarta)*.

13. Since 1996, the ***Intergovernmental Asia-Pacific Consultations on Refugees, Displaced Persons and Migrants (APC)*** has held seven plenary meetings and a variety of subregional and other meetings. The current APC Coordinator and Secretariat are based in Canberra, Australia (since February 2003). While there are no precise funding arrangements for the APC, the process has, over the years, received considerable financial support from various donors among its members, as well as from IOM and UNHCR. In addition to its financial support, IOM provides substantive input into this round of consultations through participation and presentations at various APC meetings.

14. Participants at the ***Bali Ministerial Conference on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime (Bali Conference)***, convened on 26 to 28 February 2002 and on 28 to 30 April 2003 respectively), recognized the value of IOM and invited IOM to support the Bali Process. IOM plays a supporting role in facilitating the work of the two *ad hoc* Experts Working Groups and other activities of the Bali Process. Under the overall coordination of the Regional Office in Bangkok, IOM's network across the region of 20 national missions have assisted the 38 participating countries in the Bali Conference to contribute to and meet objectives set by the two Ministerial Conferences through providing secretarial, technical and logistical support. IOM has established and maintained a Bali Process web site⁷ to facilitate the effective and timely exchange of information among the participating countries.

15. In response to requests from several Asian labour-sending countries,⁸ IOM organized the ***Labour Migration Ministerial Consultations for Countries of Origin in Asia*** (1 to 2 April 2003, Colombo), hosted by the Government of Sri Lanka, as a forum for Asian labour-sending States to share experiences, discuss issues and identify areas for activities. The Consultations focused on three thematic areas: (1) protection of migrant workers and services to migrant workers; (2) optimizing the benefits of organized labour migration; and (3) institutional capacity-building and inter-State cooperation. IOM will also assist in the preparations for the next Ministerial Consultation, which will be held in April 2004 in the Philippines.

EUROPE, THE FORMER SOVIET UNION AND CENTRAL ASIA

16. The 1996 ***CIS Conference*** in Geneva adopted a Programme of Action focusing on four broad thematic areas: (1) international protection for vulnerable groups (refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), illegal migrants, formerly deported persons and ecological migrants); (2) migration management, including combating irregular migration and trafficking; (3) the promotion of NGO/civil society participation in migration processes; and (4) addressing

⁷ <http://www.awiz.net/bmcw/main.asp>.

⁸ Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Viet Nam.

legislative and implementation gaps. IOM, as designated lead agency for follow-up in migration management and counter-trafficking, has been active in helping countries in the region work on the issues identified in the Programme of Action, notably through its *Capacity-Building in Migration Management Programme (CBMMP)* which has been implemented in Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia, Ukraine, Belarus, Republic of Moldova, Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. These programmes include organizing research studies and workshops on migration policy, migration legislation, border management, document examination, visa policy, migration data collection, counter-trafficking and labour migration.

17. The IOM Technical Cooperation Centre (TCC) for Europe and Central Asia was established in Vienna to assist IOM Field Offices in designing and implementing programmes, particularly in the countries of the Former Soviet Union involved in the 1996 Conference. In cooperation with experts from the Danish Immigration Service, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)/the Office of Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), and the IGC, the IOM TCC is currently coordinating the development of a model for the collection, application and sharing of migration-related data among Eastern European and Central Asian States, as was requested at the July 2002 *Workshop on Organizational Structures, Collection and Sharing of Migration-Related Information* held in Prague. IOM TCC has also concluded a regional assessment of legislative frameworks in counter-trafficking in each of the CIS countries.

18. Building on and complementing previous efforts under the framework of the *Budapest Process* to combat trafficking and provide assistance and protection to victims, especially with regard to health issues associated with trafficking, IOM and the Embassy of the United States of America in Budapest, with the sponsorship of USAID, organized the ***Regional Conference on Public Health and Trafficking in Human Beings in Central, Eastern and South East Europe*** (19 to 21 March 2003, Budapest)⁹ to address in particular sexually-transmitted infections and re-emerging infectious diseases, psycho-traumatization, physical and emotional abuse, and to provide recommendations and guidelines on effective health/public health practices. The final result of the Conference is the *Budapest Declaration*, which builds on and complements previous efforts to combat trafficking and provide assistance and protection to victims, especially with regard to health and public health issues associated with trafficking.

19. Within the context of the increased significance of migration in the Black Sea and the Balkan regions, IOM and the Government of Romania jointly organized the ***International Seminar on Irregular Migration and Security in the Black Sea Region*** (11 to 14 March 2003, Bucharest). The seminar brought together national migration experts from 17 countries in the region,¹⁰ including representation from the three key regional organizations: the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, the Southeast Europe Cooperation Initiative and the South-East Europe Cooperation Process. The seminar focused on irregular migration and its link with security

⁹ The Conference brought together public health and counter-trafficking officials representing Albania, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro (including representatives of Kosovo), Slovakia, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, the United States of America, international organizations, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and academic institutions.

¹⁰ All 17 countries participating in the seminar are IOM Member States (Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Croatia, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovenia and Ukraine) or IOM observer States (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Russian Federation, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey).

matters in the Black Sea region, and provided an opportunity for the participating States, organizations and institutions to hear from experts, share ideas, and plan further cooperation.

20. Although not strictly characterized as regional processes, IOM's involvement in the *Migration, Asylum, Refugees Regional Initiative (MARRI)* and the *Stabilisation and Association Process (SAP)* is worth noting in view of the role of both forums in addressing migration issues.

21. IOM offers support to the Secretariat of the *Migration, Asylum, Refugees Regional Initiative (MARRI)* of the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe. One senior IOM official has been seconded to the MARRI Secretariat. The MARRI Programme of Action aims to create a better management of, and sustainable solutions to, the problems of migration, asylum and refugee return in the Western Balkans.

22. The *Stabilisation and Association process (SAP)* is the policy framework of the European Union for its relations with the countries of the Western Balkans. IOM's primary role in *SAP* is to facilitate regional cooperation and dialogue on migration through technical cooperation activities focused on transferring skills and knowledge of the European Union (EU) migration *acquis* to the Western Balkans. This includes the establishment of EU-compatible legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks in the fields of migration, asylum and visa matters, as well as enhancing police cooperation in the campaign against trafficking in human beings. To this end, IOM has cooperated with the European Commission and other interested agencies, including UNHCR, International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), the Council of Europe, and various EU Member States and candidate countries, in the implementation of regional projects.

INTERREGIONAL

23. The Secretariat of the *Intergovernmental Consultations (IGC) on Asylum, Refugee and Migration Policies in Europe, North America and Australia* regularly invites IOM to its various meetings and workshops, upon request by the IGC participating countries. Intervention by IOM includes identifying its policies and strategies on the assisted voluntary return programmes, *inter alia*, return of qualified nationals, return of rejected asylum seekers, and return and reintegration of displaced persons and other migrants, sharing lessons learned from its programmes, and providing assessment of the current situation on the ground.

24. IOM is currently facilitating a dialogue between the three countries of the South Caucasus and a number of traditional countries of destination in Western Europe, *the Cluster Process*, to address migration and migration issues of mutual concern. IOM Missions in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia facilitate the effective and focused implementation of the return and reintegration projects within the framework of this process. Working closely with origin, host and transit countries, IOM is responsible for the organization, preparation, facilitation and follow-up of the *Cluster Process*.

25. IOM is also a key partner in the *Söderköping Process*, a cross-border cooperation process launched by the Swedish Migration Board and UNHCR in 2001, and joined shortly thereafter by IOM, to promote cross-border dialogue on asylum, migration and border management issues

among the countries situated along the European Union's future eastern border. IOM is working in the Kyiv-based *Söderköping* Secretariat to facilitate information exchange among participating countries, provide expertise and coordinate training on the key issues identified by the participating States, namely best practices in asylum/detention regimes, regional data exchange, compliance with EU migration *acquis* cooperation in counter-trafficking, return of irregular migrants, strengthening of border controls, and fraudulent document detention. The *Third Senior Level Review Meeting* took place on 16 to 17 October 2003.

26. In partnership with the concerned governments, IOM provides expertise and coordination support to the migration dialogue developed among the countries of the Western Mediterranean region. Activities consist of the setting up of an informal framework to discuss regional cooperation, national/regional development and economic migration, as well as migrants' integration policies. In October 2002, the first *5+5 Dialogue on Migration in the Western Mediterranean* was organized by the Tunisian Government, with IOM's assistance, with the aim of launching a platform for regular, informal discussions in the Western Mediterranean on various common migration issues and their linkages with regional cooperation and development. A final document, the *Tunis Declaration*, was adopted and follow-up activities recommended enhancing the continuity of a regional dialogue in the Western Mediterranean.

27. With the support of IOM, the second Western Mediterranean meeting was organized in Morocco in 2003. The event allowed participants to discuss follow-up on the *Tunis Declaration*. In Rabat, the 5+5 Ministers of participating countries approved two documents: *Presidency Conclusions* and a technical paper, *Implementation proposals for the Tunis Declaration*. A global and coordinated approach, which mobilizes national resources while benefiting from relevant international expertise (IOM and ILO), is recommended. The third *5+5 Ministerial Meeting* will take place in 2004 in Algeria.

Annex II

PARTICIPATION IN MAJOR REGIONAL CONSULTATIVE PROCESSES¹¹

Process	Government Participants	Main Areas of Interest
Inter-Governmental Consultations on Asylum, Refugee and Migration Policies in Europe, North America and Australia (IGC) (1985)	Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States and the European Commission	Entry, border control, labour migration, refugees, asylum, technology, country of origin information, data, return, irregular migration, smuggling/trafficking
Budapest Group (1991)	Albania, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States and the European Commission	Irregular migration, trafficking and smuggling, readmission agreements, return, visa harmonization, asylum, refugees, forced migration, financial and technical assistance
CIS Conference (1996) and Follow-up Process	Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan plus “neighbouring and other relevant States”	Refugees, IDPs, persons in refugee-like situations, repatriates, ecological migrants, migration management (combating illegal migration and trafficking, border management), rights of migrants, return, reintegration, population/demography, promoting participation by international and local NGOs, implementing legislation
Regional Conference on Migration (RCM or Puebla Process) (1996)	Belize, Canada, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama and the United States	Migration policies and management (combating migrant trafficking, travel document security and control, harmonized policies for the return of migrants in an irregular situation, reintegration of repatriated migrants); statistical information system, border cooperation, refugee protection, migrants’ rights, migration and development
Manila Process (1996)	Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand, Viet Nam and the Hong Kong SAR of China	Combat irregular migration and migrant trafficking, root causes of regular migration and of irregular migration, return, reintegration, entry/border control, remittances, migrants’ rights

¹¹ IOM World Migration 2003

Process	Government Participants	Main Areas of Interest
Inter-Governmental Asia-Pacific Consultations on Refugees, Displaced Persons and Migrants (APC) (1996)	Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Fiji, Hong Kong SAR of China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kiribati, Laos, Malaysia, Micronesia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste (joined at the sixth APC plenary), Viet Nam	Irregular migration, asylum, information sharing on reintegration of refugees and returnees, best practices on issues relating to cross-border migration management, common migration and asylum challenges
South American Conference on Migration (Lima Process) (1999)	Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela, Suriname and Guyana	Human rights of migrants, integration, trafficking and smuggling, information exchange, migration and development
Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa (MIDSA) (2000)	Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe	Migration management, border control, migration and development, causes, dimensions and impacts of migration, harmonizing systems of data collection and immigration policy and legislation, labour migration, irregular movements
Migration Dialogue for West Africa (MIDWA) (2001)	Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo	Border management, data collection, labour migration, development, remittances, rights of migrants, irregular migration, trafficking and smuggling, return, reintegration
Söderköping Process (2001)	Belarus, Ukraine, Lithuania, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Romania, Slovakia and Sweden	Cross-border cooperation on asylum and migration management in the context of EU enlargement
Cluster Process (2001)	Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Netherlands, Switzerland and Sweden	Foster mutual understanding, information campaigns, irregular migration, return and readmission
Bali Ministerial Conference on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime (Bali Conference) (2002)	Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Fiji, France (New Caledonia), India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Jordan, Kiribati, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Vanuatu and Viet Nam	Migrant smuggling and trafficking, information and intelligence sharing, cooperation in fraudulent document detection, cooperation on border and visa systems, return, legislative development
5+5 Dialogue on Migration in the Western Mediterranean (2002)	Algeria, France, Italy, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Portugal, Spain and Tunisia	Migration and co-development (the role of diaspora), labour migration, integration of migrants, local cooperation, rights of migrants, gender and migration, health and migration, irregular migration

Annex III

MAJOR REGIONAL GROUPINGS WITH A MIGRATION FOCUS OR INTEREST

Region	Migration Focus	Migration Interest (prime focus often economic)
Americas and the Caribbean	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regional Conference on Migration (RCM or Puebla Process) ▪ South American Conference on Migration (Lima Process) ▪ Comisión Centroamericana de Directores de Migración (OCAM) ▪ Comisión (Centroamericana) de Facilitación Migratoria para el Turismo (COFAMIT) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Summit of the Americas ▪ Plan Puebla-Panama ▪ Sistema de la Integración Centroamericana (SICA) ▪ South American Common Market (MERCOSUR) ▪ North American Free Trade Area (NAFTA) ▪ Organization of American States (OAS)
Europe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CIS Conference and Follow-up Process ▪ Budapest Group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ European Union ▪ Council of Europe ▪ Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) ▪ Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe (SP) ▪ Southeast European Cooperative Initiative (SECI) ▪ Council of Baltic Sea States (CBSS) ▪ Central European Initiative (CEI)
Asia/Pacific	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Inter-Governmental Asia-Pacific Consultations (APC) ▪ Manila Process ▪ Bali Follow-up Process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) ▪ South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) ▪ Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) ▪ Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) ▪ Pacific Island Forum (PIF)
Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Migration Dialogue in Southern Africa (MIDSA) ▪ Migration Dialogue for West Africa (MIDWA) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) ▪ Southern African Development Community (SADC) ▪ Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) ▪ Organization of African Unity (OAU) ▪ Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS)
Gulf/Middle East		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) ▪ League of Arab States (LAS) ▪ Arab Maghreb Union (UMA)
Interregional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Intergovernmental Consultations on Asylum, Refugees and Migration (IGC) ▪ Söderköping Process ▪ Cluster Process ▪ 5+5 Dialogue on Migration in the Western Mediterranean 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP) ▪ Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) ▪ Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization (AALCO) ▪ General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) ▪ EuroMed ▪ Eurasian Economic Community (EURASEC)