

**TENTH COORDINATION MEETING ON  
INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION**

Population Division  
Department of Economic and Social Affairs  
United Nations Secretariat  
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**INPUT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR MIGRATION POLICY  
DEVELOPMENT TO THE TENTH COORDINATION MEETING ON  
INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION<sup>1</sup>**

*International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)*

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<sup>1</sup> The views expressed in the paper do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the United Nations Secretariat.

## **A. ICMPD activities that could contribute to preparations for the 2013 HLD**

Since the 2006 HLD, several new **migration dialogues** and processes have been put in place, at both regional and inter-regional levels complementing and, in some cases, overlapping with existing ones. Some dialogues are no longer active or do not benefit from the political commitment required to push the various migration agendas. Those dialogue processes which are active and dynamic do, however, provide very relevant platforms for preparing discussions of the 2013 HLD. Issues as complex and sensitive as the collection of reliable data on migration, sustainable return and readmission, social protection and integration, international protection, female migration, trafficking in persons, irregular migration, visa policies, civil registration, document security or diaspora contribution to development have been apprehended together with the aim of finding common approaches to common challenges.

Many challenges faced by countries of origin and destination in Europe, Asia, Africa and the Middle East will again be discussed at the HLD. Therefore, recommendations and conclusions from the various dialogue activities will be highly relevant in framing these discussions, and reaching common understandings on migration issues. Specific activities could be undertaken in the framework of the dialogues to prepare the ground for discussions to be held at the HLD; recommendations and position papers could be discussed and agreed on among the partners, and presented to the HLD.

In addition to the ICMPD supported state-led processes described below, ICMPD is also involved in establishing a **European Platform of African Diaspora** organisations working on development issues in Africa<sup>1</sup>. As a partner in this project together with four migrant associations – ADPC, CGMD, FORIM and AFFORD – ICMPD stands ready to promote the use of the diaspora platform to inform and organise the African Diaspora in view of the HLD.

### **Migration Dialogues supported by ICMPD**

The **Africa-EU Partnership on Migration, Mobility and Employment (MME)** is the main framework for dialogue on migration among Africa and the EU since the adoption of the Africa-EU Strategy at the 2nd Heads of States summit held in Lisbon in 2007. The aim of the Strategy is to advance cooperation among the two continents in eight thematic areas, including MME. While the European Commission and the African Union Commission are driving the strategy, the dialogue part of MME is supported by a consortium led by ICMPD.<sup>2</sup>

The **Euro-African Dialogue on Migration and Development (Rabat Process)** was launched in 2006. Following up to the successful 3<sup>rd</sup> Ministerial Meeting in Dakar in November 2011, ICMPD together with its partner FIIAPP supports the preparations of the practical implementation of the newly adopted 2012-2014 strategy. The Rabat process gathers countries of origin, destination and transit of migrants from European, West and Central African States.<sup>3</sup>

Under ICMPD leadership, a consortium of ILO, FIIAPP, OFII and EMUNI is in charge of the **Euromed Migration III** (Euro-Mediterranean Partnership) since January 2012 through to the end of 2014, covering all areas of the EU Global Approach to Migration and Mobility. Among others, it is planned to produce a set of migration profiles for all countries in the MEDA region.

The **Mediterranean Transit Migration (MTM) Dialogue**, which currently covers 45 states from Europe, the Middle East and North and sub-Saharan Africa, will celebrate its 10th anniversary in Malta in June. At this occasion it will take stock of its achievements and critically assess the role of migration dialogues in the formulation of migration policies and in fostering

international cooperation between the various stakeholders. The role of the MTM is to support, through its informal and technical setting, the agendas of broader, higher-level and more formal fora such as the MME, the Rabat Process, the Euromed (Barcelona Process), the Union for the Mediterranean and 5+5 Dialogue and, also, the UN High-Level Dialogue on Migration.<sup>4</sup> The thematic focus encompasses issues beyond the scope of transit migration and now covers a broad range of migration management issues, including migration and development and irregular and mixed migration.

The focus of the **Budapest Process (BP)** – for which ICMPD has been acting as secretariat since 1993 - will be the preparation of the Budapest Process Ministerial Meeting which the Turkish Chair foresees to organise in 2013, marking its 20th anniversary making it one of the oldest and, since the expansion along the Silk Routes, the geographically most extensive regional migration dialogue. The Budapest Process has developed into a dialogue which focuses on labour migration, mixed migration flows, including protection issues, and links between migration and development, alongside its more traditional issues such as irregular migration, return, trafficking in human beings and border management. The **BP Silk Routes Working Group**, the Silk Routes Project on “Fostering Cooperation in the Area of Migration with and in the Silk Routes Region” will serve to establish closer inter-governmental relations and extend the migration related knowledge base.<sup>5</sup>

As a platform for cooperation on migration between EU Member States and their Eastern and South-Eastern neighbour countries, the **Prague Process (PP)** aims at combining policy dialogue at state level with concrete policy development and implementation at the level of all ministries concerned. The Action Plan 2012-2016 adopted during the Poznan Ministerial Conference in Autumn 2011 consists of more than 20 concrete actions for 6 main topical areas mirroring the EU’s Global Approach to Migration and Mobility: legal migration and mobility, irregular migration and trafficking in human beings, international protection and asylum policy, and maximising the development impact of migration and mobility.<sup>6</sup> Together with MTM and BP, the PP team will further improve and update the i-Map<sup>7</sup>, whereby the activation of an extensive database will be an especially useful feature.<sup>8</sup>

## **B. ICMPD’s contributions to the Global Forum on Migration and Development in 2011 and 2012**

### **Switzerland 2011**

ICMPD supported the Swiss Chair through two staff secondments to the Swiss GFMD Task Force as well as by providing expert and logistics support to a number of GFMD member states, who, in line with the 2011 GFMD work plan, organised a set of small, action-oriented thematic meetings around the world. The following thematic meetings<sup>9</sup> were supported by ICMPD:

*Migration Profiles – Lessons Learnt* in Batumi, Georgia on 12-13 July 2011, co-chaired by Georgia and Moldova, with the aim of exchanging experiences among states on developing (Extended) Migration Profiles (Cluster III).

*The Contribution of Migrant Associations to Development* in Taroudant, Morocco on 19-22 September 2011, co-chaired by Morocco and France with the aim of analyzing cooperation between migrant organisations and governments and identifying key factors of success (Cluster III).

*Addressing Irregular Migration through Coherent Migration and Development Strategies* in Istanbul, Turkey on 13-14 October 2011, co-chaired by Turkey and Switzerland, with the aim of promoting discussion and exploring ways of international cooperation with a view to address the development-related causes of irregular migration (Cluster II).

Upon request by the Swiss Chair, ICMPD also provided an expert on regularisations in the context of irregular migration for the Common Space Session at the Concluding Debate on 1-2 December 2011, in Geneva.

## **Mauritius 2012**

ICMPD stands ready to support the Mauritian Chair and the GFMD member states to fulfil the 2012 work plan, once the Concept Paper for this year has been finalised and approved. As the draft version stands at the moment of writing, ICMPD takes note of the Mauritian request to “benefit from events or research activities in 2012 that are relevant to the GFMD 2012 themes”. Once the themes have been decided ICMPD will inform the Mauritian Chair of any planned activities and events that would support the 2012 work plan. Furthermore, ICMPD has actively supported the Working Group on Policy Coherence, Data and Research since it was established and will seek ways of also contributing to the Working Group on Protecting and Empowering Migrants.

### **C. New ICMPD initiatives in the area of international migration**

Apart from fostering intergovernmental dialogue on the current debate on international migration, ICMPD is contributing to good migration governance through both capacity-building measures<sup>10</sup> and policy-oriented research and documentation. New initiatives taken by ICMPD on international migration are firmly anchored in our partnership and multi-stakeholder approach and guided by our European principles and values, i.e. respect for the rule of law and effective protection of human rights. This can be illustrated by our Research Department’s recent input to the global knowledge base on a topic that is increasingly more openly discussed at the global level: the complexities of irregular migration. Studies on the fundamental rights situation of irregular migrants in the EU, the treatment of third-country nationals at maritime, land and air borders along the EU’s external borders, and on the access to health care for undocumented migrants, done in cooperation with universities, research networks, non-governmental institutions, international organisations and European institutions, offer new, policy-relevant information for a broader audience than the European one.

Lastly, two relatively recent initiatives are worth mentioning in more detail below due to their unique methodologies and growing global impact: MIEUX and the i-Map.

#### **MIEUX**

MIEUX – Migration EU Expertise – is a joint European Commission/ICMPD development cooperation initiative that provides quick-reaction, short-term, technical assistance to improve the migration management capacities of public authorities and institutions responsible for migration management at national, regional and sub-regional levels in EU partner countries.<sup>11</sup> MIEUX has a flexible and simple request procedure: no formalised application form or proposal is required, it builds on existing national or regional structures, and it helps initiate and support cooperation between EU and non-EU countries through a peer-to-peer transfer of expertise. The first phase 2009-2012 focused on irregular migration, but as of January 2012, MIEUX has expanded its scope to include legal migration and migration and development.

Of particular interest to the HLD is MIEUX's contribution to improving mechanisms of efficient coordination, cooperation and information exchange. Considering that, in many instances, national dialogue and coordination are facilitated within the framework of various regional processes or by international partners, MIEUX technical assistance has focused on the creation of national-run, formal coordination and cooperation mechanisms which ensure sustainability and ownership of the process. There is potential for MIEUX to support the HLD as its migration and development component gets underway.<sup>12</sup>

### **The Interactive Map on Migration: i-Map**

Initiated in 2007, the i-Map is an online tool that facilitates access to information on migration issues. Ideally anchored within a regional migration dialogue framework, the concept is adaptable to the specificities and characteristics of any concerned region.<sup>13</sup> With the Silk Routes countries expected to be included in 2012 in addition to the current coverage via MTM and the PP, the i-Map concept is at a crucial phase of its development. By end 2012, the i-Map website will cover up to 68 countries through these three above-mentioned dialogues. Discussions are ongoing regarding the possible coverage of other regions of the world, which could bring the total to more than 100 countries during the course of 2013, making the i-Map an essential source of information at the global level.<sup>14</sup>

#### NOTES

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<sup>1</sup> For more information, go to <http://www.icmpd.org/European-wide-African-Diaspora-Platform-Africa-Europe-Platform.1858.0.html>

<sup>2</sup> For more information go to: <http://www.africa-eu-partnership.org/migration-mobility-and-employment>

<sup>3</sup> For more information, go to <http://www.dialogueuroafricanmd.net/web>

<sup>4</sup> The MTM Dialogue is supported by a consortium of 8 MTM Partner Agencies: Europol, Frontex, IFAD, Interpol, IOM, UNHCR and UNODC. Two new MTM Partnerships are under development with UCLG and UN HABITAT. For more information, go to <http://www.icmpd.org/MTM.1558.0.html>

<sup>5</sup> For more information, go to <http://www.icmpd.org/Budapest-Process.1528.0.html>

<sup>6</sup> PP Partner States perceive better management of labour migration flows between them as a first priority for making better use of migration and mobility as positive forces for development. Second, they seek to explore policies that facilitate remittances, create incentives migrants to channel their savings into investment in their home countries and raise awareness on possible investment benefits and opportunities and funding mechanisms. Third, they aim at further promoting circular migration by enhanced recognition of migrants' skills and qualifications, better matching of education, qualification and labour market needs and the creation of jobs attractive for qualified labour force, also with a view to mitigate the size of skilled emigration and brain drain.

<sup>7</sup> For more information, go to <https://www.imap-migration.org/>

<sup>8</sup> For more information, go to <http://www.icmpd.org/Prague-Process-BMP.1557.0.html>

<sup>9</sup> For more information on the meetings, go to <http://gfmd.org/en/documents-library/switzerland-2011/thematic-meetings.html>

<sup>10</sup> ICMPD has six competence centres: Irregular Migration and Return, Trafficking in Human Beings, Border Management and Visa, Asylum, Migration and Development, Legal Migration and Integration.

<sup>11</sup> Partner countries include the European Neighbourhood countries, African, Caribbean and Pacific Countries (ACP), Latin America, Asia and Central Asia, and the Middle East

<sup>12</sup> For more information, go to [www.icmpd.org/mieux](http://www.icmpd.org/mieux)

<sup>13</sup> The functioning modalities of regional i-Maps are agreed upon by the respective participating countries i.e. MTM and PP/BMP i-Maps have different functioning modalities, thus ensuring regional ownership.

<sup>14</sup> For more information, go to <https://www.imap-migration.org/>