



International Migration Management through Inter-State Consultation Mechanisms

Prepared by the Migration Policy, Research and Communications
Department of the International Organization for Migration
for
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Introduction – International Migration Management

Migration

- Defining feature of our contemporary world
- Integral to the fabric of social and economic life
- Positive and negative manifestations and opportunities
- Higher profile on international agenda
 - Expanding IOM Membership (67 to 112 member states from 1998 to 2005)



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Overview - International Migration Management

Recognition by States

- Potential for economic growth, development and stabilization related to migration
- Need to identify effective measures for harnessing potential and minimizing negative consequences of migration
- Positive effects of balanced and strategic migration management



Background - International Migration Management

- 1994 Cairo Conference enunciated challenges surrounding the management of international migration
- Limited follow-up on Cairo Conference Programme of Action due to
 - Concerns for sovereignty and discretion
 - Reticence about losing flexibility

Recent Developments - International Migration Management

- Profound changes in understandings
- Establishment of informal, states-owned consultation mechanisms on migration
- Regional processes have outpaced multilateral efforts
- Constructive bottom-up approach
- Appreciation of common challenges, and complementary objectives of diverse stakeholders
- Facilitating good governance

Today's Presentation – Key Inter-State Consultation Mechanisms on Migration



- Regional Consultative Processes on Migration (RCPs)
- IOM's International Dialogue on Migration (IDM)
- Berne Initiative and the International Agenda for Migration Management (IAMM)

Today's Presentation – Key Inter-State Consultation Mechanisms on Migration



Key characteristics

- Exclusive focus on migration
- Ongoing nature
- Resulting in concrete and practical achievements

Complementary Inter-Agency Mechanisms

- Geneva Migration Group (GMG)
- UN Coordination Meetings on International Migration

Inter-State Consultation Mechanisms: Regional Consultative Processes (RCPs)



No formal international definition, but shared common characteristics:

- Informal groups
- Regionally or thematically organized
- Comprised of government officials from various ministries as well as other stakeholders, including representatives of international organizations and, in some cases, NGOs
- Often initiated by a conference on a particular theme

Inter-State Consultation Mechanisms: Regional Consultative Processes (RCPs)

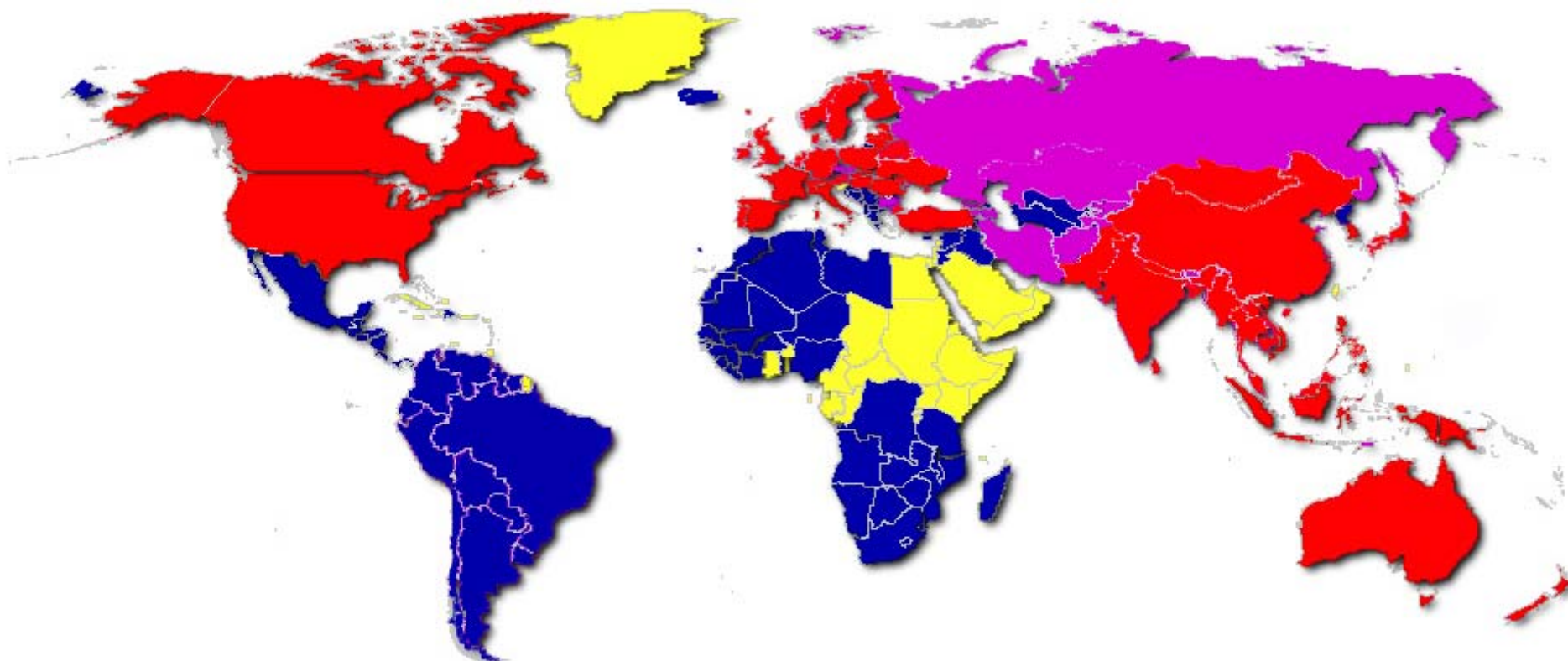


No formal international definition, but shared common characteristics:

- Operate outside of traditional institutional structures
- Forums for non-binding dialogue, information exchange
- Members recognize complementary interests of diverse states
- Flexible agendas covering a full range of migration issues
- Multiple meetings



RCP membership worldwide



■ Non-member

■ Member of one RCP

■ Member of two RCPs

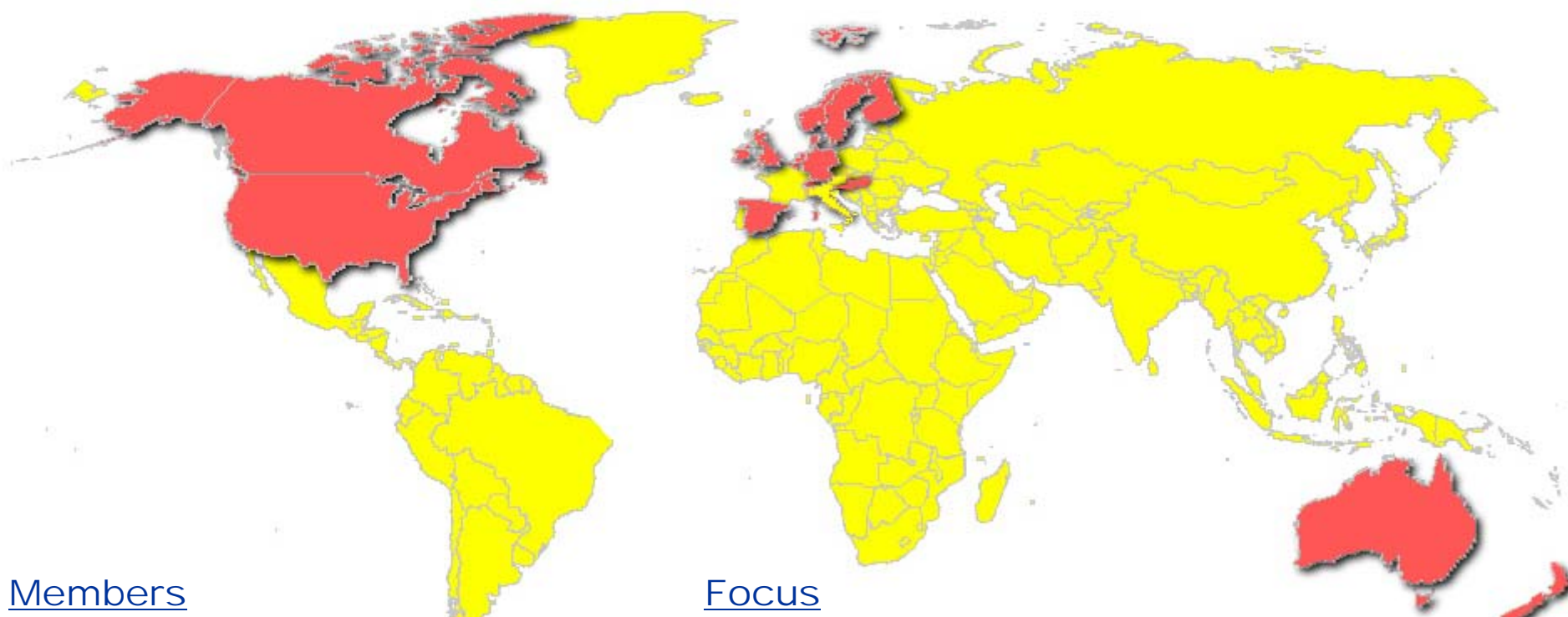
■ Member of three or more RCPs



Inter-Governmental Consultations on Asylum, Refugees and Migration Policies (IGC)

16 States

Established 1985



Members

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK and USA

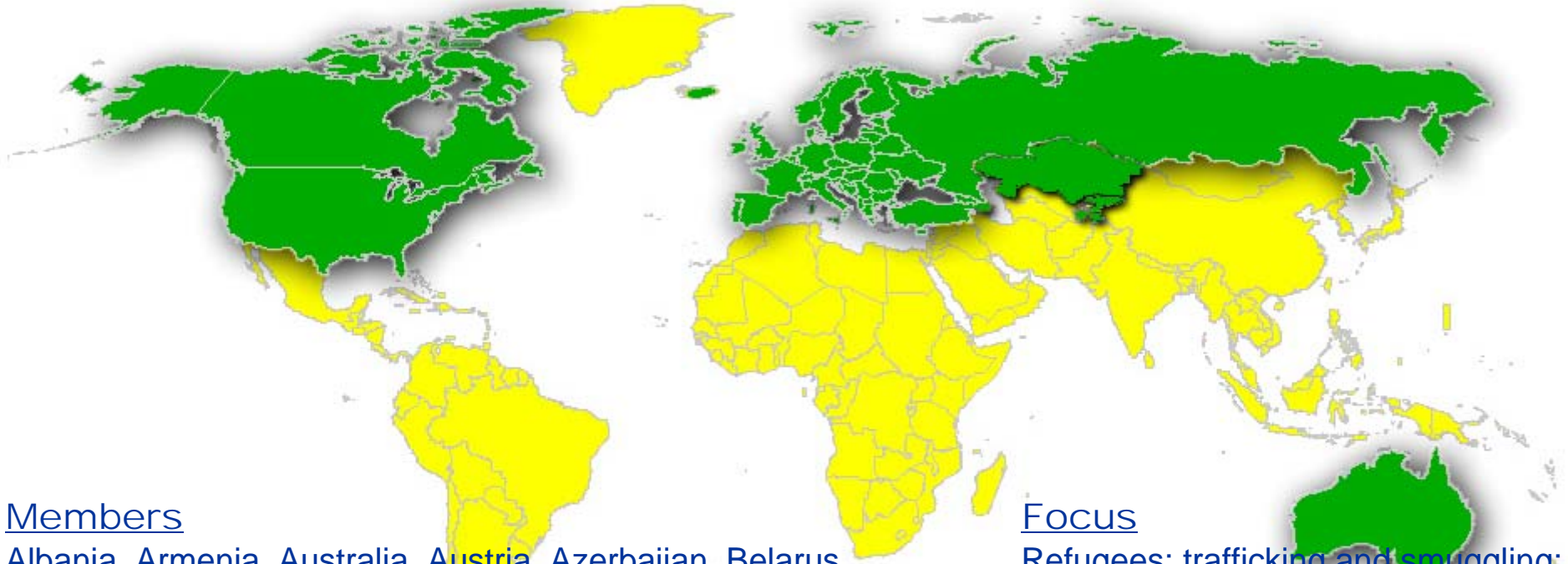
Focus

Asylum; data; entry; border control; country of origin information; temporary protection; return; smuggling and trafficking; unaccompanied minors; family reunification; protection; labour migration; specific outflows; irregular migration; burden and responsibility sharing; refugees; technology in migration management; national security

Budapest Group/Process

50 States

Established 1991



Members

Albania, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Turkey, Ukraine, UK and USA

Focus

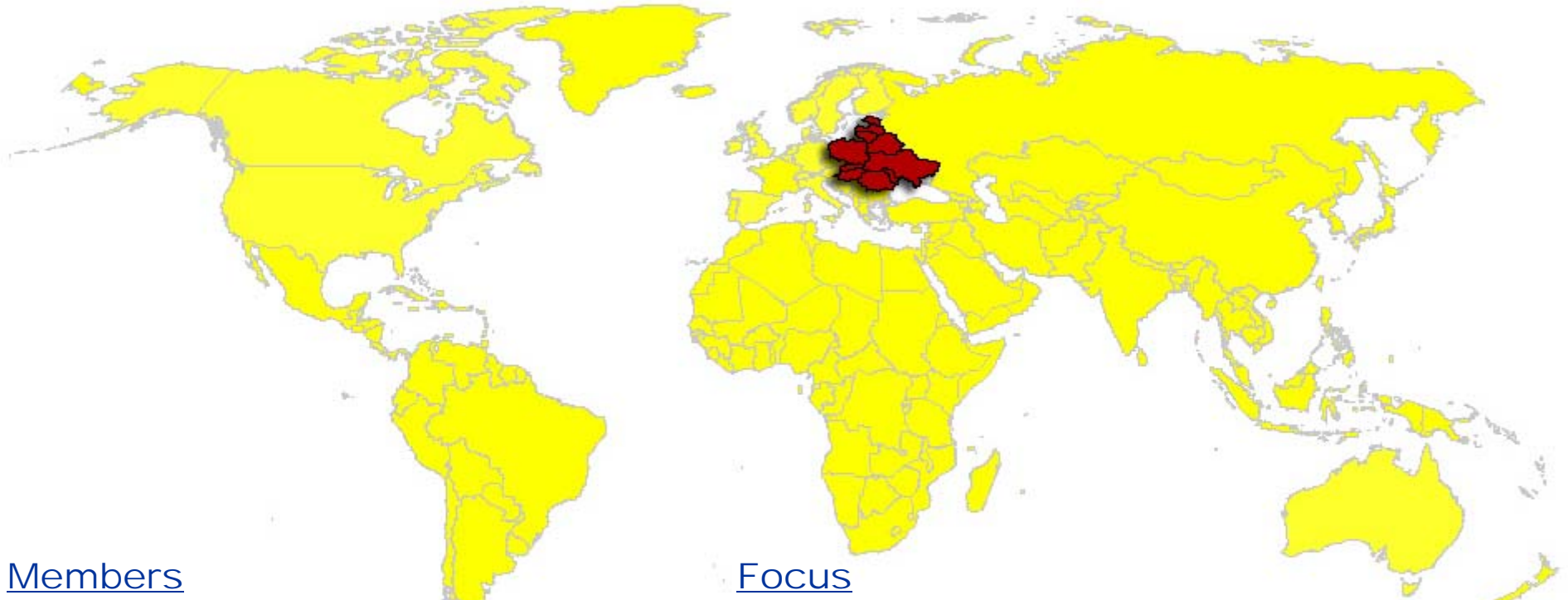
Refugees; trafficking and smuggling; entry/border control; return and readmission; forced migration; asylum; irregular movement; visa harmonization; information exchange; fight against organized crime; financial and technical assistance

Söderköping Process/ Cross-Border Co-operation Process



10 States

Established 2001



Members

Belarus, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia,
Lithuania, Moldova, Poland, Romania,
Slovakia and Ukraine

Focus

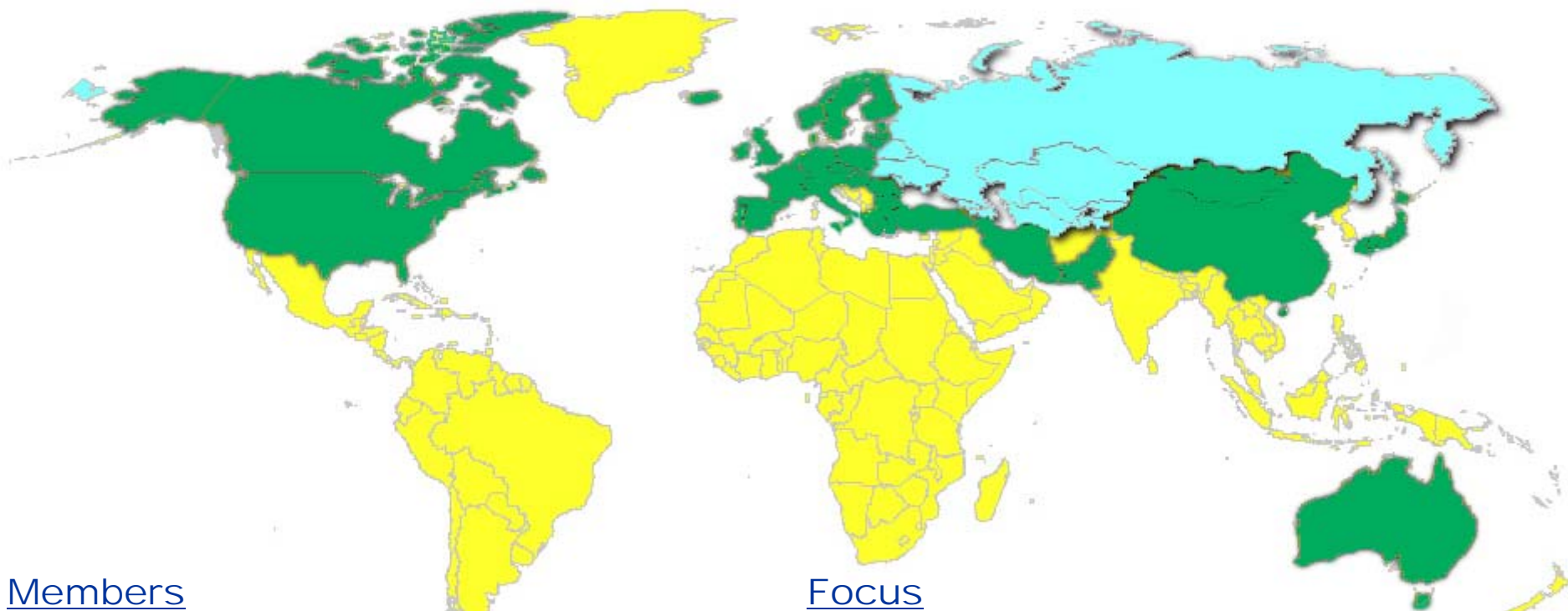
Border security and management; capacity for asylum and migration management; international refugee and human rights law; information on neighbouring country legislation and structures; rights of asylum seekers, refugees and migrants; irregular migration; trafficking (adopting and harmonizing legal standards); awareness and understanding of the reality of the new border

CIS Conference



12 CIS States and 36 “interested” States

Established 1996



Members

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan and Australia and 35 other “interested” States (from Europe, N. America, Asia and the Middle East)

Focus

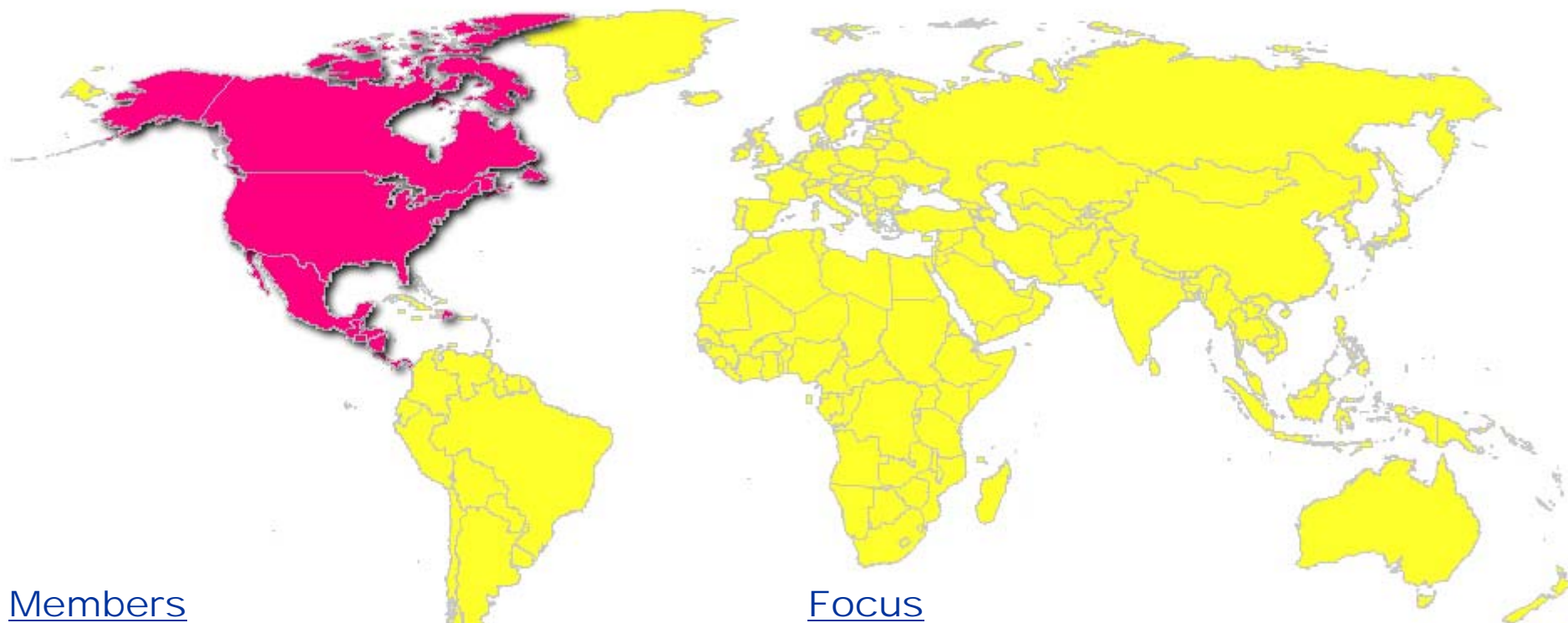
Refugees, IDPs and persons in refugee-like situations; repatriates; ecological migrants; migration management (combating illegal migration and trafficking, border management); migrants’ rights; return and reintegration; population/demography



Regional Conference on Migration (RCM or Puebla Process)

11 States

Established 1996



Members

Belize, Canada, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama and USA

Focus

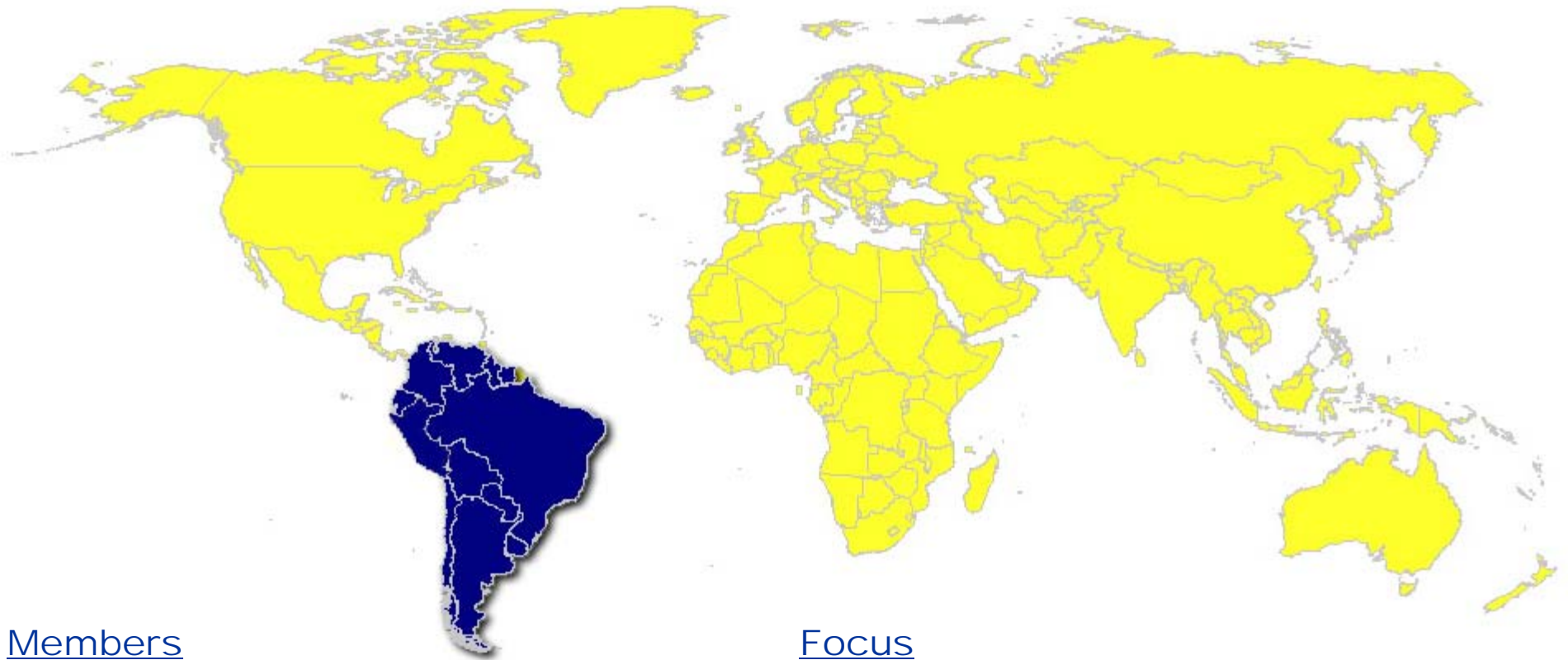
Migration policy and management; migrants' rights; development

South American Conference on Migration (Lima Process)



12 States

Established 1999



Members

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Surinam, Uruguay and Venezuela

Focus

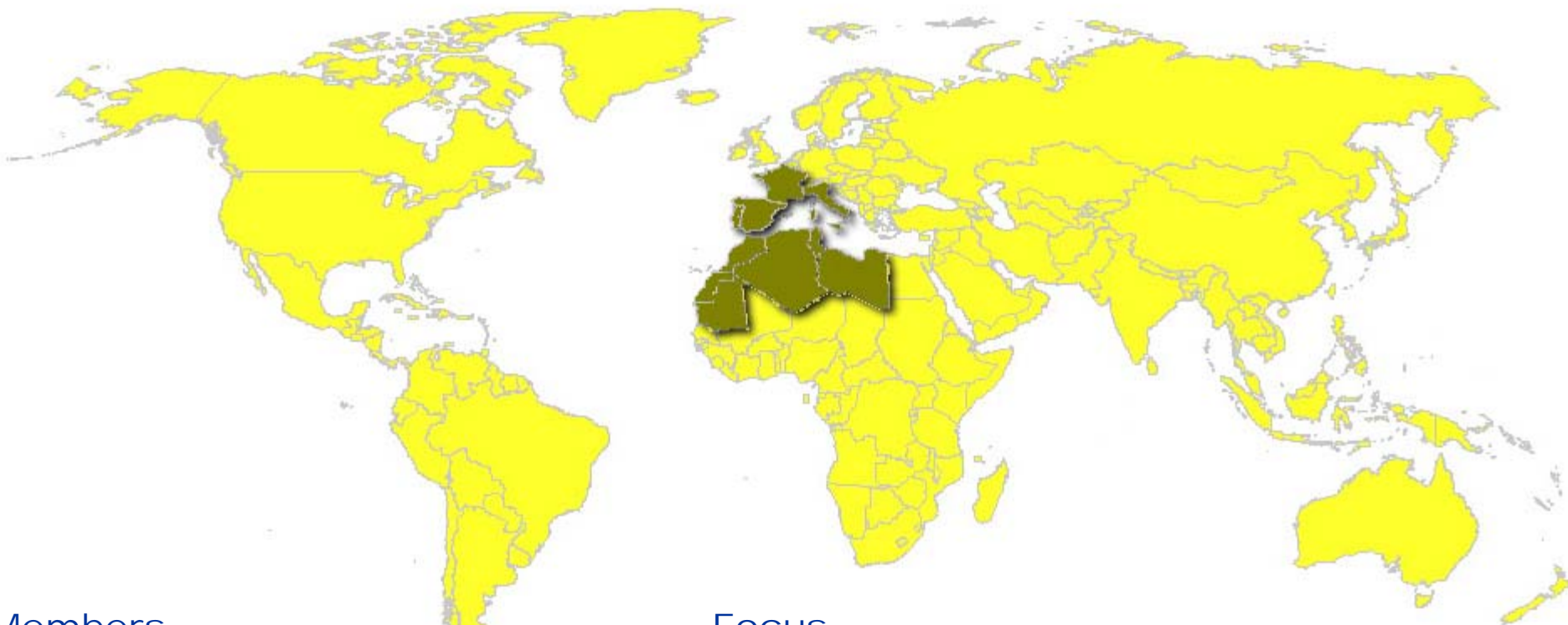
Development; diasporas; migrants' rights; integration; information exchange; migration statistics; trafficking and smuggling; harmonization of migration systems and legislation



5 + 5 Dialogue on Migration in the Western Mediterranean

10 States

Established 2002



Members

Algeria, France, Italy, Libya, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Portugal, Spain and Tunisia

Focus

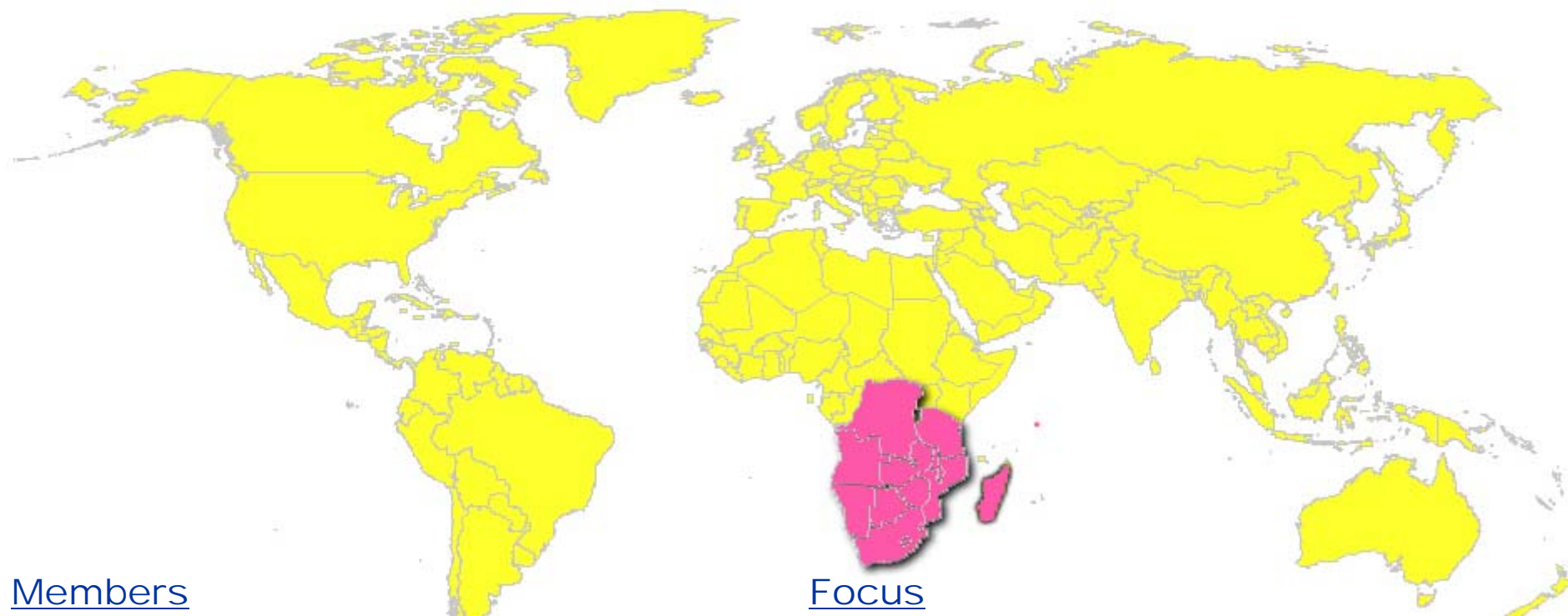
Migration trends; irregular migration and trafficking; development (the role of diaspora); migrants' rights and obligations; integration; movement of people and regular migration flow management; labour migration and vocational training; health; gender equality; information exchange; public awareness campaigns



Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa (MIDSA)

15 States

Established 2000



Members

Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe

Focus

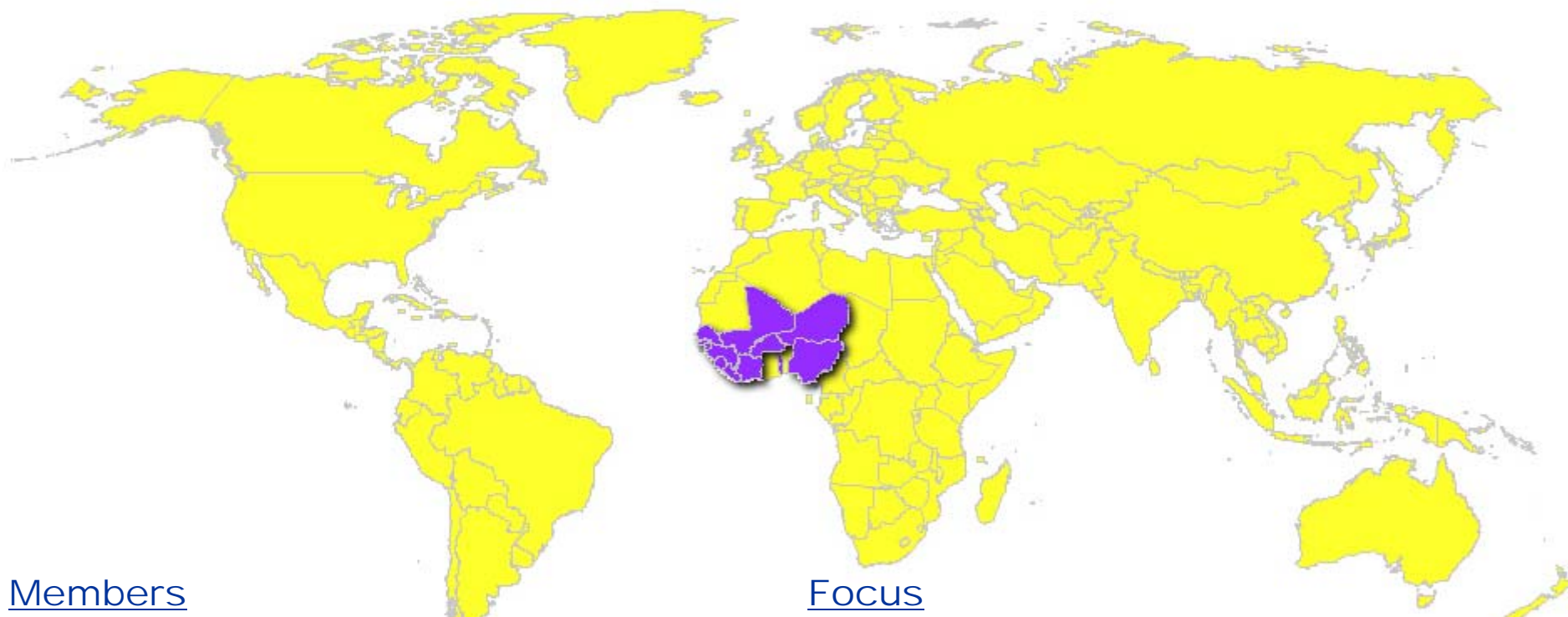
Migration/border management; development; health; labour migration; irregular movements; trafficking and smuggling; migrants' rights; return and readmission



Migration Dialogue for West Africa (MIDWA or Dakar Follow-up)

13 States

Established 2001



Members

Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo

Focus

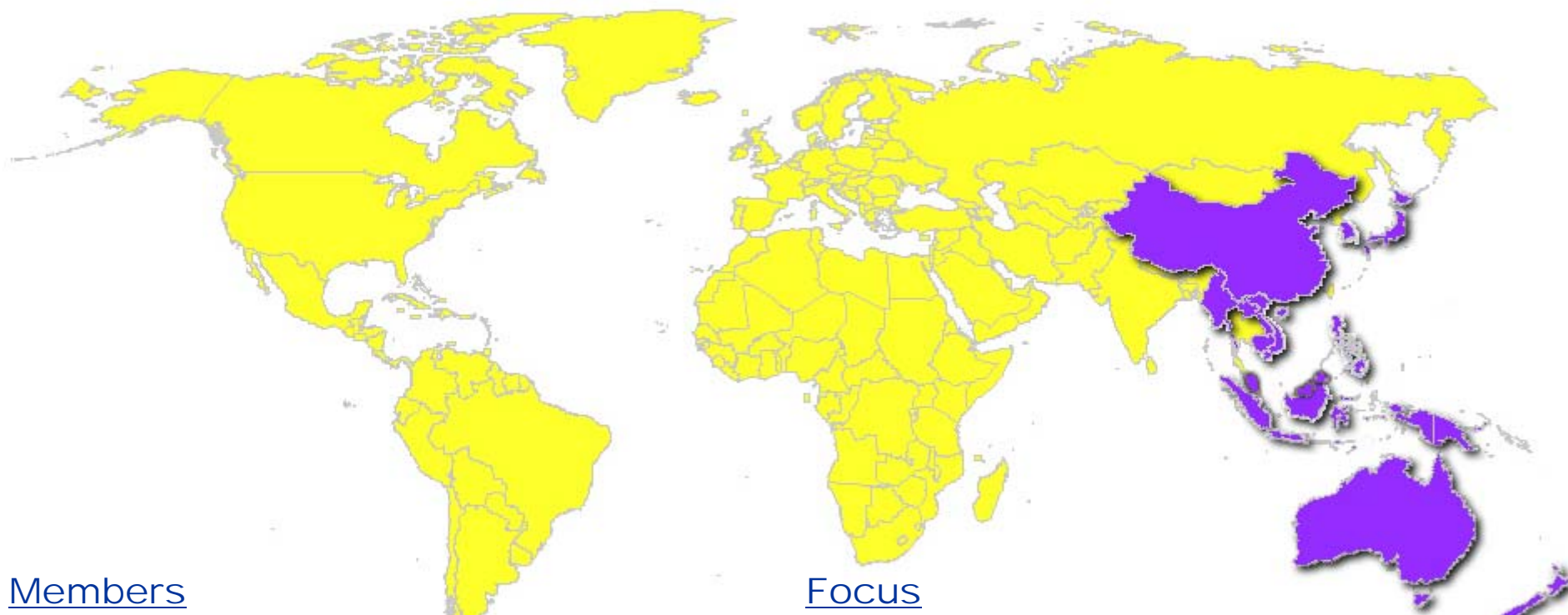
Border management; data collection; labour migration; irregular migration; development; remittances; migrants' rights; trafficking and smuggling; return and reintegration



IOM Regional Seminar on Irregular Migration and Migrant Trafficking in East and South-East Asia (Manila Process)

16 States +
Hong Kong SAR

Established 1996



Members

Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam and Hong Kong (SAR of China)

Focus

Irregular migration and trafficking; root causes of regular and irregular migration; return and reintegration; entry/border control; remittances; migrants' rights; capacity building; information sharing



32 States +
Hong Kong SAR

Established 1996

Inter-Governmental Asia-Pacific Consultations on Refugees, Displaced Persons and Migrants (APC)



Members

Afghanistan, 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 (France), New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor Leste and Vietnam

Focus

Return and reintegration; refugees; trafficking; entry/border control; asylum; irregular migration; labour migration; remittances; rights of migrants and IDPs; role of the country of origin; impact of economic crisis; public awareness campaigns; information sharing; burden sharing; capacity building



40 States

Established 2002

Bali Ministerial Conference on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime (Bali Conference/Process)



Members

Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, DPR Korea, Fiji, France (New Caledonia), India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, 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, Syria, Thailand, Timor Leste, Tonga, Turkey, Vanuatu and Vietnam

Focus

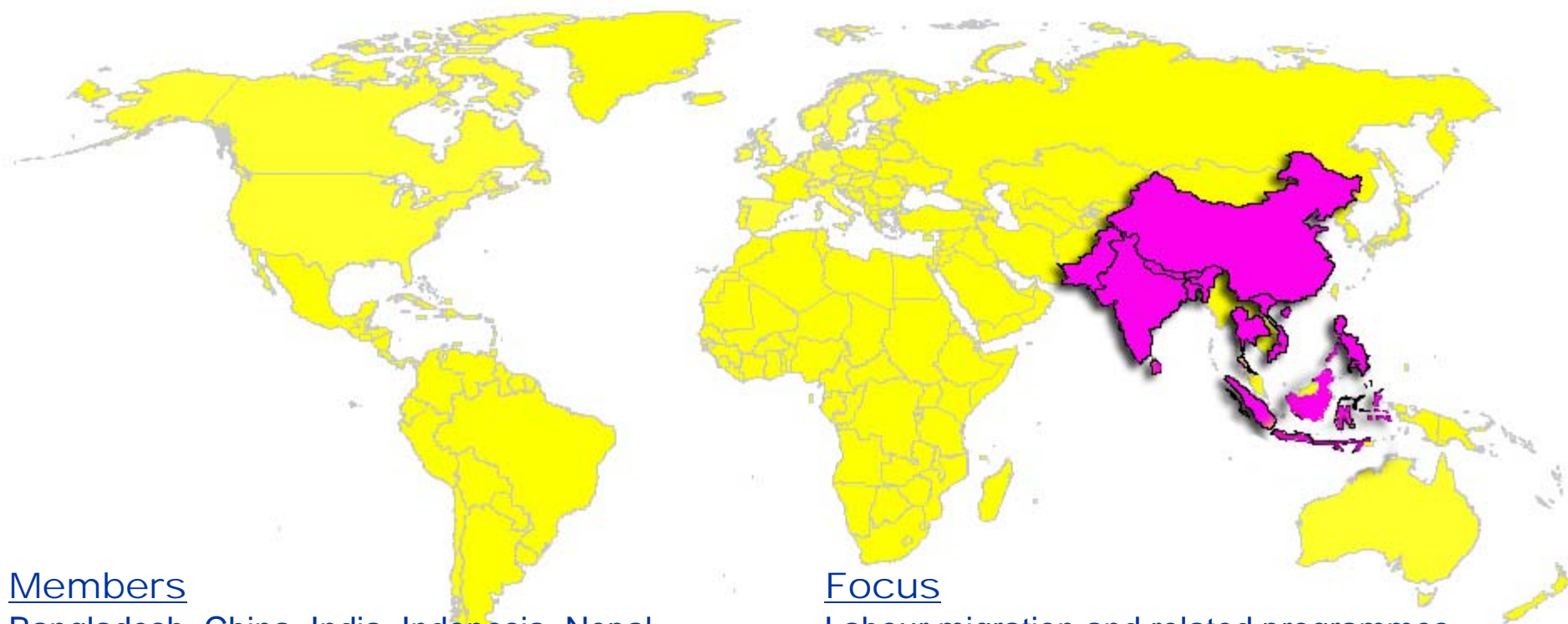
Trafficking and smuggling; irregular migration; information and intelligence sharing; fraudulent document detection; border management; visa systems; return and readmission; public awareness campaigns; harmonization of legislation, asylum practices and management; victim protection and assistance; development aid; law enforcement



Labour Migration Ministerial Consultations for Countries of Origin in Asia (Colombo Process)

10 States

Established 2003



Members

Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam

Focus

Labour migration and related programmes (protection of vulnerable migrants and provision of support services to them; optimising benefits of organised labour migration; capacity building, data collection and inter-state cooperation)

Value of RCPs as Processes and Networks

- Develop practical networks of counterparts within and among governments
- Allow for expression of diverse views
- Create level playing field among states – equal voice
- Responsive to current trends
- Maintain practical focus
- Establish environment conducive to bilateral and multi-lateral cooperation
- Promote policy-coherence on a national and regional basis

Examples of positive impacts of RCPs

- Fiji and Panama - Legislative review and reform
- Australia/Indonesia - Coordination on operational initiative
- Puebla Process - Data sharing and trends analysis
- In-depth examination of specific practical issues
- Capacity building initiatives
- Some *de facto* harmonization

Inter-State Consultation Mechanisms: International Dialogue on Migration (IDM)



IDM purposes

- Contribute to better understanding of migration
- Strengthen cooperative mechanisms to comprehensively and effectively address migration issues

IDM's primary activities

- Annual Dialogue Session, in association with IOM Council (next: November 30 - December 3, 2005, Geneva)
- Intersessional Workshop Series (next: September 27 - 28, 2005, Geneva)

International Dialogue on Migration - Intersessional Workshops



- Bring together policymakers and practitioners
- Broaden reflection on new issues
- Held in cooperation with partners
- “Migration and...” structure, for example:
 - Trade and Migration (2003) and follow-up (2004)
 - Migration and Health (2004)
 - Migration and Development (2005)

International Dialogue on Migration - Intersessional Workshops



Developing Capacity to Manage Migration

- September 27 – 28, 2005, Geneva
- Share states' experiences and best practices
- Explore new capacity building tools on migration management, including
 - *International Agenda on Migration Management*
 - *Essentials of Migration Management*

Inter-State Consultation Mechanisms:



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The Berne Initiative

- States-owned consultative mechanism
- Launched by the Government of Switzerland at the International Symposium on Migration (2001)
- Underscored need for balanced approach to facilitating regular and preventing irregular migration
- Decided to explore framework of guiding principles for the management of migration
- Conducted series of four regional consultations in 2004
- Sponsored four regional and one global study on inter-state cooperation
- Published expert study on migration and existing international legal norms

International Agenda for Migration Management (IAMM)

- Product of the Berne Initiative
- First gathering of common perspectives and understandings in a balanced, comprehensive and non-binding framework at international level
- Based on various documents emanating from RCPs and migration conferences
- Recognizes complexity of migration and shared and complementary nature of States' interests in migration
- Finalized at Berne II Conference (December 16-17, 2004), attended by some 300 participants representing more than 100 countries, as well as representatives from international organizations, NGOs and independent migration experts



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IAMM Contents

Common Understandings

- Migration integral feature of globalization
- Primary role of States in managing migration
- Requires balanced consideration of economic, social, humanitarian and development issues, taking into account root causes
- Protection of human rights and dignity of migrants
- Important linkages between migration and development
- Systematic data collection and enhanced research are beneficial to coherent policy development

Sets of Effective Practices

- Visa Requirements
- Regular Migration
- Temporary Migration
- Immigration Programs
- Humanitarian Resettlement
- Labour Migration
- Irregular Migration
- Trafficking
- Protection of Victims
- Human Rights of Migrants
- Integration
- Return Policy
- Naturalization

Berne II Chairman's Summary – The Way Forward

International Agenda for Migration Management

- Widely disseminated to Governments
- Inform work of GCIM
- IOM and other organizations to assist Governments to put the IAMM to use at national, regional and global levels
 - Organization of capacity building workshops
 - Establishment of closer dialogue with existing RCPs
 - Policy research and studies on specific topics
- Tri-lingual, English/Spanish/French publication
- Now posted on the IOM and Swiss Federal Office for Migration websites

International Migration Management through Inter-State Consultation Mechanisms on Migration



Summary and Conclusion

- Regional Consultative Processes on Migration (RCPs)
- International Dialogue on Migration (IDM)
- The Berne Initiative and the International Agenda for Migration Management (IAMM)

Thank you for your attention