



IOM International Organization for Migration  
OIM Organisation Internationale pour les Migrations  
OIM Organización Internacional para las Migraciones



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## International Dialogue on Migration (IDM) 2012 Managing Migration in Crisis Situations

### MIGRANTS IN TIMES OF CRISIS: AN EMERGING PROTECTION CHALLENGE

Venue: International Peace Institute, New York

Date: 9 October 2012

9:00am-1:00pm

### AGENDA

The massive population movements resulting from events in North Africa over the past eighteen months have brought to the fore an important humanitarian issue: *when destination countries of international migrants undergo crises*, these migrants may find themselves caught up in difficult situations, often with little or no means to escape and ensure their own safety. Migrants may be forced to cross borders into neighbouring countries to evade life-threatening circumstances. As a result, repercussions may be felt throughout entire regions, particularly in border areas and neighbouring States. Home countries may also face the consequences of such situations as they experience sudden and large scale returns, or as families and communities have to cope with the loss of remittance income upon which they depended.<sup>1</sup>

This seminar consists of *two sessions*:

- Protecting Migrants in Crisis Situations;
- Addressing Long-Term Consequences.

It is part of the *International Dialogue on Migration (IDM)*, which is IOM's principal forum for migration policy dialogue. For 2012, the IOM membership selected "Managing Migration in Crisis Situations" as the overarching theme. It aims to enhance synergies between humanitarian and migration perspectives in the search for appropriate responses to migration crises. This seminar builds on work previously undertaken by way of two workshops on related topics in Geneva, in April and September 2012.

*The Chatham House Rule will apply.*<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> More information can be found in the background paper.

<sup>2</sup> Please note that a summary report will be electronically published.

8:30 – 9:00	<b>REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST</b>
9:00 – 9:30	<b>OPENING</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• H.E. Mr. Christian Strohal, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations Office and specialized institutions in Geneva, Chair of the IOM Council</li> <li>• Mr. William Lacy Swing, Director General, IOM</li> </ul>	
9:30 – 11:00	<b>SESSION 1: PROTECTING MIGRANTS IN CRISIS SITUATIONS</b>
<p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Youssef Mahmoud, Senior Adviser, IPI</li> </ul> <p>Introduction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Mohammed Abdiker, Director, Department of Operations and Emergencies, IOM</li> </ul> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• H.E. Mr. Libran N. Cabactulan, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Philippines to the UN</li> <li>• Ms. Catherine A. Wiesner, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration, U.S. Department of State</li> <li>• Mr. John Ging, Director of the Coordination Response Division, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance (OCHA)</li> </ul> <p>Aspects to be considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The initial challenges faced by international migrants and their families in home countries, when their host country undergoes a humanitarian crisis;</li> <li>• The challenges for national authorities in providing a response to the movement of international migrants during the immediate emergency phase;</li> <li>• Ways in which migration management and assistance can effectively be incorporated in humanitarian response frameworks and examples of good practice;</li> <li>• The role of the international community, affected regions and concerned governments in responding to the situation of international migrants during crises.</li> </ul>	
11:00 – 11:30	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>
11:30 – 13:00	<b>SESSION 2: ADDRESSING LONG-TERM CONSEQUENCES (CASE-STUDY: SAHEL REGION)</b>
<p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. John Hirsch, Senior Adviser, IPI</li> </ul> <p>Introduction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Mohammed Abdiker, Director, Department of Operations and Emergencies, IOM</li> </ul> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• H.E. Mr. Ahmad Allam-mi, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Chad to the UN</li> <li>• Professor Susan Martin, Herzberg Professor of International Migration and Director of the Institute for the Study of International Migration, Georgetown University</li> <li>• Mr. Sam Ibok, Acting Director, Africa I Division, UN Department of Political Affairs</li> </ul> <p>Aspects to be considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The long-term challenges faced by international migrants upon their return, when their host country undergoes a crisis;</li> <li>• The long-term consequences for host countries when a crisis has caused a large outflow of migrant workers;</li> <li>• Both the challenges and opportunities for governments of home countries when confronted with large numbers of returning migrant workers;</li> <li>• Ways in which the challenges regarding international migrants in crisis situations impact on migration, humanitarian, development and security perspectives, and how these perspectives can in turn effectively address those challenges;</li> <li>• The role of the international community, affected regions and concerned governments in responding to the situation of international migrants after crises.</li> </ul>	