



# The Almaty Process

## on Refugee Protection and International Migration

**Fifth Global Meeting of Chairs and Secretariats of Regional Consultative Processes on Migration (RCPs)**

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# Introducing the Almaty Process



The **Almaty Process** on International Migration and Refugee Protection is a **Regional Consultative Process, state-driven** and **inter-Governmental**. It aims to address the multiple challenges resulting from complex migration dynamics and mixed migratory movements in Central Asia and the broader region in a cooperative and coordinated manner through promoting sustained dialogue and exchange of information on migration issues and on refugee protection challenges.

# Key facts of the Almaty Process

- Initiated in 2011 by the Government of Kazakhstan, IOM and UNHCR.
- In March 2011 the Almaty Declaration was adopted.
- **Founding States:** Republic of Kazakhstan, The Kyrgyz Republic, Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan
- The Almaty Process was launched as a Regional Consultative Process (RCP) on **5 June 2013**.
- **Member States:** Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Republic of Azerbaijan, Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Republic of Tajikistan, Republic of Turkey and Turkmenistan.
- **Observers:** Islamic Republic of Iran and Islamic Republic of Pakistan.
- **Support Unit (SU):** IOM and UNHCR.



**Member States**

**Observers**



## Key Areas of Importance:

- ✓ Regular dialogue among State representatives, international organizations and regional organizations have fostered trust and confidence
- ✓ Achieved harmonization and coordination of responses on mixed movements through capacity building
- ✓ Central Asian States are working together in facilitating regular migration which serve the interests of both countries of origin and destination, and contribute to overall socioeconomic development in the broader region
- ✓ Participating States are identifying areas where more targeted support is needed allowing for better coordination of activities .
- ✓ Cooperation among and between relevant authorities at national and regional level through exchange of information and good practices
- ✓ Legislative and institutional reforms leading to closer cooperation among the countries of the regions as well as inter-agency coordination
- ✓ Access to efficient tools and mechanisms (both operational and legislative) for: managing borders and ensuring security; planning for emergency preparedness; collecting, analyzing and sharing data; establishing effective identification and profiling; preventing irregular migration; enhancing legal migration channels; and protecting migrants' rights including the most vulnerable in accordance with international best practices.

# Almaty Process Key Events

- 15 - 16 March 2011 – First Regional Ministerial Conference on Refugee Protection and International Migration (Almaty, Kazakhstan)

## ✓ **Almaty Declaration**

- 7 September 2012 – National Coordinators' Meeting (Almaty, Kazakhstan)

Regional Cooperation Framework - Regional Action Plan

- 5 June 2013 - Ministerial Conference on Refugee Protection and International Migration: The Almaty Process (Almaty, Kazakhstan)

## ✓ **Operating Modalities & Communiqué**

- 21 November 2014 – First Senior Officials Meeting on “Mixed Migration Movements from Afghanistan Post-2014 ”(Almaty, Kazakhstan)
- 22 September 2015 – Second Senior Officials Meeting on “Labour Migration Opportunities and Challenges in Central Asia, Addressing Solutions for Migrants and Refugees ”(Astana, Kazakhstan)



1<sup>st</sup> Senior Officials Meeting – Almaty, Kazakhstan on 21 November, 2014



2<sup>nd</sup> Senior Officials Meeting, Astana, Kazakhstan on 22 September, 2015



# IOM Regional Activities in Support to the Almaty Process

- ✓ 30 March - 1 April 2015 - Regional Training on “Migration Management and Capacity Building on Irregular Migration” (Almaty, Kazakhstan), organized by IOM in cooperation with the Government of Kazakhstan
- ✓ 17 - 18 June 2015 - Regional Forum on International Cooperation in the area of Migration and Emergency Preparedness (Ashgabat, Turkmenistan), organized by IOM in cooperation with the Government of Turkmenistan
- ✓ 14 – 15 September 2015 - Regional Training on Disaster Risk Reduction, Emergency Response and IOM’s Migration Crisis Operational Framework (Almaty, Kazakhstan), organized by IOM in cooperation with the Government of Kazakhstan

The regional activities were organized within the framework of the project “Addressing Mixed Migration Flows through Capacity Building in Central Asia”, funded by the US Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration, Government of the United States (PRM USA)



Regional Training on “Migration Management and Capacity Building on Irregular Migration – Almaty Kazakhstan, 30 March – 1 April 2015



Regional Forum on International Cooperation in the area of Migration and Emergency Preparedness - Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, 17-18 June, 2015

# Role of the Chair of the Almaty Process – Republic of Kazakhstan

- ✓ Successfully organized the first **Regional Ministerial Conference** in 2011; the **National Coordinators' Meeting** in 2012; the **Ministerial Conference on Refugee Protection and International Migration** in 2013; and the **Senior Officials Meetings (SOM)** in 2014 and 2015 with high level participation from the Central Asian and neighboring States, as well as other stakeholders.
- ✓ Played a key role in translating the recommendations of the Almaty Declaration into action through national and regional activities
- ✓ Actively promote dialogue and cooperation among Almaty Process member states, observers and guest states throughout meetings and regular consultations.



**For further information about the Almaty Process please visit:**

<http://www.iom.int/almaty-process>

*Thank you for your attention!*