# INTERNATIONAL DIALOGUE ON MIGRATION
## INTERSESSIONAL WORKSHOP ON
### MANAGING RETURN MIGRATION
21 - 22 April 2008

**AGENDA**

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<th>21 April 2008</th>
<th>DAY I</th>
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<td>09:00 – 10:00</td>
<td><strong>Registration</strong></td>
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| 10:00 – 10:15 | **WELCOME REMARKS**  
- Jill Helke, Executive Officer, IOM |
| 10:15 – 10:45 | **SETTING THE SCENE: UNDERSTANDING RETURN MIGRATION**  
Perspectives on return as well as its definition differ from country to country, often depending on historical migratory patterns and the specific priorities, requirements and legislation of each. While, on the one hand, return is seen as a means to deter irregular migration, it is also an integral part of the regular migration process, as in the case of temporary and circular labour migration schemes. Return can be permanent or temporary, actual or virtual, voluntary or non-voluntary, spontaneous or assisted. Relevant international legal standards and possible modalities for safe, dignified and orderly return, as well as related social and economic implications, are some of the key issues that policy makers endeavour to address in designing comprehensive and effective migration policies. This “setting the scene” session aims to provide an overview of current concepts of and the state of thinking on return migration, both from a policy and programmatic perspective.  
- Michele Klein Solomon, Director, Migration Policy, Research and Communications, IOM |
| 10:45 – 13:00 | **Session I: Return Migration in the Framework of Comprehensive Migration Management**  
Return migration is rarely approached in a holistic manner or analysed in the broader context of migration management. A more comprehensive understanding of return has the potential to help reconcile and balance the different interests of migration stakeholders and facilitate cooperative migration management approaches. This session will highlight the key issues, relevant international legal standards and policy considerations that would form part of comprehensive return migration strategies. The discussion will consider return as part of the migration life |
cycle and process and provide insights into the interaction between the return and reintegration stage and other key stages such as entry, transit, stay and integration. The session will also address the relationship between migration and related policy domains such as development, trade, human rights and health.

**Moderator: Philippe Boncour**, Head, International Dialogue on Migration Division, IOM

**Speakers:**

- **Rob Visser**, Director General, Legislation, International Affairs and Immigration, Ministry of Justice, The Netherlands
- **Arturo Cabrera**, Under Secretary for International Migration Policy, National Secretariat for Migrants, Ecuador
- **Anna Semou Faye**, Director of Air and Border Control Police, Senegal

The following questions are proposed to guide the discussion:

- In what way and to what extent can the different migration stages such as entry, stay and integration impact on return and reintegration, and vice versa? How do policies (both in countries of origin and destination) address these interactions?
- What is the relationship of return migration to and its impact on related policy domains? Why is it important to take into account the linkages with trade, health, development and human rights issues when devising return policies?
- What are the key international legal instruments that provide the framework for national policies on return and how can policies consistent with these standards best be realized in practice?
- Who are the main stakeholders at the national and international levels involved in return migration management? How do they interact and how can they interact most effectively?
- Why are there barriers to successful incorporation of return migration into migration policy frameworks and practice?

**General Discussion**

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<td>13:00 – 14:00</td>
<td>Afternoon Break</td>
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<td>14:00 – 15:00</td>
<td><strong>Side-event: “Strengthening Reception Capacity for Boat Arrivals: Cases of Lampedusa/Sicily”</strong></td>
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At the request of and in collaboration with the Government of Italy, IOM, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Italian Red Cross (CRI) have worked together to support Italy in responding to the arrivals of large numbers of irregular migrants to the island of Lampedusa and other locations in Sicily. Among other activities, these agencies assist in providing information and counselling to the migrants and conducting pre-screening with respect to various...
categories of migrants (economic migrants, asylum seekers, victims of trafficking, unaccompanied minors, etc.) in order to identify persons in need of special assistance and to ensure they are referred for appropriate procedures or structures which address their specific needs. Drawing on this experience, representatives of the Government of Italy, the Italian Red Cross, UNHCR and IOM will highlight the merits and challenges of collaborative efforts to address the complex migration management issues which arise in Lampedusa/Sicily and which may be relevant for other boat arrival contexts.

**Moderator: Peter Schatzer**, Regional Representative for the Mediterranean, Chief of Mission for Italy and Malta, IOM

**Speakers:**

- **Adriano Benedetti**, Director General for Italians Abroad and Migration Policies, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Italy
- **Gebremedhin Ghebreigzabiher**, Head of the Central Migration Office, Italian Red Cross, Italy
- **Andreas Wissner**, Senior Legal Officer, Bureau for Europe, UNHCR Geneva
- **Simona Moscarelli**, Legal Expert, IOM Rome

**General Discussion**

**Session II: Contextualizing Return - Case Studies**

Return migration occurs under a variety of different circumstances and can take several diverse forms. Consequently, return migrants constitute a heterogeneous group, for example, return of migrants in post-conflict situations, return of unaccompanied minors and victims of trafficking, return at the end of temporary work or study abroad, return of migrants in an irregular situation, return to assist home country development and more, with diverse challenges posed and different policy approaches required. This session will explore different policy priorities as well as types and modalities of return migration and the characteristics and needs of various groups of returnees through an exchange of experiences among relevant stakeholders with different perspectives and priorities.

**Moderator: Fatih Ulusoy**, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations, Geneva

**Speakers:**

- **Marieke Kleiboer**, Director in the International Cooperation Branch, Department of Immigration and Citizenship, Australia
- **Françoise Tapsoba Sanou**, Secretary General, Ministry of Social Action and National Solidarity, Burkina Faso
• **João Fortuna Pessela**, Chief of Department, Institute for Support to Emigration and the Angolan Communities Abroad, Ministry of Exterior, Angola

• **Mónica Vargas López**, Deputy Director for Monitoring and Follow-up, General Direction for Child Protection, DIF (Family and Child Protection System), Mexico

• **Luca Riccardi**, Special Counsellor for International Migration, Minister of Interior, Italy

The following questions are proposed to guide the discussion:

- What are the different types and modalities of return?
- Which are the principal migrant groups concerned? What particular issues arise with respect to return of vulnerable migrants?
- What approaches have states taken to manage different types of return migration? What are the main gaps?
- Who are the principal stakeholders involved in the return of migrants, including vulnerable migrants? What is their role in contributing to the development and implementation of effective and tailored return and reintegration policies?

**General Discussion**

**End of Day One**

**22 April 2008  DAY II**

**10:00 – 13:00  Session III: Managing Return Migration when Entry or Stay is not Authorized**

*Migrants in an irregular situation, stranded migrants, asylum seekers whose claims have been rejected and unaccompanied minors, among others, continue to pose persistent policy and operational challenges for individual states and the international community. While sovereign states retain the right and authority to determine which non-nationals may enter and stay in their territories and under what conditions, subject to the limitations of relevant international standards, there are still many open questions on how return for these cases should be conducted and how best to render it safe, dignified and sustainable. All agree that human rights are central to this debate, yet involved stakeholders may have different perspectives on how best to ensure their protection. This session will provide an opportunity to explore and discuss the means by which the return of non-authorized migrants can be managed in a safe, orderly, dignified and sustainable manner, including accompanying measures relating to the well-being and reintegration of returnees. By presenting the views of different actors, the session aims at highlighting policies and dialogues that foster active cooperation among all stakeholders and make it possible to address their different needs and priorities.***

**Moderator: David Knight**, Head, Technical Cooperation Division, Migration Management Services Department, IOM
Speakers:

- **Ing Kantha Phavi**, Minister of Women’s Affairs, Cambodia
- **Laurence Hart**, Chief of Mission, IOM, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
  **Hussin Y.B. Maghadmi**, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations Office, Geneva
- **Klemens Kittelmann**, Counsellor, Federal Ministry of Interior, Germany
  **Michael Steppan**, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Germany, Geneva
- **John Bingham**, Head of Policy, International Catholic Migration Commission, Switzerland

The following questions are proposed to guide the discussion:

- How can governments facilitate the return and reintegration of migrants who were not authorized to enter and/or stay in the country of destination? What policies are most relevant to manage the return of migrants whose entry and/or stay is not authorized?
- What accompanying measures are needed to ensure that return is carried out in a safe, orderly, dignified and sustainable manner? Should return policies involve counselling and assistance to restart a new life at home?
- Which stakeholders are involved in devising return policies for unauthorized migrants? To what extent can partnerships among key actors assist in the return of unauthorized migrants?
- In addition to readmission agreements, how can countries of destination and origin cooperate in this regard?

General Discussion

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Session IV: Towards a Cooperative Approach to Return Migration</th>
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<td>13:00 – 15:00</td>
<td><strong>Afternoon Break</strong></td>
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<td>15:00 – 17:50</td>
<td><strong>Inter-state collaboration and multi-stakeholder partnerships, including civil society, are central to ensuring safe, orderly, dignified and sustainable return. Devising balanced policies requires taking into account the diverse perspectives of the principal stakeholders, including countries of destination, of transit and of origin, civil society, and migrants themselves. Therefore open dialogue and sharing of experiences and perspectives among the relevant actors is essential. This last session will seek to stimulate such a dialogue and to identify the roles and possible contributions of key stakeholders in return migration management. It will also highlight the need for partnership-building among them to make the development of effective return policies and practices possible. Such partnerships may include bilateral cooperation between governments, active engagement of local communities, diasporas, and civil society, especially NGOs. Finally, policies and practices that would contribute to enhanced cooperation and development of broad-based partnerships will be discussed.</strong></td>
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Moderator: Karim Ghezraoui, Head Groups in Focus Unit, Special Procedures Division, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

Speakers:

- Ángel Edmundo Orellana, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Honduras
- Urs von Arb, Head of the Repatriation Division, Federal Office for Migration, Switzerland
- Ben Svasti, TRAFCORD (Non-Governmental Organisation), Thailand
- Chrysantus Ache, Representative, UNHCR, Sudan / Mario Tavolaj, Chief of Mission, IOM, Sudan
- Denis Vène, Ambassador for Migration, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, France
- Martha Breeze, Deputy Director, Head of Voluntary Return Unit, ANAEM, Paris.

The following questions are proposed to guide the discussion:

- To what extent do and can origin, transit and destination countries cooperate in dealing with return migration? How can these inter-state partnerships as well as the involvement of other relevant stakeholders in this collaborative effort be strengthened?
- Who are the relevant non-governmental stakeholders in return migration management? What are their key roles in the management of return? How can cooperation among the non-governmental stakeholders, and that between them and governments, be enhanced?
- How do governments relate with transnational communities and nationals abroad and draw on them as a resource when formulating return policies? How can governments ensure that all relevant stakeholders are engaged in the development of return migration policies and their implementation?
- How can effective multi-stakeholder partnerships be built? What are the main obstacles that need to be addressed? How can mutual trust and the will to cooperate be fostered between governments and civil society in a partnership approach to return migration issues?

General Discussion

17:50 – 18:00

Wrap-up and Closing Remarks-

- Brunson McKinley, Director General, IOM
- Michele Klein Solomon, Director, Migration Policy, Research and Communications, IOM

End of Workshop