

## IN FOCUS

### What is the Prague Process (“Building Migration Partnerships”)

> **New political process promoting migration partnerships among the participating states:** European Union, Schengen Area, South Eastern and Eastern Europe, Central Asia and Turkey, started by the Ministerial Conference in Prague 2009.

### Senior Officials’ Meeting

The Senior Officials’ Meeting hosted by the Belgian Presidency of the Council of the European Union took place in Brussels on 15 December 2010. The meeting (SOM) gathered senior-level representatives of 40 countries, European Commission (DG Home, DG Aidco, DG Relex), Frontex, General Secretariat of the EU Council, ICMPD, IOM and UNHCR.

#### SOM Decisions

- Yes to **Ministerial Conference in Poland** (November 2011)
- Yes to **Action Plan** for BMP Joint Declaration implementation
- Yes to **Belarus** becoming participant of the Prague Process
- **Poland in the lead of the Prague Process**

Participants agreed on organisation of the **2<sup>nd</sup> Ministerial Conference of the Prague Process** during the incoming Polish EU Presidency in the second half of 2011, on joint elaboration of the BMP Action Plan to be endorsed at the Ministerial Conference, and on inclusion of Belarus to the group of the BMP participating states and endorsing parties of the BMP Joint Declaration. Participants agreed that discussion on the SOM support body will continue.



The Czech Republic officially handed over the leadership of the Prague Process to Poland, who accepted its new position as well as the leading role in elaborating the BMP Action Plan.

The BMP Work Plan for 2011 was jointly presented by Hungary and Poland, the two EU Presidencies in 2011.

#### Work Plan for 2011

Work Plan for 2011		
<b>15-16 March</b>	<i>Workshop on BMP Strategy</i>	<b>Kiev</b>
<b>30-31 May</b>	<i>Senior Officials’ Meeting</i>	<b>Budapest</b>
<b>September</b>	<i>Action Plan drafting meeting</i>	<b>Moscow/Warsaw</b>
<b>3 November</b>	<i>Action Plan drafting meeting</i>	<b>Poznan, Poland</b>
<b>4 November</b>	<i>Ministerial Conference</i>	<b>Poznan, Poland</b>

#### In this issue:

- Senior Officials’ Meeting
- 2011 Work Plan
- Mission to Russia

#### BMP knowledge base

- Extended Migration Profiles
- The interactive map

BMP team  
Contacts



### Work Plan for 2011

Participants of the Brussels meeting agreed with the methodology of preparations of the Action Plan, which was already applied in development of the BMP Joint Declaration before its endorsement in April 2009.

A set of drafting meetings and discussions on structure of the Action Plan and its wording will be taking place in the course of the year so that the document could be finalised for its endorsement at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Prague Process Ministerial Conference to be hosted by the Polish EU Presidency in Poznan in the second half of 2011.



## Mission to the Russian Federation

On 11-14 October 2010 the mission to Russia was organised. The BMP delegation led by the Czech Republic met with senior officials of the Federal Migration Service, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Federal Border Service in Moscow on 13 October 2010. The objective of the meeting was to discuss general future steps to be taken in the BMP framework and to exchange information for the further development of the Extended Migration Profile on Russia and the BMP interactive map of migration routes (BMP i-Map).

In an open atmosphere the participants, who from BMP side also included representatives of Hungary, Slovakia and ICMPD, agreed on the way forward for the cooperation. Russian, Czech, Hungarian and Polish experts used the



opportunity to share concrete information on migration realities in their countries, and shared the challenges they are confronted with at home, as well as good practices.

Meetings with academia, the Russian Academy of Sciences and international organisations took place as well.

## BMP knowledge base



The established knowledge base of BMP is represented by a set of **Extended Migration Profiles** based on the structure developed by the European Commission, and the BMP interactive online map – **BMP i-Map**.

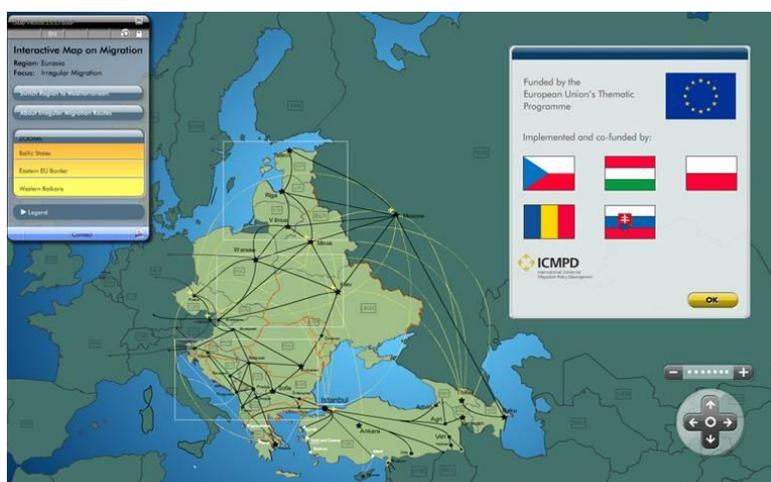
Final and endorsed by states Extended Migration Profiles on Azerbaijan, Czech Republic, Kazakhstan, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Tajikistan are available, while work on profiles on Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Hungary, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan is expected to be finished in the first half of 2011.

Continuously, all information available is being transformed into the BMP i-Map, which can be accessed at [www.imap-migration.org](http://www.imap-migration.org) and the data comparison tool as well as restricted access for registered users is being developed.

In parallel to this work, the update of the BMP Map on Illegal Migration Routes presented in June 2010 has been being updated with extended geographical coverage (Russia and Central Asian states) as well as with newly identified illegal migration routes.



The e-mail address [bmp@icmpd.org](mailto:bmp@icmpd.org) has been established for this purpose and should serve as the main communication channel for any matters related to the BMP i-Map.



### Extended Migration Profiles

<i>Final and endorsed</i>	<i>Under preparation (expected in 1<sup>st</sup> half 2011)</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Azerbaijan</li> <li>• Czech Republic</li> <li>• Kazakhstan</li> <li>• Poland</li> <li>• Romania</li> <li>• Slovakia</li> <li>• Tajikistan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Armenia (final stage)</li> <li>• Belarus</li> <li>• Georgia</li> <li>• Hungary (final stage)</li> <li>• Kyrgyzstan</li> <li>• Russia</li> <li>• Turkmenistan</li> <li>• Ukraine (final stage)</li> <li>• Uzbekistan</li> </ul>

## Contacts

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