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By  
Giuseppe Crocetti  
Chief of Mission  
IOM Sri Lanka & the Maldives

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**DEVELOPING JOINT FRAMEWORKS  
FOR COMPREHENSIVE MIGRATION MANAGEMENT**



## OUTLINE

- **Addressing Mixed Migration Flows**
- **Challenges and Way forward in the Asia-Pacific Region**
- **Challenges and Way forward in the Mediterranean Region**
- **IOM's role**



## **ADDRESSING MIXED MIGRATION FLOWS**

- **Migration dynamics have changed tremendously in recent years making mixed migration a key feature of current migratory movements.**
- **Contemporary migration is characterized by mixed migration flows, a fact that calls for a comprehensive and multi-dimensional response.**
- **This new reality demands that migration management regimes be equipped to ensure appropriate migrant protection and assistance, as well as effective collaboration among concerned actors at the inter-state, inter-regional, and inter-agency levels.**



## **IOM APPROACH TO MIXED MIGRATION FLOWS**

- **The IOM approach is set out in two IOM Council information documents:**
- **1) The 2008 Discussion Note on “Challenges of Irregular Migration: Addressing Mixed Migration Flows”, which focuses on conceptual issues relating to mixed migratory movements**
- **2) The 2009 paper on “Irregular Migration and Mixed Flows: IOM’s Approach”.**
- **Mixed migration flows need to be addressed at the pre-departure, transit, arrival, and post-arrival stages through short, medium and longer-term actions as determined by specific needs of the individual migrant.**



## **IOM APPROACH TO MIXED MIGRATION FLOWS**

- **Urgent responses should focus on migrants' immediate protection and assistance needs, while long-term responses should aim to impact domestic and regional policy change, assist the Governments to better address the challenges of mixed migration flows, thereby ensuring that durable solutions result.**
- **Inter-regional migratory systems are discernible in different parts of the world: the exchanges between North and South America, migratory corridors within Asia-Pacific and between South/ South East Asian countries and the GCC countries, movements between Europe and Africa.**



## **IOM APPROACH TO MIXED MIGRATION FLOWS**

- **IOM continues to be part of various mixed migration task forces /fora (e.g. the Inter Agency Standing Committee's Mixed Migration Task Forces - MMTFs - for Somalia (Somaliland, Puntland), Yemen, Kenya, Djibouti, MMTF for the North-Eastern African migratory route and North Africa (MMTF-NOAH), Regional Mixed Migration Secretariat (RMMS), and the Bali Process.**
- **IOM supports, and serves as a Technical Secretariat for, some 15 Regional Consultative Processes on all continents.**



## **CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION**

- **The Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime is a non-binding forum that brings together governments in the region to work cooperatively on addressing various issues, including irregular movements by sea. It comprises more than 45 members, including the UNHCR, IOM and UNODC.**
- **Since its inception in 2002, the Bali Process has effectively raised regional awareness of the consequences of people smuggling, trafficking in persons and related transnational crime, and developed and implemented strategies and practical cooperation in response.**

A sepia-toned photograph showing the silhouettes of several people on a boat, likely a fishing vessel, against a bright, hazy background. The figures are positioned along the deck, some appearing to be handling equipment or looking out towards the sea.

## CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

- **A Regional Roundtable on Irregular Movements by Sea in the Asia-Pacific Region was convened in March 2013 by Indonesia and UNHCR under the auspices of the Bali Process Regional Support Office (RSO)**
- **The purpose of the Roundtable was to promote “a common understanding of conceptual issues on irregular movements by sea with a view to inform the development of bilateral or multilateral arrangements among interested States.”**
- **The meeting enabled participants to discuss some of the key challenges facing States in the Asia-Pacific region and to identify specific areas where cooperation and coordination**



## CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

- **At the fifth Bali Process Ministerial Conference in April 2013, Ministers recommended that members give priority to building on the Regional Roundtable on Irregular Movements by sea and to exploring “practical ways in which affected States could strengthen cooperation in managing irregular maritime movements including through the development of a “protection sensitive regional approach”.**
- **This commitment was reiterated at the Special Conference on Irregular Movement of Persons convened by Indonesia in August 2013. The resulting Declaration called for a protection-sensitive regional approach while recognizing the importance of burden sharing and collective responsibility.**



## **CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION**

- **In taking forward the recommendations of the Regional Roundtable on Irregular Maritime Movements, the fifth Bali Ministerial Conference and the Jakarta Declaration, consensus was built on the need to develop guidelines and standards relating to identifying places of safety for disembarkation and to map post-disembarkation options in the medium and longer term.**
- **A meeting on “Mapping Disembarkation Options: Towards Strengthening Cooperation in Managing Irregular Movements by Sea” was held in Bangkok in 2014 under the auspices of the Bali Process Regional Support Office (RSO).**



## **CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION**

- **The ‘Disembarkation Meeting was co-chaired by UNHCR and Indonesia with participation of delegates from Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia, Sri Lanka and Thailand, including from UNHCR, IOM, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the RSO.**
- **Disembarkation was presented as a key issue raising specific challenges for States with respect to the identification of a place of safety and the screening of victims of trafficking and other persons with specific protection needs. The need to address root causes through development in source countries was stressed as well as for capacity building.**



## **CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION**

- **A call was made for countries of disembarkation not to be left alone but assisted through arrangements that promote burden sharing and improved information exchange and regional cooperation.**
- **It was noted that the significant increase in irregular maritime movements in the region:**
  - a) **poses considerable protection challenges to the safety and security of persons undertaking such movements; and**
  - b) **warrants comprehensive regional responses to assist States in effectively responding to irregular movements in a way that ensures that lives are saved and people are protected in accordance to their needs.**



## **CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION**

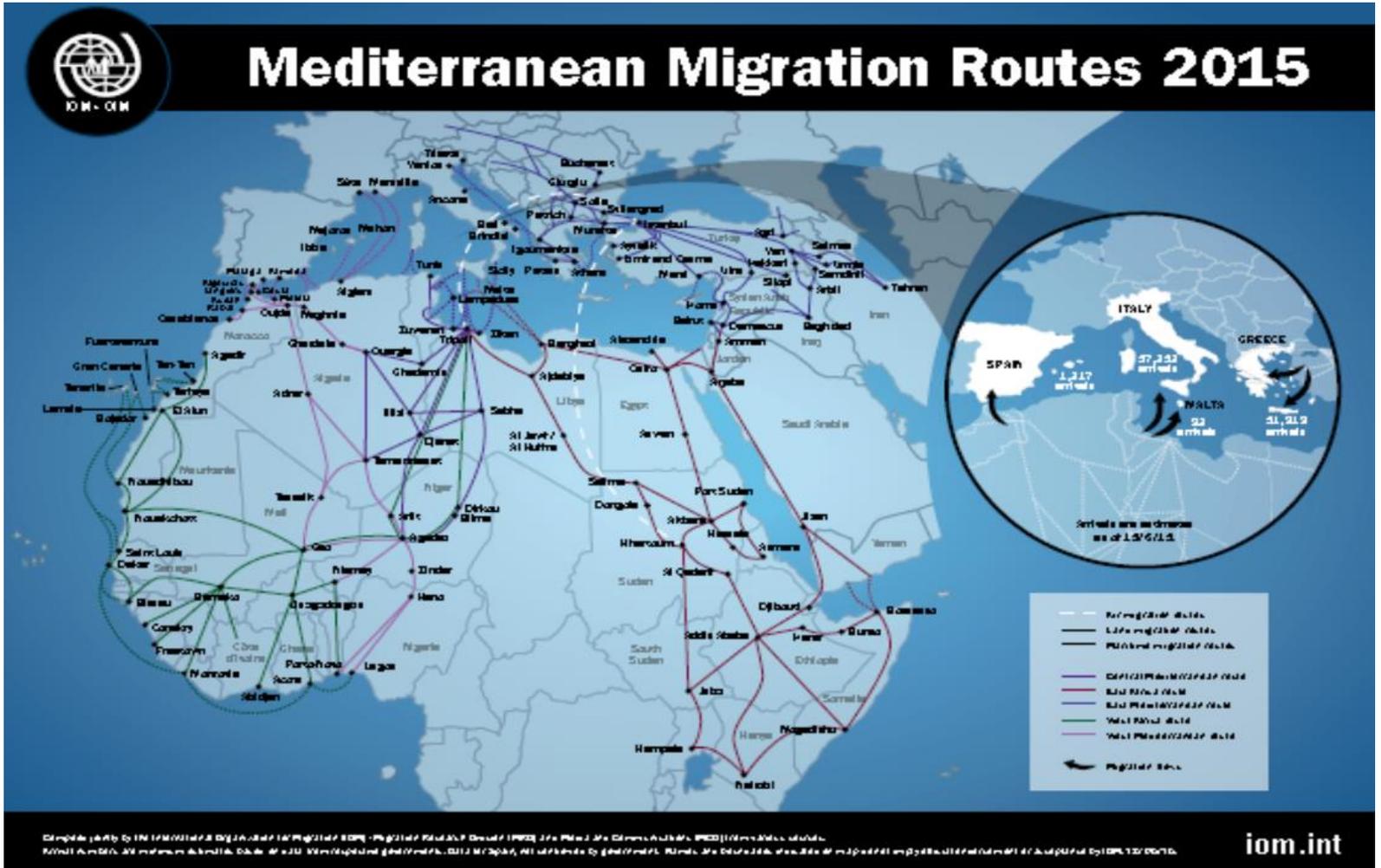
- **In January 2015 the RSO organized in Bangkok a Training Workshop on Comprehensive Approaches for Addressing Irregular Movements by Sea, hosted by UNHCR and IOM in Bangkok, which considered amongst others applicable legal standards governing maritime search and rescue.**
- **Participants from 11 Bali Process Member States including border officials, naval police, port authorities, and internal security officials, as well as legal/policy makers took part in the training.**
- **IOM and UNHCR will develop a regional standardized curriculum on Comprehensive Approaches for Addressing Irregular Movements by Sea. The curriculum will be used to support regular training for Bali Process Members**



## CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION

- **The number of people seeking to enter Europe and the human tragedies suffered along these routes increase daily. Between January and November 2015, over 800,000 migrants and refugees have arrived in Greece, Italy, Malta and Spain. The mobility patterns have also shifted, notably with a significant increase in flows along the Eastern Mediterranean and Western Balkan routes**
- **Since the beginning of the year, over 3,200 men, women and children have died attempting to cross the Mediterranean**
- **The nature and composition of the migration flows along these routes are mixed, with groups having different immediate needs and falling under different protection frameworks**

# CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION





## CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION

- The current situation shows no signs of abating
- The crisis in the Syrian Arab Republic is in its fifth year and the resources of neighboring Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey – who host the bulk of Syria's 4 million refugees – are stretched beyond capacity. Two-thirds of the refugees concentrated in these areas are considered to be living in poverty
- Further, 7 million Syrians are displaced internally
- While the vast majority of refugees remain within the region, and as conflicts persist and the pressures on the surrounding host countries mount, people will continue to seek their own solutions further afield.



## CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION

IOM has articulated its broad vision for those affected under 3 priorities:

- 1) Save lives: in the short term, rescue at sea needs to remain robust and well resourced. Since the reinforcement of rescue operations in April, the rate of fatalities has fallen significantly
- 2) Provide effective responses to the mass humanitarian flows reaching Europe.
- 3) A paradigm shift in the governance of migration: however pressing the current humanitarian crisis, a response that focuses solely on immediate humanitarian and security needs without addressing the broader picture will be neither effective nor sustainable in the longer term.



## CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION

- The need for a comprehensive approach to migration management in the Mediterranean was presented to the IOM Member States and released in June 2015: *Addressing Complex Migration Flows in the Mediterranean: IOM Response Plan*
- A long term vision to guide policy and practice was reiterated by the IOM DG at the Valletta Summit in November 2015 in 4 points:
  - 1) Ensuring that human rights are at the centre of policy concerns
  - 2) Attending to root causes to reduce the factors contributing to irregular and forced migration (long and sustained effort to enable choice between migration and stay-at-home options)



## **CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION**

**3) Creating conditions for migration to take place in a safe, orderly and legal manner (including migration integrated with economic and social planning and properly factored into development frameworks)**

**4) Combating all forms of irregular and exploitative migration (with renewed resolve on assistance to victims and on the other options for return to preserve the dignity of migrants and the integrity of migration systems)**



## **IOM's ROLE**

- **As part of its strategy on a comprehensive migration management system, IOM's focus has been on assisted voluntary return and sustainable reintegration programs, on initiatives that promote legal and safe migration as well as on dialogue and information sharing among source, transit and destination countries.**
- **IOM project and program interventions globally target populations that are mixed and will often be national, regional, cross-regional or global in character.**



## IOM's ROLE

**These actions will often be aimed, among others, at:**

- **(i) providing direct assistance to migrants in mixed migration flows,**
- **(ii) providing technical assistance to Governments and other institutions through legislation, policy development and capacity building;**
- **(iii) carrying out research, data collection and analysis;**
- **(iv) raising awareness; and/or**
- **(v) establishing effective partnerships and instituting dialogue to address the highly mixed nature of these flows.**



## CONTACTS

# Thank You

For more information, please visit our global website: [www.iom.int](http://www.iom.int) or IOM Sri Lanka's website: <http://srilanka.iom.int>