



ASYLUM AND MIGRATION POLICY EVENT 2017 In BELGIUM

5 December 2017

Residence Palace, 155 rue de la Loi, 1040 Brussels

Moderator: Koen Dewulf, Deputy Director, Myria

Programme:

8:30 - 9:00: Registration and coffee/tea/pastries

9:00 - 9:10: **Welcoming speech** (Alexandra Lainé, Coordinator of the Belgian Contact Point of the EMN)

9:10 - 9:30: **Keynote speech from Theo Francken, State Secretary for Asylum Policy and Migration**

Session I: RECEPTION & INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION

9:30 - 9:45: **Introduction - figures and trends, EMN outputs in the field of international protection**
(Peter Van Costenoble – Belgian Contact Point of the EMN)

9:45 - 10:20: **The impact of recent legislative changes on the international protection procedure**

- Dirk Van den Bulck, Commissioner General for Refugees and Stateless Persons
- Shana Kaninda, Head of Protection Unit for Belgium and Luxembourg, UNHCR

10:20 - 10:30: **Questions & Answers**

10:30 - 10:50: Coffee/Tea/Pastries

10:50 - 11:25: **National developments and changes in the reception of asylum seekers**

- Michael Kegels, Director Operational Services, Fedasil
- Fabienne Crauwels, Association of Flemish Cities and Municipalities (VVSG)

11:25 - 11:45: **EU developments and negotiations relating to the new phase of the CEAS – Belgian position** (Stijn De Decker, Head of International Relations Unit, Immigration Office, Belgium)

11:45 - 12:00: **Questions & Answers**

12:00 - 13:00: Lunch

Session II: LEGAL MIGRATION and INTEGRATION

13:00 - 13:15: Introduction - figures and trends, EMN outputs in the field of legal migration and integration (Elisa Van der Valk – Belgian Contact Point of the EMN)

13:15 - 13:50: The changes and impact of the cooperation agreement relating to the residence and work permits and other changes relating to the residence and employment of foreign workers.

- Jeroen Maes, Director, Economic Migration Department, Brussels Economy & Employment
- Jo Antoons, Attorney, Practice leader, Fragomen Benelux

13:50 - 14:00: Questions & Answers

14:00 - 14:20: The integration trajects in Belgium, with a focus on the programme in Brussels (Christelle Sermon – Director BAPA Brussel)

14:20 - 14:30: Questions & Answers

14:30 - 14:50: Coffee/Tea/Pastries

Session III: IRREGULAR MIGRATION and RETURN

14:50 - 15:05: Introduction - figures and trends, EMN Return Expert Group (REG) and outputs in the field of return (David Vogel – Belgian Contact Point of the EMN)

15:05 - 15:25: Smuggling in human beings and impact on transit migration (Stef Janssens, Specialist Officer, Trafficking and Smuggling Unit, Myria)

15:25 - 15:45: National developments in the field of voluntary return (Nils Baetens – Head of Voluntary Return Unit – Fedasil)

15:45 - 16:05: National developments in the field of forced return (Geert Verbauwhede – Head of Identification and Removal Unit – Immigration Office)

16:05 - 16:25: National developments in the field of reintegration (Anne Dussart – Head of Asylum and Migration Unit – Caritas International)

16:25 - 16:40: Questions & Answers

16:40 - 16:45: Closing words

