



## 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

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**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
- Ariane Michel, Federation PCSW, Union of Cities and Municipalities of Wallonia

**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

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**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: 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

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**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**

