

# Promoting best practice solutions across the OSCE region

**Presentation by**  
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## Outline of Presentation

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- **The OSCE approach**
- **Border Security and Management Concept / Future Transport Dialogue**
- **OSCE role and activities**
- **Development of an OSCE/UNECE Handbook of Best Practices at Borders**



## The OSCE Approach

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- **Regional security organization incl. West and Eastern Europe, Central Asia, South Caucasus and North America**
- **Comprehensive concept of security, including economic and environmental aspects**
- **Promoting dialogue on various security related aspects in order to build confidence and strengthen co-operation, act as a catalyst**



# OSCE Border Security and Management Concept

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- **Adopted in 2005 under Slovenian Chairmanship**
- **Provides a framework for the OSCE to assist its pS in enhancing BSM in all three OSCE dimensions: politico-military, economic and environmental and human**
- **Annex A lists possible OSCE Contributions**
- **Envisages a balance between security and facilitation facets of borders**



# OSCE Transport Dialogue

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- **Started in 2006 in the framework of the 14th OSCE EF under Belgian Chairmanship**
- **Focus on transport security and on development to enhance regional economic cooperation and stability**
- **Led to the adoption of MC Decision No. 11/06 on Future Transport Dialogue in the OSCE**



## OSCE Transport Dialogue (2)

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### MC Decision No. 11/06 Future Transport Dialogue in the OSCE

- **Recognizes that OSCE landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) face unique transit transportation challenges related to their lack of access to the open sea, their dependence on transit services (through neighbours) and difficulties related to market access**
- **Stresses the role of the OSCE in supporting the adoption and implementation of relevant international legal instruments, conventions, standards and norms**



## OSCE Transport Dialogue (3)

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### Decision No. 11/06 Future Transport Dialogue in the OSCE

- **Emphasizes the need for enhanced cooperation and exchanges of best practices among OSCE participating States**
- **Tasks the OSCE Secretariat to continue promoting high level dialogue on transit transportation issues across the region and particularly between LLDCs in Central Asia (i.e. Dushanbe Conference, October 2007)**



## OSCE Role and Activities

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- **Provide support to pS in addressing all threats and challenges related to border management: related to facilitation as well as security facets**
- **Supporting ongoing coordination mechanisms and the adoption and implementation of existing legal instruments: EATL, TEM/TER Master Plan, UNECE Harmonization Convention, WCO SAFE Framework etc.**
- **Conduct border assessment missions, develop capacity building programmes / promote dissemination of good practices**



# Handbook of Best Practices at Border Crossings (1)

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## The aim is:

- To support OSCE countries in their efforts to make their BCPs more efficient, taking into account trade and transport facilitation as well as security aspects
- To become a reference document for national policy makers and senior customs and border guard officials when drafting their border and transit transportation facilitation policies



## Handbook of Best Practices at Border Crossings (2)

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### More in specific, it should:

- **Support drafting of border management and transit policies**
- **Promote a balanced approach, paying due attention to facilitation and security aspects**
- **Highlight concrete and practical examples from across the OSCE region**
- **Foster further dialogue on these issues in the OSCE region**



# Handbook of Best Practices at Border Crossings (3)

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## Rationale:

- Main focus will be on 'policy processes' preceding 'best practices' at the border
- It will pay particular attention to EU-CIS as well as intra-CIS borders (i.e. in Eastern Europe, South Caucasus and Central Asia)



# Handbook of Best Practices at Border Crossings (4)

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## Envisaged structure:

- **Part I: Border Policies**
- **Part II: The need for an integrated approach**
- **Part III: Institutional and legal framework**
- **Part IV: Border Operations**
- **Part V: Border Infrastructure and resources**
- **Part VI: Performance measurement and Benchmarking**



# Handbook of Best Practices at Border Crossings (5)

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## Partnership:

- **The Handbook is a joint endeavor of the OSCE and the UNECE. Other organizations such as the WCO, the World Bank, the ILO, the IOM, the EC, EurAsEC, BSEC and others have also been engaged and asked to provide input**
- **Senior Consultants have been hired to draft substantial parts of the HB**



## Handbook of Best Practices at Border Crossings (6)

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### Timeframe:

- **Two “stakeholders meetings” involving the Customs/Border Guard and transport authorities in the region were held in October 2008 in Minsk and Bishkek**
- **Based on the input received, a decision was made on the overall structure and approach, a detailed Table of Contents has been agreed upon**
- **The Handbook is expected to be ready by Spring 2009, capacity-building follow-up is foreseen**



## Best practice policies

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- **The Handbook, and particularly the part on benchmarking and performance measurement could be brought to the attention of the Ministers and high-level policy makers at the 2009 May Forum in Leipzig**
- **Proposals, feed-back are welcome!**



# Thank you for your attention!

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