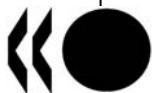


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Organisation de Coopération et de Développement Économiques
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

03-Jun-2010

English - Or. French

**DIRECTORATE FOR EMPLOYMENT, LABOUR AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
EMPLOYMENT, LABOUR AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

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**ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND EMPLOYMENT CREATION
OF IMMIGRANTS IN OECD COUNTRIES**

OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE AND PROGRAMME

**Conference organised by the OECD with the financial support of the Swedish Authorities,
the Turkish Authorities and the Dutch-Turkish Businessmen Association (HOTIAD)
OECD Conference Centre, Room CC1, 9 June 2010 - 10 June (morning)**

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English - Or. French

ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND EMPLOYMENT CREATION OF IMMIGRANTS IN OECD COUNTRIES

(9 June 2010 and morning of 10 June)

OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE AND PROGRAMME

Objectives of the conference

1. Immigrants make an important contribution to the economies and, particularly, to the labour markets of many OECD countries, both as employees and entrepreneurs. They contribute to create employment, sometimes for themselves as self-employed but also for others by creating and developing new businesses. A large part of the existing literature on this topic focuses on self-employed immigrants and puts much emphasis on ethnic businesses. Even if these aspects are important, they do not account for the full contribution of immigrants to employment creation. Other aspects, namely those related to immigrants' entrepreneurship, need to be further explored and analysed, both with a qualitative and – when appropriate data are available - quantitative approach. The principal objective of this conference is, on the one hand, to take stock of existing research on self-employment of immigrants and, on the other hand, to evaluate the role of immigrant entrepreneurs in small and medium-sized businesses and their contribution to employment growth.

2. The relative importance of immigrant entrepreneurship varies significantly between OECD countries and by immigrant groups. There are multiple reasons to explain these differences, including the selectivity of international migration, specificities in political and institutional frameworks of receiving countries, the role of immigrants' networks, duration of residence and degree of integration of immigrants. In some cases, the lack of job opportunities may be one of the main factors explaining self-employment of immigrants when they are marginalised in the labour market. In any case, personal background is also a key driver of entrepreneurship. A better understanding of these factors is necessary to analyse the potential of immigrant entrepreneurship for employment creation in OECD countries, both in general and in the context of the unfolding economic crisis and the forthcoming recovery phase.

3. One additional objective of the conference will be to examine the specific difficulties encountered by immigrant entrepreneurs in starting-up and developing their businesses, as well as to learn more about initiatives, both at national and local levels, to support immigrant entrepreneurship in OECD countries.

4. Beyond quantitative aspects, immigrants may play an important role in maintaining and developing economic activities in specific urban and rural areas which undergo economic or demographic decline. Immigrant entrepreneurs can also contribute to revitalise the economy of host countries by developing innovative forms of businesses and building on their transnational linkages.

5. The conference will be co-organised by the OECD with the financial support of the Swedish Authorities, the Turkish Authorities and the Dutch-Turkish Businessmen Association (HOTIAD). It will take place on 9 June and the morning of 10 June 2010, back-to-back with the meeting of the Working Party on Migration (10 June in the afternoon and 11 June 2010). The venue will be the OECD Conference Centre, Paris. The conference will include five sessions. Participants in the conference will comprise delegates from OECD member countries (Working Party on Migration-ELSA; Centre for

Entrepreneurship, SMEs and Local Development), invited experts, observers from International and Intergovernmental Organisations (ILO, Council of Europe, United Nation Population Division, IOM), as well as representatives of BIAC and TUAC. Representatives of the banking sector, as well as from local authorities and migrant associations, are also expected to be invited.

Conference Programme

6. The conference will include an introduction followed by five sessions. The introductory session will provide an overview of the relative importance and main characteristics of immigrants' entrepreneurship in OECD countries, compared with the native-born (gender, age and educational attainment of entrepreneurs, sectors, size and survival rate of the enterprise etc.). An overview of immigrants' entrepreneurship will be presented, complemented by an analysis of its recent changes and by an evaluation of the contribution of immigrant entrepreneurs to employment creation. This introductory session will also examine the role of migration policies implemented by OECD countries in order to attract and retain foreign investors and immigrant entrepreneurs who intend to establish themselves in person and set up firms in the country of arrival.

7. The first session will aim at presenting national experiences from six OECD countries (Canada, France, Portugal, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States). These case studies will provide a basis for the analysis of the determinants of migrant entrepreneurship, inflows of foreign investors and employment creation in OECD countries.

8. The second session will focus on business creation by immigrant women and people with migrant background.

9. The third session will attempt to shed new light on the contribution that foreign-born entrepreneurs can make to the expansion of the host country's foreign trade. It will also try to identify some emerging innovative forms of migrants' entrepreneurship, notably in information and communication technology (ICT), business and consumer services.

10. The fourth session will focus on the role of immigrants in creating and maintaining business activities at a local level including in remote rural areas and declining urban areas. In some countries, population ageing may also provide opportunities for immigrants to sustain economic activities which were carried out by retiring entrepreneurs. This process will also be discussed in this session.

11. The final session will examine the ways to improve business creation and expansion for immigrants in OECD countries. Access to credit is generally cited as one of the main obstacles to business start-up and growth. This session will consist of two round-tables, with representatives of employers, banks as well as policy makers. They will share their experiences and discuss policy options to foster the development of immigrant entrepreneurship and the contribution of immigrants to employment creation.

**ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND EMPLOYMENT CREATION
OF IMMIGRANTS IN OECD COUNTRIES**

**OECD Conference Centre, Paris
9 juin – 10 June (morning) 2010**

PROGRAMME

Wednesday 9 June 2010

08.30-09.00 Registration of participants

OPENING SESSION

09.00-09.30 Welcome speeches

Ewa Björling (Minister for Trade, Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs)

Faruk Çelik (Turkish State Minister responsible for relations with Turks living abroad)

John P. Martin (Director for Employment, Labour and Social Affairs, OECD)

INTRODUCTION. MIGRANT ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN OECD COUNTRIES: MAGNITUDE, DETERMINANTS AND CONTRIBUTION TO EMPLOYMENT

Chair: John P. Martin (Director for Employment, Labour and Social Affairs, OECD)

09.30-09.45 The relative importance of migrants' entrepreneurship in OECD countries, their motivations to become entrepreneurs and their contribution to employment
Josep Mestres (Economist, OECD) DELSA/ELSA/MI(2010)1

09.45-10.00 Migration policies implemented in OECD countries to manage migration of investors and immigrant entrepreneurs
Maria Vincenza Desiderio (Policy Analyst, OECD) DELSA/ELSA/MI(2010)2

10.00-10.30 General debate

10.30-11.00 Coffee break

SESSION 1. NATIONAL EXPERIENCES FROM SELECTED OECD COUNTRIES

Chair: Elizabeth Ruddick (Director General, Research and Evaluation Branch, Citizenship and Immigration Canada, Chair of the OECD Working Party on Migration)

11.00-11.30	Canada Peter S. Li (Professor, University of Saskatchewan)	DELSA/ELSA/MI(2010)3
	Portugal Catarina Reis Oliveira (Co-ordinator ACIDI, Lisbon)	DELSA/ELSA/MI(2010)4
	Switzerland Etienne Piguet (University of Neuchâtel)	DELSA/ELSA/MI(2010)5
11.30-11.45	General debate	
11.45-12.15	United Kingdom Stephen Drinkwater (Research Fellow, Wales Institute of Social and Economic Research, Swansea University)	DELSA/ELSA/MI(2010)6
	United States Magnus Lofstrom (Research Fellow, Public Policy Institute of California)	DELSA/ELSA/MI(2010)7
	France Yves Breem (Ministry of Immigration, Integration, National Identity and Mutually Supportive Development) Sandrine Plana (Responsible for Research and Statistics, French Agency for Enterprises Creation)	DELSA/ELSA/MI(2010)8 DELSA/ELSA/MI(2010)9
12.15-12.30	General debate	
12.30-14.30	Lunch Break	

SESSION 2. BUSINESS CREATION BY MIGRANT WOMEN AND PEOPLE WITH A MIGRANT BACKGROUND

Chair: Jan Rath (Director of the Institute for Migration and Ethnic Studies, IMES, University of Amsterdam)

14.30-15.30	Migrant female entrepreneurship in OECD countries Tuzin Baycan Levent (Associate Professor, Technical University of Istanbul)	DELSA/ELSA/MI(2010)10
	Business creation by second generations Robert Fairlie (Professor, University of California, Santa Cruz)	DELSA/ELSA/MI(2010)11
	Interventions of Serkan Senol (Managing Director, Goss Marble, Bolton, United Kingdom) and Ömer Süsli (President of the Turkish Association of Businessmen, Bucharest)	

15.30-15.45 General Debate

15.45-16.15 Coffee break

SESSION 3. THE CONTRIBUTION OF MIGRANT ENTREPRENEURS IN ENHANCING INNOVATION AND FOREIGN TRADE

Chair: Daniela Bobeva (Director of International Relations, Bulgarian National Bank)

16.15-16.45 The contribution of migrant entrepreneurs in enhancing foreign trade
Andreas Hatzigeorgiou (Economist and Special Advisor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sweden) DELSA/ELSA/MI(2010)12

Immigrants business in the ICT sector
Jennifer Hunt (Professor, McGill University Canada) DELSA/ELSA/MI(2010)13

16.45-17.00 General debate

SESSION 4. THE ROLE OF IMMIGRANTS IN CREATING AND MAINTAINING BUSINESSES AT A LOCAL LEVEL, INCLUDING REVITALIZING DECLINING AREAS/SECTORS

Chair: Etienne Piguet (University of Neuchâtel)

17.00-17.30 Robert Kloosterman (Professor, University of Amsterdam)
Paula Maclachlan (The Interreg People, Bristol) DELSA/ELSA/MI(2010)14

17.30-18.00 General debate

18.30-20:30 Cocktail Dînatoire (George Marshall Room)
Hosted by Ambassador Ahmet Erozan, Head of the Turkish Delegation to the OECD

Thursday 10 June 2010

SESSION 5. IMPROVING ACCESS TO CREDIT AND PROMOTING IMMIGRANTS' BUSINESSES DEVELOPMENT AND EMPLOYMENT CREATION

09.00-10.15 **Round Table: Improving access to credit and increasing the survival rate of immigrants' businesses**

Chair: Andreas Hatzigeorgiou (Economist and Special Advisor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sweden)

Daniela Bobeva (Director of International Relations, Bulgarian National Bank) DELSA/ELSA/MI(2010)15

Nihat Sorgeç (Vice-Chair of Turkish-German Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Berlin, and Director of BWK - Bildungswerk in Kreuzberg GMBH, Berlin)
Angelo Peppeti (Business Department, Italian Banking Association, ABI)

10.15-10.45 ***Coffee Break***

10.45-12.30 **Round Table: Promoting immigrants' businesses development and employment creation**

Chair: Michel Auboin (Director of Reception, Integration and Citizenship, French Ministry of Immigration, Integration National Identity and Mutually Supportive Development)

Renate Hornung-Draus (Managing Director, Confederation of German Employers, - BDA)
Ruth Derrer Balladore (Representative of Swiss Employers, Berne)
Elizabeth Ruddick (Director General, Citizenship and Immigration Canada, Chair of the OECD Working Party on Migration)

CLOSING SESSION

12.30-13.00 **Conclusions of the rapporteur and way forward for policies**

John Salt (University College London, SOPEMI Correspondent for the United Kingdom)

John P. Martin (Director for Employment, Labour and Social Affairs, OECD)