Minutes of the first partner meeting of TCNs held in Malta on the 15th and 17th October 2009

Members present – 15th October 2009

Julie Van Erst (Belgium) Georgina Cristou (Cyprus) Giuseppe Pilocane (Italy) Mary Grazia Rizzo (Italy) Jacqueline Azzopardi (Malta) Trevor Calafato (Malta) Frances Camilleri-Cassar (Malta) Saviour Formosa (Malta) Sandra Scicluna (Malta)

Members Present – 17th October 2009

Manuella Borghs (Belgium) Julie Van Erst (Belgium) Davide Pero (England) Elizabetta Zontini (England) Giuseppe Pilocane (Italy) Mary Grazia Rizzo (Italy) Trevor Calafato (Malta) Frances Camilleri-Cassar (Malta) Saviour Formosa (Malta) Sandra Scicluna (Malta)

- 1. The group was welcomed by Dr Jacqueline Azzopardi, Director of Criminology, University of Malta.
- 2. Brief overview of the project was given
- 3. Each country gave a brief presentation about their respective organizations.

4. The partners agreed to define third country nationals as people originating outside the European Union. The research / project question is: To what extent do admission policies reinforce the integration of TCNs (documented migrants)?

5. The group discussed the following:

- The project will ask whether admission policies in partner countries are really supporting the integration of TCNs or reinforcing their disadvantaged position in the labour market and society. Particular attention will be given to women. The project seeks to influence policy makers in establishing a legal framework and a conscious policy that gets TCNs involved and contributes to society. The focus of the research is the link between admission policies and integration process was discussed.
- The project will attempt to promote admission policies that favour the integration of third country nationals through the analysis and sharing with European partners policies and best practices.

- Beneficiaries (including TCNs and relevant stake holders) of the Project are:
 - a. Malta 50
 - b. Italy 100
 - c. UK 100
 - d. Cyprus 50
 - e. Belgium 100
- The initial work plan consists of compiling a comparative study of admission policies in each respective country. Interviews and/or focus groups will be conducted with professionals and service-providers dealing with third country nationals as well as with representatives of third country nationals.
- This study will present a picture of admission policies and levels of integration.

The tasks of key researchers involved in the project include:

1. a literature review of migration on a European level

2. a literature review of migration policies pertaining to each respective partner country that focus largely on admission regulations, accommodation policies and integration strategies for third country nationals

3. data collection through focus groups and meetings with relevant stakeholders – government and NGOs

4. apart from the comparative research and report writing, the lead partner will be organising 2 conferences - one in Malta – currently underway, and another in Belgium. It is hoped that the conference in Belgium will involved relevant authorities working in each partner country especially policy makers and the State. It has been proposed that the final meeting will be held in the European Parliament in order to attract as many euro-parlamentarians as possible.

5.Evaluation of work-in-progress will be undertaken by the lead partner – Malta -through the use of questionnaires and bench mark initiatives

6. The deliverables agreed upon were the following:

- Website (Italy) English will be the medium of commuciation, however, the introduction will be in the language of all partner countries.
- Second partner meeting Malta will prepare a draft agenda for the March meeting in Marsala.
- Flyer 1 (UK) A flyer, in English, with details about the project To be ready by January 2010
- Flyer 2 (Cyprus) A flyer, in English, about rights of Third Country Nationals– March 2010
- Final product (Malta) findings report
- Final CD (Malta)

- Poster (Belgium) to be ready by December 2009
- The Toledo Platform (Belgium) this is a communications medium for the project partners enabled by the end of October 2009
- Logo (Italy and Malta) November 2009

7. The budget for the project was presented by the lead partner, and it was explained that we still await confirmation of funds from the National Agency in Malta.

8. Malta will prepare the time sheets as returns for remuneration for use by the project partners.

9. The partners are asked to retain original receipts and boarding passes for reimbursement.

10. The layout of the research is planned as follows:

- Aims and Objectives (only Malta)
- History of Migration in each individual country (1 page)
- Literature review on Migration Policies
- Methodology of the study
- Findings:
 - The contemporary situation Admission and integration policies (last 5 years)
 - Data from focus groups with TCN and relavant stakeholders
- Best practices
- Conclusion

11. The partner countries will have prepared the History of Migration (context and info about respective country - 1 page) and the Contemporary Situation on admission and integration policies over the last 5 years, by March 2010.

12. The final report of each partner country will be finalised by June 2010.

13. Agenda for the March meeting in Marsala will include:

- \circ the website
- focus groups
- 14. Proposed dates for the second partners' meeting in Marsala:
 - o 3-7 March
 - o 17-21 March
 - o 24-28 March