

WORKING ARRANGEMENT
establishing operational cooperation

between

**the European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at
the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union
(Frontex)**

and the State Border Service of the Republic of Azerbaijan

The European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union (hereinafter Frontex) and the State Border Service of the Republic of Azerbaijan (hereinafter SBS),

Wishing to conduct equitable and mutual cooperation in the field of border management and to promote the development of operational cooperation in accordance with agreed basic principles,

Underlining the importance of this cooperation in establishing joint efforts in the field of border security,

Acknowledging the importance of border control, including checks, surveillance and risk analysis in the prevention of threats and challenges to the border security,

Have agreed to take forward this operational cooperation in accordance with the basic principles, objectives and contents as set out below:

1. BASIC PRINCIPLES

(i) Frontex and the SBS intend to develop this cooperation which is based on the principles of continuous partnership.

(ii) In the implementation of the intended cooperation, Frontex and the SBS afford full respect for human rights, related international laws and principles.

2. OBJECTIVES

(i) To counter illegal/irregular migration and related cross-border crime by means of border management.

(ii) To strengthen border security at relevant borders between the European Union and Azerbaijan.

(iii) To develop good relations and mutual trust between border guard authorities of the EU Member States and Azerbaijan.

(iv) To facilitate measures taken by Frontex and the SBS.

3. CONTENTS

(i) Development of activities in the field of information exchange and risk analyses among Frontex, the competent authorities of EU Member States and those of Azerbaijan.

(ii) In respect of the possible exchange of classified information or intelligence, a separate security agreement or protocol on the requirements and procedures to be adopted by Frontex and the competent authorities of Azerbaijan shall be concluded where necessary.

(iii) Development of activities in the field of training as well as in the field of research and development related to border management.

(iv) Elaboration and coordination of joint operational measures and pilot projects for maintaining and improving border control between the European Union and Azerbaijan.

(v) Active discussion on development at technical level of border procedures, aiming at more efficient border control, best practices, improvement of technical equipment and technological upgrading at the borders.

(vi) Improvement of the operational interoperability between the border guard organisations of the EU Member States and Azerbaijan.

4. ORGANISATION

(i) A structured dialogue on the operational cooperation in border-related matters will be maintained between the Executive Director of Frontex and the Chief of the SBS.

(ii) Daily contacts will be maintained via agreed nominated Points of Contact. When necessary, expert working groups may be established with a view to consider specific issues and elaborate corresponding common recommendations.

5. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

The participation of the competent authorities of Azerbaijan in Frontex coordinated activities may be financed by Frontex on a case-by case basis under the general terms and conditions applied by Frontex. More specific detailed terms and conditions may be agreed in the future in the form of a separate financing framework agreement.

6. LEGAL STATUS

The present working arrangement shall not be considered as an international treaty. Practical implementation of its contents shall not be regarded as fulfilment of international obligations by the European Union and its institutions and Azerbaijan.

7. COMING INTO EFFECT, AMENDMENTS AND TERMINATION

- (i) The present Working Arrangement shall come into effect on the day following its signature.
- (ii) Frontex and the SBS may amend the present Working Arrangement based on their mutual consent.
- (iii) The present Working Arrangement shall continue to be in effect unless terminated upon written notification of 90 days' minimum notice either by Frontex or by the SBS.

Done in Warsaw, on the 16 April, 2013 in two original copies in English and Azerbaijani languages, both texts being equally authentic. In case of disagreement on the interpretation of the provisions of the present Working Arrangement, the English version shall prevail.

**For the European Agency for the Management
of Operational Cooperation
at the External Borders of the Member
States of the European Union**



Ilkka Laitinen
Executive Director

**For the State Border Service
of the
Republic of Azerbaijan**



Elchin Guliyev
Chief of State Border Service