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Migration Opportunity Map Project (MOMP)



(28 page .pdf)

Migrants Rights News ~ No: 16

Welcome to the March 2009 edition of Migrants Rights News

The Migrants Rights Network is working for a rights-based approach to migration, with migrants as full partners in developing the policies and procedures which affect life in the UK. Migrants Rights News aims to inform our members and other groups working on migration issues about regional and national policy developments, campaign news, recent research and upcoming events.

At the Heart of Migrants Rights News are the campaigns and strategies being developed by migrants to consolidate their position in British society. We focus on activities that extend the scope of the human, economic and social rights which apply to migrants' circumstances.

We would be happy to circulate information and bulletins sent by members in the following month's newsletter, subject to editorial/space limitations! Please send any contributions to: info@migrantsrights.org.uk.

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In this month's newsletter, find details of:

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- (1) [Undocumented migrants: the growing evidence base](#)

Strangers into Citizens (SiC) plans for a [rally in London on May 4th](#) in support of an 'earned regularisation' programme for undocumented migrants are well underway, with all the details of the event being available

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on a new website.

All the indications are that it will add momentum to what is already developing into an intense public discussion on the desirability or otherwise of an 'amnesty' for migrants residing in the UK outside the provisions of the immigration rules. During the past few months reports on the issues involved in irregular migration have emerged from the Undocumented Worker Transitions (UWT) programme based at London Metropolitan University, and the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), as well as an interim report from researchers based at the London School of Economics on the extent of undocumented migrant presence in the capital city.

At the end of March, the CLANDESTINO group of researchers, which MRN participates in through its involvement with the Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM) will be holding a conference in London to set out its findings on irregular migration in Europe.

UWT research

The reports emerging from the [UWT research](#) are available on the project's website. Their findings draw attention to the 'surge' in the numbers of undocumented migrants which they found in seven countries, including the UK, coming at the same time as the adoption of selective immigration policies which tied the admission of migrants to the perceived needs of national economies for additional sources of labour.

Undocumented migrants interviewed by UWT researchers had typically changed their immigration status during the course of their journeys. Few started with one status and maintained it throughout their periods of stay. Irregular status was "rarely the outcome of a conscious decision [...] but is determined by factors more usually out of the control of the individual [...]". Whilst the most common route into irregular status is the expiry of a work permit or other form of visa, in many countries the problem arose from changes in the form of immigration regulation, over which the individual migrants had no control.

Other factors affecting the rate of transition into irregular status were found to be the increasing complexity of the labour market, with its divisions between formal and informal sectors, and the emergence of structures of labour management which lie between the worker and her employer. The requirements for ultra-flexibility which employment agencies, gangmasters and other intermediaries impose on the employment relationship reduce levels of relative security between different categories of workers and increase the exposure of migrants to various forms of irregularity.

The report sets out 12 recommendations for changes to policy and the practices of the various stakeholders to help address the situation of undocumented migrants.

They urge a separation between employment and immigration status to facilitate an equalisation of rights

between different groups of workers. Civil society organisations, including trades unions, are urged towards greater involvement in the issue, aiming to build bridges between vulnerable groups and policy makers to ensure that policy is better informed by basic evidence.

ICMPD - regularisation policies

The Vienna-based migration policy research organisation, ICMPD, published its study of regularisation policies in the member states of the EU in January, entitled '[REGINE: regularisations in the European Union](#)'

In an exhaustive analysis over 150 pages in length, the report discusses the problems of promoting a unified policy response across the EU in circumstances where the pathways to irregular status and even the very meaning of the term differ substantially from one member state to the next. Though originating at the level of the laws and policies of the national jurisdictions, undocumented migration is an issue for the EU because of its role in regulating the movement of labour in the European single market. The potential for poor law and policy to generate high levels of irregular migration hinders the capacity of the EU institutions to predict and manage the labour market across the 29 member states.

The ICMPD report sets out the view that positive policies are needed to tackle the issues created by the generation of irregular migration in the EU. The option favoured by the French Presidency of the European Council in 2008, of a blanket ban on regularisation, is not viewed with favour on the grounds that it would limit the use of a wider range of policy options which appear to be required to deal with the problem. It also challenges a key objection to regularisation often used by national governments, that large-scale programmes contribute to secondary movements and undermine efforts to combat irregular movements of people. It finds only limited evidence of such movements, and this appears to be very limited in extent.

The report asserts that "irregular migration is not driven by a single logic, nor can there be simple responses to irregular migration." It rejects 'one-size-fits-all' proposals, including calls for blanket bans on regularisation, favouring instead a range of 'soft' measures more likely to yield better results in a complex area of social policy.

LSE interim report

The [LSE report](#), published in mid-February and available on the Greater London Authority (GLA) website, emerged from the Mayor of London's reiteration of support for a programme of regularisation of undocumented migrants in London, first given during the course of this campaign for election in 2008. The project researchers set out their estimates of establishing the scale of irregular immigration status in London, and the impact on public

services were this group to be brought within the law.

Basing their estimates on the proportion of asylum seekers refuses refugee states, and of other categories of vulnerable migrants, the report suggests that between 57% and 75% of the total stock of the UK's undocumented population resides in London. Using figures produced by Woodbridge for the Office of National Statistics in 2005, this would place the number living in London on a range between 345,000 and 721,000, with a central estimate of 518,000.

The report is cautious about the possible costs which might accrue to public services from a regularisation programme. A lot depends on the take up rate for the programme amongst those who are potentially eligible, and their age profiles. The examples of large-scale schemes in the USA and other European countries suggests a wide divergence in take up rates, of with figures in the order of 25% and 50% of all those eligible being not usual. Acceptance rates similarly vary, with the authorities typically granting regular status to anywhere between 60% to 90% of applicants.

A key indicator of costs to public services is the age of applicants for regularisation, with the highest being associated with households containing young children. The report suggests that these are not strongly represented amongst undocumented populations, amongst whom young single people are the most common element; groups having only light use of public services.

CLANDESTINO London workshop

There will be an opportunity to discuss these and other findings about irregular migration at the CLANDESTINO workshop, taking place in London on Friday 27th March. Further details of the project can be obtained from the [CLANDESTINO website](#).

The London workshop will consider irregular migration in a central/western European group, which consists of the Netherlands, Germany, Austria, France and the UK. Bringing together experts from each of these countries the workshop aims to provide an opportunity for researchers to engage with representatives of community groups and other organisations supporting migrants to consider the issues emergence from the growing evidence base. The intention is that this will feed into advocacy work, strengthening the role of groups close to the grass roots to critique policies emerging from national governments, and to set out alternatives which take into account the legitimate interests and the human rights of migrants themselves.

For further information about the London workshop, contact Martina Fava at martina.fava@picum.org. A full report of its proceedings will be available in the April edition of Migrants Rights News.

(2) UKBA announces range of restrictions to migrants

During February 2009 the Home Office announced a package of new restrictive measures which will affect many foreign nationals within, or seeking to enter, the UK immigration system.

Restrictions to the Points Based System

Home Secretary Jacqui Smith announced [new measures](#) in February, which will raise the bar for migrant workers applying to come to the UK under the new Points-Based System (PBS) for work and study in the UK. The PBS supposedly enables flexibility in British economic migration policy to respond to shifts in UK labour market needs. But these new restrictions have been proposed without any evidence to back them up, leaving ministers looking guilty of playing to the 'British jobs for British workers' gallery.

The changes will affect migrants seeking to work in the UK under Tiers 1 and 2 on or after 1st April 2009. From this date, the minimum educational qualification required from applicants under Tier 1 (for highly skilled migrants), will be increased, from a Bachelors degree to a Masters degree. Highly skilled migrants will also be required to demonstrate salary earnings equivalent to a minimum of £20,000 as opposed to the current £17,000 per annum. The Home Office has not yet responded to concerns from campaigning groups such as the [Highly Skilled Migrants Programme Forum](#) about the impact of measures on those highly skilled migrants already in the UK, who find the new tougher requirements affect their ability to extend their current visa. It is also questionable whether there is any benefit in making it more difficult for highly skilled migrants to come to, or remain in the UK, risking closing the door to valuable skills and innovations which could assist the economy at a time of financial crisis.

Changes to Tier 2, in addition, will now require employers to advertise jobs to workers already resident in the UK through JobCentre Plus before seeking to recruit migrant workers. The Government intends to use the Tier 2 shortage occupation list to focus on trainings and up-skilling initiatives for longer-term fulfilment of these roles by non-migrant workers. The Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) has been asked to report to the Home Office, looking at further restricting the possibilities for work in the UK under the PBS later on in 2009/2010. The Home Office has asked the MAC to consider whether Tiers 1 and 2 could be further restricted in the future.

Identity (ID) cards extended for foreign nationals

From the end of March 2009, the Home Office will widen the net of its controversial ID card scheme for foreign nationals, to include further immigration categories. Last November, the UK Border Agency (UKBA) began issuing identity (ID) cards to foreign nationals applying for further leave to remain in the United Kingdom. According to

Home Secretary Jacqui Smith, the move was part of the government's plan to "protect against identity fraud, illegal working, reduce the use of multiple identities in organised crime and terrorism, crack down on those trying to abuse positions of trust...". The first cards were issued to migrants applying as a student or the husband, wife, civil partner or unmarried partner of someone holding permanent residence in the UK. At this stage [the scheme was criticised by parties, including MRN](#), concerned that migrants were being treated as guinea pigs for a wider government surveillance agenda.

[The latest news from UKBA in February](#) indicated that more immigration categories will be affected from 31st March 2009. Postgraduate doctors and dentists; academic visitors granted leave for more than six months; visitors for private medical clinic; domestic workers in a private household; united kingdom ancestry; retired persons of independent means, and their partners and children; and sole representatives of overseas companies based in the UK will all be required to provide their biometrics for inclusion in the ID scheme.

The idea of a national ID card is not new. Many countries such as Belgium, Germany, Italy, Spain, Singapore and South Africa have adopted an ID scheme. What is striking about the UK National Identity Scheme is that it currently targets only foreign nationals, specifically those outside of the European Economic Area (EEA) and Switzerland. The policy is wide-open to criticism that it effectively discriminates against migrants, as well as intruding on their privacy and civil liberties, obliging applicants to provide their biometrics (fingerprints and photograph), to be stored within the UKBA database systems and on the card itself. The Home Office intends that, by April 2011, all migrants extending their stay in the UK or coming here for over 6 months will hold an ID card, claiming that it will improve efficiency and security within the immigration system. But the question remains - what will be the real cost of the ID card scheme to migrants' rights?

Extension of visa regime to five additional countries

The UK is well on its way to sharing, alongside with the U.S. and Australia, the distinction of having one of the toughest visa regimes in the world. As part of its implementation of a system of triple checks targeted at non-European nationals, the Home Department launched the Visa Waiver Test in March 2007. Travel from every country beyond the EEA and Switzerland was measured against a range of criteria including illegal immigration, crime and security concerns, and visa regimes established with 'risk countries'. Five countries have failed to pass the new Test. [UKBA announced in February](#) that visitors from Bolivia, Lesotho, South Africa, Swaziland and Venezuela will now be required to apply for a visa. When doing so, they will be fingerprinted, locked to one identity, and checked against the UK government watchlists. Particular dismay was expressed by the South African government - Tony Leon, the Democratic Alliance spokesman on Foreign Affairs, made a [direct plea to the](#)

[British High Commissioner to South Africa](#), voicing his sense that the visa requirement, which will affect many of the the 450,000 South African nationals who visit the UK annually, will be damaging and unjust.

Increase to visa fees

The [UK government has announced new changes to visa fees in 2009/10](#). All visitors, long or short-term, will see increases in the costs of their visas (the cost for long-term visitors applying for 5 - 10 years will more than double, from £205 to £500). Proposed visa fees under the Points-Based System will now be significantly higher for all Tiers (with the exception of Tier 3 for low skilled workers which is not in operation). The biggest fee increase will be reserved for those applying to enter UK as students. The new visa fee stands at £145, a 45% increase from the old fee of £99.

The move has provoked an outcry from British universities and the wider education sector, which claim that they have not been consulted over the matter. The [Chief Executive of Universities UK](#), Diana Warwick, warned that the government is in "serious danger of sending out a message that it does not welcome international students. The [proposed fee increment](#) is part of the government's efforts to recover some of the billions of pounds it is outlaying through changes to the immigration system- one third of the cost of these changes, it is estimated, will ultimately be borne by migrants themselves.

With thanks to Chen Chen Lee for her contributions to this article.

(3) 'The Jungle Story'

Lily Bouillet, a worker at Terre d'Errance near Calais, will be contributing a 2-part series in the bulletin about her impressions of the lives of the undocumented migrants who live around Calais, France, hoping to seek asylum in the UK.

Six years after closing the Red Cross Center in Sangatte in 2002, the north coast of France has become the target of totally dysfunctional immigration policies. Nothing has changed since the end of Red Cross support for asylum-seekers- migrants wanting to seek asylum somewhere are still there, but in worse and worse conditions.

To introduce myself, my name is Lily Boillet. I work for Terre d'Errance, ('World of Wandering) - a voluntary organisation working with asylum seekers in the region around Calais, France, many of who live in camps such as 'The Jungle' . We are an independent group, with an income exclusively from charitable donations. The people we work with are in our region because they want to cross the Channel to come to the UK to them seek asylum. Most of our friends are from Eritrea and Ethiopia, with others from Iraq, Afghanistan and other regions. We

help them to get by on a daily basis in France, and to generally survive all the obstacles they face. Do have a look at [our website](#) (sorry there's no translation in English yet).

From my experience, this is not the time to talk about the right to free movement or about seeking asylum in people's country of choice. The north of France is the greatest example of the European policy on asylum, immigration and border control. For two years, I've lived with people who can't be deported to their country because of the persecution they would experience there. When they do seek asylum, almost all of them get refugee status, but because of border controls they can't seek asylum in the countries where their family may already be. They can't move around in Europe like any other human being. They have to risk their life in crossing borders illegally. And if they have already been fingerprinted in one European country they can no longer join their family in another country. They fall into underground in a place where they cannot settle, becoming vulnerable and leading unstable lives.

Within the last two years I've seen people crossing from France to England several times, being removed from the UK each time before finding their way back to the north of France. They become wandering people. And step by step they are destroyed; they can imagine no future, no school, no wedding, no children, no life.

Around those people, a whole world is involved. In our area, Calais, or every other little 'jungle' in France, many citizens are living side-by-side, in many different ways. Some people just look at them walking on our streets, sleeping in our ditches, living in our forests or disused buildings. Some others try to bridge the gap and hold out their hand to other human beings. To hold out one's hand to migrants or asylum seekers in that area is always a struggle: some French people have been working on such basic things with some success: to obtain toilets which the asylum seekers can access (after six years, three toilets have been established for 700 people in Calais); to save their lives from the cold by providing shelter; to save their bodies from disease by giving them showers; to save their minds from madness by giving a smile, a hand, just a little chat to say "I'm beside you" .

Every tiny thing for those migrants around Calais is a struggle. What kind of link can we create, we, European citizens, to establish the dignity and protection of the people on our doorsteps?

A recent French film, '[Welcome](#)', portrays the journey of an asylum seeker from France to the UK.

Lily will continue her account in the April MRN bulletin, with her impressions of asylum seekers lives in the UK based on ongoing research for Terre d'Errance.

(4) MRN needs a new home!

For almost two years, MRN has been lucky to have been based within the office of [Asylum Aid](#), at Highbury Corner (N1) in North London. This has been a fantastic boost to us as a young organisation, and we've greatly valued the support and friendship of the Asylum Aid staff. However, during spring/summer 2009 we will need to relocate MRN to bigger premises in London, with desk space for five members of staff. Our only requirement is that the new location is near to a Zone 1 or 2 tube station.

If you have any suggestions or know of any possible premises, please do let us know by contacting Cristina Andreatta (MRN Resource Worker) at: c.andreatta@migrantsrights.org.uk.

(5) Reports and Research

[Economic impact on London and the UK of an earned regularisation of irregular migrants in the UK](#), London School of Economics (LSE), March 2009

This interim report from the London School of Economics is part of a bigger piece of work, commissioned by the Greater London Authority at the behest of London's Mayor Boris Johnson, looking at the impact of a potential amnesty or 'earned regularisation' for undocumented migrants in London. The full report is expected to be released by the Mayor's office during spring 2009. In the meantime, this initial statement, produced in February, focuses on calculating the number of undocumented migrants in the UK; the team settles on a middle estimate of 725,000 undocumented migrants in the UK, with 518,000 of this total based in London.

[The potential of migrant and refugee community organisations to influence policy](#), Sue Lukes, with help from Vaughan Jones and Yesenia San Juan, Joseph Rowntree Foundation, February 2009

The work of migrant and/or refugee community organisations in engaging with policy debates can be hindered by lack of effective internal structures or adequate funding. This report draws upon the findings of the 'Change from Experience' project, which aimed to support partnerships between community-based organisations Praxis, Latin-American Women's Aid and the Kurdish Cultural Centre, towards increasing influence over broader policy development.

Waiting for Change: Restaurant workers and the informal economy in Brick Lane, Toynbee Hall, February 2009
This report is the culmination of a research project by Toynbee Hall, compiling a series of accounts from staff in the Bangladeshi restaurants on East London's Brick Lane. It highlights the exploitation of workers caught in a poverty trap and reliant on low wages - over three

quarters of the interviewees were paid less than £5 per hour (national minimum wage is £5.73 per hour for workers over 22 years of age). It recommends establishment of a partnership group of community and business organisations, together with voluntary and public sector agencies, to look further into these issues.

International Organisation for Migration (IOM) Gender and Migration news quarterly

The IOM quarterly bulletin provides an overview of news, research and perspectives on the intersection between gender and immigration issues.

(6)Upcoming Events

- **'Borders and beyond: barriers to migration, their abolition and the role of researchers' CALL FOR PAPERS - Conference, Society for the Abolition of Migration Control, June 13th, University of Oxford**

The Society for the Abolition of Migration Control, an organisation of students and staff at the University of Oxford, invite you to participate in a conference to be held on Saturday, June 13 at the University of Oxford. The group promotes the study of barriers to migration for two interrelated reasons. One is to generate knowledge about these processes, which recent commentators on the state of migration and refugee studies have identified as being relatively poorly understood. More importantly, we see it as being an essential means to the end for which we call: the immediate abolition of migration control. We hope to engage with and learn from any researchers and commentators who can contribute to our research programme, regardless of whether or not they share our liberatory objective. The conference will be organised around three main themes: 'Understanding barriers to migration: concepts, contexts and approaches', 'After migration control: learning from the past and imagining our future', and 'Barriers to migration studies': beyond policy relevance. Whom (and/or what) should we study? What kinds of research are most relevant to the abolition of migration control? How can we strengthen and sustain 'barriers to migration studies' within and outside of universities?

Aspiring presenters are asked to send a 250 word abstract of their presentation to samc@herald.ox.ac.uk by **March 8th 2009**.

- **Safety and Health Awareness Day for agricultural workers, Health and Safety Executive, Wisbech Campus, College of West Anglia, Newcommon Bridge, Wisbech,**

**Cambridgeshire. PE13 2SJ. 9.30 - 12.30 pm,
Saturday 14 March 2009**

This is a free event which will include demonstrations by professional trainers of several aspects of farm health and safety. Anyone that works in agriculture is welcome to attend.

Contact: Colin Ryan, Health and Safety Executive,
AW House, 6-8 Stuart Street, Luton, LU1 2SJ,
01582-444318 colin.ryan@hse.gsi.gov.uk

- **PICUM conference in partnership with MRN and COMPAS: 'Understanding Irregular Migration in Northern Europe', 27th March 2009, Amnesty International Human Rights Action Centre, 17-25 New Inn Yard, London EC2A 3EA**

This workshop, organized within the framework of the EU 'CLANDESTINO' project entitled 'Undocumented Migration: Counting the Uncountable, Data and Trends Across Europe' and financed by the European Commission, DG Research, will be an opportunity to present its main findings on irregular migration in selected EU countries, namely: Netherlands, UK, Germany, France and Austria. The event will enable participants to compare approaches on similar issues and also exchange opinions on possible policy alternatives in relation to undocumented migration. The workshop will address various themes such as the presence of undocumented migrants in the labour market, regularisation policies concerning undocumented migrants, access to public services (e.g. health care, housing, education), and role of the media in social policies and political discourse.

More information on the workshop can be obtained from PICUM's website at www.picum.org, where a detailed programme and a registration form are available for download.

Registration is open until 20 March 2009.

Please note that a £ 5 registration fee, which includes attendance at the workshops and a contribution towards the cost of the Lebanese buffet lunch provided at the venue, will be asked upon arrival.

(7) Other Announcements

- **[Joseph Rowntree Foundation launches programme on forced labour](#)**

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation has asked that

information about their new programme, Forced labour: Contemporary Slavery in the UK () be circulated. It has put out two calls for proposals on the scope and experience of forced labour. Please see: www.jrf.org.uk/funding/calls-for-proposal/scope-forced-labour-uk-improving-evidence-base and www.jrf.org.uk/funding/calls-for-proposal/experience-forced-labour-uk-improving-evidence-base

The deadline for proposals is 2pm on 17 April 2009.

- **Launch of Equality and Human Rights Commission investigation into meat- packing industry**

If you are involved in the meat or poultry processing industry or interested in the working conditions of staff in this sector then the EHRC would like to hear from you. As many workers in these industries are migrant workers, one aspect of the Inquiry will be an examination of the impact of current recruitment and employment practice, not only on individuals but also on relations between different nationalities within the workplace and local communities. The EHRC is looking for evidence on recruitment and employment practices in the meat and poultry processing industries and:

- their impact on different types of workers
- their impact on relations between different nationalities in the workplace and surrounding communities
- any examples of good practice in promoting equality or good relations
- the factors which influence these practices

Are you willing to fill in a short questionnaire? To find out more about the inquiry and to download the call for evidence questionnaire, please visit the EHRC website. The deadline for responses is 17 April 2009 and you can fax, post or email your comments (MeatInquiry@equalityhumanrights.com). You can also give information over the phone (England 0845 604 6610 Textphone: 0845 604 6620, Wales 0845 604 8810 Textphone: 0845 604 8820)

All information given will be confidential. Interviewees will receive £30 in postal orders. Interviews will last around an hour, and will be held at the time and place that is most convenient for interviewees. For further details contact the Meat Inquiry Team (MeatInquiry@equalityhumanrights.com) or call Nicole on 0161 829 8318.

- **Let Them Work Campaign - It's time for action**

This month Refugee Action are teaming up with the

Refugee Council and the TUC to ask MPs to sign a pledge, calling for asylum seekers who have been here for more than six months to be allowed to work. Currently, asylum seekers are not allowed to work while they wait for a decision on their claim. This restriction also applies to people who are refused refugee status yet cannot return home, due to ongoing conflict and human rights abuses. This leads to many people from places like Zimbabwe and Darfur becoming destitute - forced to rely on charity handouts and open to exploitation. Allowing people to work would mean that people who are here and cannot leave through no fault of their own, would be able to contribute to the economy, live in dignity and retain their skills. It would also allow them to live as equal members of communities. Please help the campaign to end destitution by sending the 'Let them work' e-card to your local MP and ask them to sign the pledge:

<http://e-activist.com/ea-campaign/clientcampaign.do?ea.client.id=121&ea.campaign.id=2672>

- **Migrants Resource Centre (MRC) seeks Executive Director**

The Migrant Resource Centre (MRC) works with migrants and refugees and in partnership with other agencies to enable migrants and refugees to fully participate in society. For the past 25 years they have worked with migrants and displaced people from all over the world and provided advice, opportunities to learn, to meet with others and to speak out for rights and better treatment of the most vulnerable members of our society.

MRC is now seeking to employ an Executive Director, Salary £45,226 p.a. (Inclusive of ILW) + 6% pension contribution. They are looking for a highly motivated individual to join our team and help us deliver and develop existing and new services. The Executive Director will manage the delivery of MRC's vision and play a central role in the external representation of MRC to opinion formers, donors, media and decision makers. The ideal candidate will have experience in leadership and management of staff and a track record in successfully managing and delivering organisational strategies as well as financial management and fundraising. The post holder will have an in-depth understanding of issues experienced by migrants and refugees. S/he should have a proven record of commitment to social justice and should also be able to articulate MRC's agenda for change with clarity and passion.

The closing date for applications is 5 p.m. on 20th March 2009. Please send completed application

and E.O. monitoring form by 5 p.m. on the 20 March 09. Interviews will be held on 3rd April 2009. Further information and application pack is available at:

www.migrantsresourcecentre.org.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=47&Itemid=59

- **Information Sheets on Maternity Rights for Migrants Released**

Maternity Action and Medact have prepared a set of information sheets on maternity rights for migrant women. These cover employment rights, benefits, tax credits, UK Border Agency support, and entitlement to free NHS maternity care. They include a list of useful contacts. The different information sheets outline maternity rights for:

- Asylum seekers
- Refugees
- Refused asylum seekers
- EU, EEA and Swiss nationals (including A8 and A2)
- Women with no recourse to public funds
- Indefinite leave to remain, right of abode and UK citizens
- Undocumented migrants

The information sheets are available free of charge from the Maternity Action and Medact websites:
www.maternityaction.org.uk / www.medact.org.

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