

# BALANCED **MIGRATION**



**7 September 2009**

## **COMMENT ON HOME SECRETARY'S ANNOUNCEMENT ON JOB LIMITS FOR FOREIGN WORKERS**

**Latest measures will not stop UK population hitting 70 million**

Commenting on the announcement today by the Home Secretary that the Government is to accept all the Migration Advisory Committee's (MAC) recent recommendations designed to restrict jobs going to skilled foreign workers, the Co-Chairmen of the Cross Party Group on Balanced Migration, Frank Field MP and Nicholas Soames MP said:

“After months of calling for the Government to give British workers a fair crack of the whip in the jobs market, today's news marks a step forward in our campaign to toughen up Britain's immigration system. That said, the real problem is the massive increase in our population that we now face, largely as a result of immigration. The recession has hastened the departure of some Europeans, but has hardly affected arrivals from the rest of the world. Even on the latest figures, we need to reduce immigration by about 150,000 a year to stabilize our population at 65 million – four million more than today. These measures will achieve roughly one tenth of that.”

### **Notes to editors**

1. For media enquiries, please contact the Office of Rt Hon Frank Field MP, on 020 7219 6636.
2. On 27<sup>th</sup> August the Government issued the International Passenger Survey for 2008. These figures will be adjusted, for asylum seekers etc., to produce the net immigration figure for 2008. The likely outcome is about 150,000, as compared to about 118,000 from the passenger survey.
3. We need to bring net migration close to zero to stabilise the UK's population at 65 million: this means bringing net foreign immigration down to the level of net British emigration, which is about 100,000 a year.
4. Today's announcement ignores Tier 1 of the Points Based System, on which the Migration Advisory Committee will be making recommendations in the autumn. At present, each month about 1,000 “highly skilled” people from outside the EEA are being admitted to the UK without a job to go to.

5. The Rt Hon Frank Field MP and The Hon Nicholas Soames MP are Co-Chairmen of the Cross Party Group on Balanced Migration. The Group's Vice-Chairmen are Lord (Bill) Jordan CBE (former President of the Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union) and Daniel Kawczynski MP (Conservative, Shrewsbury & Atcham). Other members include Tobias Ellwood MP, Roger Godsiff MP, Peter Kilfoyle MP, David Taylor MP, Robert Key MP, Colin Burgon MP, Lord Ahmed, Lord Anderson, Lord Carey (former Archbishop of Canterbury) Baroness Cox, Field Marshal Lord Inge KG, GCB, PC, DL, Lord Skidelsky, Lord Wakeham and Lord Ramsbotham.
6. For an analysis of job creation since 1997, please visit <http://www.balancedmigration.com/pressreleases/BritishjobsreleaseRev4.pdf>
7. For more information about the Cross Party Group for Balanced Migration, please visit [www.balancedmigration.com](http://www.balancedmigration.com)