



**Florian G. FORSTER**

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Since August 2014, Mr. Florian G. Forster (49) serves as the Head of IOM's Immigration and Border Management Division (IBM) at IOM Headquarters in Geneva/Switzerland. He oversees a team of IBM specialists and support staff in HQ, provides technical oversight to the senior IBM specialists posted in IOM's 8 Regional Offices and the African Capacity Building Center (ACBC) in Moshi/Tanzania, and is responsible for developing and overseeing IOM's global approach to activities in the field of Border Management and Immigration.

IOM implements approximately 200 Immigration and Border Management projects across the globe at any given time; of the current 9000 IOM staff members worldwide, several hundred colleagues are directly involved in implementing IBM activities in areas such as Border Management incl. Integrated Border Management, Border Management Information Systems, Immigration Detention and Alternatives to Detention, Readmission, Counter-Smuggling of Migrants, Border Security including Counter-Terrorism, Identity Solutions and Travel Documents, Facilitated Migration Services (Visa Application Centers, Immigration Verification Programs, etc.), as well as Humanitarian Border Management (HBM).

Before his current posting, Mr. Forster worked as IOM's Chief of Mission in Hanoi/Vietnam (2009/2014), Head of IOM's Special Liaison Mission in Paris/France (2005/2009), Head of Office of IOM Berne/Switzerland (2000/2005), and Program Officer and Acting Chief of Mission of IOM in Phnom Penh/Cambodia (1995/1998).

Prior to his work with IOM, Mr. Forster served as Legal Officer and Head of Legal Unit for the City of Munich/Germany on refugee, migration and youth matters, and Civil Servant for the Bavarian Ministry of Justice (1999 & 1991/1995).

Mr. Forster has studied law at universities in Paris/France and Munich/Germany and passed the German Bar examination ("2<sup>nd</sup> State Examination") in 1994.