



High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development,
Roundtable 1: *Assessing the effects of international migration on sustainable development and identifying relevant priorities in view of the preparation of the post-2015 development framework*

- Statement by the Government of Sweden

Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, we know that migration **contributes to development and it reduces poverty on an extraordinary scale for migrant households**. It is one of the defining phenomena of our time.

Therefore, there is a growing need for governments and development actors to fully incorporate migration in their planning and programming. Yet as highlighted in the Secretary General's report for this meeting, few national development plans include migration.

The High-level Dialogue offers a **unique opportunity to make progress in this regard**, by calling for the inclusion of migration in the post-2015 development agenda, as an enabler of development and as an issue for global partnerships.

Indeed this is also a recommendation found in the Secretary General's report for this meeting.

This would send a **strong signal** to governments, be they national planning commissions or bilateral development cooperation agencies, and to multilateral development agencies **to take migration into consideration in their development analysis, plans and monitoring efforts.**

Sweden therefore supports the recommendation by the Secretary-General and would like to **call on him, through his Special Representative on international migration and development,** to explore how migration could be highlighted in the post-2015 development agenda.

We would propose that the Secretary General's Special Representative **works with a group of interested governments** and organizations to prepare how this may be done. **Sweden would volunteer itself** to be an active partner in this work.

Indeed, through the Swedish **Chairmanship of the Global Forum on Migration and Development,** we have made it a priority to explore how migration could be included in the post-2015 development agenda.

We have dedicated a roundtable to this issue in the GFMD. A thematic meeting was held in May this year and a Government Team has been formed to explore this issue. Synergies could be found, whereby the experiences of governments could feed into the inter-governmental process on the post-2015 development agenda.

We would also like to take the opportunity to **recognize the efforts of other governments,** in particular Bangladesh and

Switzerland which have led the Global Consultations on Population Dynamics, as well as the government of Mexico, which has held a specific consultation on migration in the post-2015. Together we could form a core of governments willing to engage in this process.

Together we should be able to think of targets and indicators showing the contribution of migration, as an enabler, to development and formulate global partnerships on migration to facilitate international mobility with higher portability of skills and reduced recruitment costs that is **safe for migrants, operates within the laws of states, is less costly** both in human and financial terms and is **more productive** for migrants as well as countries of origin and destination.

Finally, Ladies and Gentlemen, since the co-chairs of the Open Working Group of the Sustainable Development Goals have signalled that the Group will bring the issue of migration into their discussions after the High-level Dialogue we would like to **call on them** to give migration the attention it deserves in the context of the post-2015 development agenda.

Thank you!