

## GFMD 2012<sup>1</sup> Concept and Work Plan

### *Enhancing the Human Development of Migrants and their Contribution to the Development of Communities and States*

This Concept Paper sets out the proposed thematic focus and format for GFMD 2012. It reflects both the Mauritian Chair's priorities and the comments and suggestions of the Friends of the Forum (FOF) submitted to the Chair a) in response to the first draft Concept Paper and Survey disseminated by the Chair on 06 December 2011, b) at the informal Brainstorming Meetings on 18 and 19 January 2012 in Mauritius, c) via the dedicated GFMD email address [MauritiusChair2012@gfmd.org](mailto:MauritiusChair2012@gfmd.org);<sup>2</sup> and d) at the first GFMD Steering Group (SG) and FOF meetings in Geneva on 06 and 07 February, 2012. It is on the basis of this Concept Paper that governments will move the GFMD 2012 program forward, in cooperation with non-state partners, to the GFMD Summit Meeting on **21-22 November 2012** in Mauritius.

#### 1. Objectives of GFMD 2012

Since its inauguration in 2007, the GFMD has evolved into the most important inter-governmental process of its kind to tackle the complex linkages between migration and development. Its voluntary, informal, non-binding character has enabled governments to discuss sensitive migration issues without controversy, and to manage migration and development opportunities and challenges more effectively. The GFMD is helping governments to explore workable forms of collaboration with each other and with non-state partners towards better practices in these two inter-linked policy fields. Today, the GFMD is a central point of reference for the global discourse on migration and development, and has entered the agendas of many related international forums.

In 2012, the Mauritian Chair-in-Office seeks to build on these strengths of the Forum to further secure its future as a global dialogue process. This includes the second and final stage of the overall assessment of the GFMD process, including possible options for the future of the Forum.<sup>3</sup>

Under government leadership, and with guidance from the GFMD *ad-hoc* Working Groups,<sup>4</sup> the 2012 Forum will build on the discussions and proposals resulting from the Swiss GFMD 2011 and previous meetings to pursue achievable improvements in the conditions and prospects of people on the move and their families, for increased development outcomes. It will give stronger emphasis to:

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<sup>1</sup> The GFMD is a voluntary, inter-governmental, non-binding and informal consultative process open to all States Members and Observers of the United Nations. It was created with the majority agreement of UN States Members at the 2006 General Assembly High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (HLD). The format and operations of the GFMD are guided by a set of Operating Modalities agreed by governments at the inaugural meeting in Brussels in 2007 ([www.gfmd.org/en/process/operating-modalities.html](http://www.gfmd.org/en/process/operating-modalities.html)).

<sup>2</sup> In total, 36 governments, 11 Observers and 2 civil society organizations of the GFMD submitted comments on the Concept Paper.

<sup>3</sup> The results of the assessment will also be reported to the second UN High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development in 2013.

<sup>4</sup> **Two Working Groups were established in 2009 by agreement of the Steering Group to help prioritize and follow up on outcomes of** previous GFMD meetings and link these to current and future thematic priorities. The two current Working Groups are: "Protecting and Empowering Migrants for Development" co-chaired by the Philippines and United Arab Emirates (UAE); and "Policy Coherence, Data and Research" co-chaired by Morocco and Switzerland (<http://www.gfmd.org/en/adhoc-wg/protecting-and-empowering.html> ; <http://www.gfmd.org/en/adhoc-wg/policy-coherence-data-research.html> )

1. Outcomes that will make a difference for migrants, diaspora, their families, and communities and states of origin and destination, and that may be achieved in the coming years to guide the future work of the Forum;
2. The specific needs and challenges of African countries and their migrants and diaspora, also in the South-South migration and development context.
3. Close consultations with civil society and international organizations, particularly the Global Migration Group (GMG),<sup>5</sup> to support GFMD governments in achieving agreed desirable outcomes; and
4. Engagement of the private sector and diaspora as appropriate to support governments in achieving agreed outcomes.

Following the comments of the Friends of the Forum, Mauritius proposes as the overarching theme for GFMD 2012 *Enhancing the Human Development of Migrants and their Contribution to the Development of Communities and States*.

## **2. Building Consensus on the Format and Program for 2012**

As GFMD 2012 Chair-in-Office, the Government of Mauritius embarked on a consensual and collective thinking process in December 2011 to prepare a thematic program that includes as many players in the GFMD process as possible. In December, 2011, a Concept and Survey paper was shared with FOF members and other experts, and the responses helped re-shape the paper for further comments and discussion in January 2012, including at the two preparatory brainstorming meetings with government and non-state partners in Mauritius, on 18 and 19 January 2012, respectively.

Following the January brainstorming meetings, the concept paper was revised again for discussion and agreement on the proposed work program for GFMD 2012 by the Steering Group and Friends of the Forum in February 2012. This multi-step consultation process is in line with the inclusive, cooperative approach to preparing the annual Forum meetings established in 2007 in Brussels, and observed by all Chairs since then.

## **3. Format of GFMD 2012**

GFMD 2012 will generally follow the traditional format used between 2007 and 2010, namely a summit meeting at the end of the year, comprising Roundtables (RT) prepared by teams of governments around themes agreed by the Friends of the Forum. Each RT may include 2-3 thematic sessions. For each RT session, 2 governments would oversee the preparation of the background papers and chair the respective RT session. The background papers will be prepared in collaboration with RT coordinators of the Mauritian Task Force, and, where appropriate, with support from non-state experts and partners. The background papers will be concise and pose a few questions to guide the RT discussions towards concrete outcomes.

Consultations with the former Chair will be useful for the lessons learned in 2011, and with the next Chair, to ensure continuity of approach. In preparing the RTs, governments would also work with expert organizations, in particular members of the GMG, and consult with civil society experts. This modus applied in the past, and was already anticipated by Mauritius at the 07 September 2011 FOF meeting.

GFMD 2012 will also seek to benefit substantively from other events or research activities in 2012 relevant to the GFMD 2012 themes, such as those organized by the GFMD *ad-hoc* Working Groups, or forming part of the Working Groups' work plans for the year. Others may be organized by international organizations or regional or inter-regional entities or processes. The governments or other partners organizing such meetings are expected to take full responsibility for them, and for any resultant follow-up actions. The Mauritian Chair

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<sup>5</sup> The Global Migration Group, established in 2008 by the UN Secretary-General in response to a recommendation of the Global Commission on International Migration, currently comprises ILO, IOM, UNCTAD, UNDESA, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNITAR, UNODC, OHCHR, WHO, World Bank, UN Women, and the UN Regional Commissions.

welcomes any relevant outcomes from such meetings that can be used to inform the Roundtable preparations. The Chair does not intend to fund or necessarily become involved in the organization of these events.

#### **4. Thematic Work Program**

The proposed Roundtables cover the following key areas of interest to the GFMD and to countries of origin, transit and destination, as reflected in the responses and comments of the Friends of the Forum:

1. *Circulating Labour for Inclusive Development* - to enhance human development potential in countries of origin, transit and destination through migrant skills and job-matching strategies and support to diaspora.
2. *Factoring Migration into Development Planning* – to sharpen the practical tools for policy makers to link migration and development; and address South-South migration and development issues.
3. *Managing Migration and Migrant Protection for Human Development Outcomes* - to ensure migration management policies protect migrants in vulnerable and/or irregular situations, and protect migrant domestic workers; and to foster more informed, balanced public debate about migrants and migration.

#### **Roundtable 1: Circulating Labour for Inclusive Development**

Coordinators: Irena Omelaniuk; Salomon Samen

This Roundtable would continue earlier GFMD debates on labour and skills circulation in globalizing economies and the policies to protect and improve the conditions of migrant workers and enable such circulation. Employment abroad can accelerate human development if, in addition to assuring protection of basic human rights, it allows mobile workers to acquire new skills, use their skills productively, and return with savings or invest in the development of their families and communities. This is a special concern in the South-South context, where an estimated 90% of movement is about labour and employment opportunities. A significant number of migrant origin countries in the global South are today also destination countries.

The Roundtable would also examine how to engage, and strengthen the capacities of diaspora to contribute with their skills and assets to development strategies in their home countries. These issues would be discussed in both South-North and South-South contexts, and with a view to engaging and incentivizing the private sector and diaspora to partner with governments and other civil society actors, also to ensure a wider and more inclusive distribution of the developmental benefits of migration. The challenge for governments and private sector in both origin and destination countries is to leverage the beneficial effects of migrant labour, skills, earnings and other gains from migration while protecting and empowering migrants and diaspora abroad.

This Roundtable would build on previous GFMD debates and the efforts of the *ad hoc* Working Group on Protecting and Empowering Migrants for Development, which to date has explored and tested some good practices in financial, income and social protection of migrant workers. The focus on skills development and job-matching takes this work, and the ongoing GFMD concern with the rights of migrants, to the level of empowerment, where migrants and diaspora may be better able to acquire and utilize skills and assets abroad and in the country of origin to improve development outcomes.

#### ***Session 1.1 Beyond-the-Border Skills and Jobs for Human Development.***

Co-chairs: Mauritius; United Arab Emirates

Team members: Bangladesh, Costa Rica (tbc), France, Germany (tbc), Korea (tbc), Philippines, Sweden, Switzerland

This session would focus on improving the knowledge, skills and employment prospects of persons seeking to work abroad, including when they return home, particularly in the context of circulating labour. It would examine workable strategies by public and private sectors at origin and destination points to enable the accumulation, enhancement and utilization of skills, knowledge and competencies required for the performance of labour and the production of economic value both at home and abroad. A special focus could

be the improved access to alternative job opportunities for lower skilled women. The session could take forward the proposals of GFMD 2011 for governments in destination countries to invest in workforce training and job generation schemes in countries of origin, or to offer incentives for businesses interested in investing in those countries to help train the local workforces, for example by match-funding the training.

The session could review the challenges and solutions for skills development, recognition, certification and utilization of an overseas contract worker at strategic points in the migration cycle along a major international labour corridor. It could showcase effective models of vocational training, skills enhancement and skills recognition, both for purposes of human resource development and employment opportunities at home and to assure better job-matching abroad. This could help minimize the incidence of irregular or exploitative forms of labour migration, and increase the gains for development. A special focus could be on mitigating the risks and costs inherent in women's migration, in particular where women seek job and income enhancement abroad and return to limited prospects back home. The session will seek to better understand the individual and joint roles that countries of origin and destination can play in these areas, including the private sector in both countries.

The session could aim for the following practical, achievable outcomes: a) strategies and facilities that support learning to improve human capital in countries of origin, both as a development strategy and a business strategy for cross-border labour exchange; b) skills recognition models in countries of destination and origin; c) skills upgrading mechanisms in countries of destination; d) effective methods of matching migrant skills with real jobs abroad and with jobs in the country of origin upon return; and e) policies and mechanisms in origin and host countries in all above areas specific to women migrant workers.

### ***Session 1.2 Supporting Migrants and Diaspora as Agents of Socioeconomic Change.***

Co-chairs: France, Morocco, Kenya

Team Members: Belgium, El Salvador (tbc), Ghana, Jamaica, Madagascar, Mali, South Africa (tbc), Spain

This session would build on discussions of 2011 and earlier about how to strengthen the propensity, potential and interest of migrants and diaspora to engage, specifically invest, in development activities in their countries of origin. Governments, the private sector, civil society and international organizations all have a role to play in supporting and advocating for such engagement. The session could showcase innovative transnational and trans-local partnerships between governments, particularly local governments, business and migrant or diaspora organizations that spur migrant/diaspora entrepreneurship and investment in countries of origin. There could be a specific focus on women migrants and diaspora.

Governments, private sector and diaspora could discuss and examine concrete schemes to engage migrant and diaspora skills, expertise and talents for augmenting capacity to produce country and regional public/private goods, particularly in areas of health, education and agriculture etc. They could look at coordinated activities of professional networks, groups and associations, also in the context of labour mobility policy initiatives such as circular migration, and special support to enable lower skilled women migrant workers to pool their resources and access financial services/products tailored to their interests. The session could identify policies, vehicles and instruments to facilitate diaspora businesses and investments that create jobs and employment, for example by leveraging and securitizing remittances, offering options for investment, and through multipurpose facilities such as Diaspora Investment Funds, and Diaspora Bonds/Funds for infrastructure financing, etc. The critical roles of the diaspora, African Governments, donors, private sector companies, and international financial institutions would be discussed, also to ensure that a conducive regulatory environment and effective information systems are in place to make these policies and instruments work efficiently.

Achievable outcomes of the session could include: a) matching grant schemes to encourage migrants to invest in a business on return; b) databases of the diaspora and its potential for investments and skills; c) model public-private partnerships to improve the business climate in countries of origin; d) information portals to inform migrant/diaspora decisions about investment opportunities in countries of origin; and e) participating African countries to design/develop and adopt comprehensive national policies for engaging the diaspora as development partners; and initiate actions to implement such policies within a specific timeframe.

## **Roundtable 2: Factoring Migration into Development Planning**

Coordinator: Rolph Jenny; Viraj Ghoorah Latanraj

This Roundtable would sharpen the focus on the practical tools for governments to factor migration into development planning through processes that link migration and development data and strategies to design coherent and effective policies and programs in this area. These would include Mainstreaming Migration into Development Planning tools and Extended Migration Profiles that reflect the full range of developmental and other information required for such processes. Other migration-related development and poverty reduction strategies would also be examined, *inter alia* in the context of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The Roundtable would build on previous activities of the *ad hoc* Working Group on Policy Coherence, Data and Research, and those planned in 2012.

In a second session the Roundtable would address South-South migration and the development-related impacts and drivers of the different types of such migration. This would include effects on national development and social conditions in origin and destination countries, including gender implications and the situation of families. The session would also address the lack of data and information prevailing in this field, and examine related capacity gaps and necessary measures to enhance cooperative partnerships among countries, and between countries and non-state expert bodies, to build such capacities.

### ***Session 2.1 Supporting National Development through Migration Mainstreaming Processes, Extended Migration Profiles and Poverty Reduction Strategies***

Co-chairs: Switzerland; Mali (tbc), Morocco (tbc)

Team members: Sweden, Madagascar, Niger, Nigeria

This session would take further the GFMD discussions on the tools available to governments to factor migration into development planning, including migration's impact on development and poverty reduction. The session would pursue the debate on the concepts of these tools, essentially those of Mainstreaming into Development Planning, which can be supported by Extended Migration Profiles that include the full range of developmental and other information required for such processes. The session would take stock of progress made by governments in using these and other tools for implementing more effective policies. The GFMD 2011 Concluding Debate, including the series of practice-oriented workshops leading up to this meeting, helped deepen the understanding of these planning tools and allowed governments to share their initial experiences and practices.

The session would discuss those areas and sectors which governments need to include in migration and development mainstreaming processes and poverty reduction strategies, such as employment; labour market planning; economic growth; trade and investment policies; human capital formation and skills development; brain drain and brain waste; social protection; diasporas; human rights and migrant protection; health services; the needs of women and children; leveraging remittances for local investment and development; environmental factors, demographic forecasts; and migration in-and-out flows.

Concurrently, interested governments would be invited to update session participants on national experiences with Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs) and, where applicable, Extended Migration Profiles and Migration and Development Mainstreaming projects. To prepare this review, the Working Group on Policy Coherence, Data and Research may conduct a concise informal survey<sup>6</sup> with interested governments and relevant international organizations, including information on intra-governmental coordination arrangements that facilitate such processes through enhanced institutional coherence.

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<sup>6</sup> The Working Group had on previous occasions conducted such informal and voluntary surveys, with GFMD participating governments, on issues related to policy and institutional coherence, data and research, and to policy impact assessments.

The outcomes sought by this session could include models of effective programs that factor migration into development planning, based on updates by governments on current practices related to PRSPs, Extended Migration Profiles, Migration and Development Mainstreaming processes and related policy assessments. The session would also promote a more in-depth understanding of the concepts underlying these tools and the technical capacity required to implement them.

### ***Session 2.2 Addressing South-South Migration and Development Policies***

Co-chairs: Bangladesh (tbc); Ghana

Team members: Ethiopia (tbc), Kenya (tbc), Niger (tbc), Nigeria (tbc), Switzerland, UK

This session would deal with migration and development issues in the South-South migration context, an aspect to which the GFMD so far has paid insufficient attention. Considering the scarcity of reliable South-South migration data, the session would seek to shed more light on migrant stocks in developing countries and migratory movements between developing countries, and also examine the different types of such movements.

An estimated 35% of all migration occurs between developing countries, equating with the level of South-North migration. Many countries in the global South have also become destination and transit countries. In Africa, for example, some 80% of the migrant population remains on the African continent, while an estimated 40 million Asian migrants stay within Asia, i.e. nearly 20% of all international migrants of 214 million.

Notwithstanding the significance of political instability, civil conflict and environmental factors that also spur South-South movements, most South-South migration is for labour and employment purposes. And most of these movements occur between countries with contiguous borders and small differences in income. As many of these migrants moving to another country are poor, even small increases in income can have significant impacts on their human development and that of their family.

The session would discuss the linkages of these movements with development, and examine the development deficits and other drivers of South-South migration, including environment-induced migration. While recognizing the prevailing lack of data and information on social and economic conditions in many developing countries, it would also assess the positive and negative impacts on national development and social conditions in origin and destination countries, including gender implications and the situation of families remaining in their countries of origin. Women account for a large proportion of migration in the global South. Most of these migrant women work at the lower levels of the labour market, which often exposes them to exploitation and abuse, due to an environment that lacks basic protection guarantees and limits their developmental potential.

The session would further assess capacity building gaps in developing countries, explore cooperative partnerships among countries, and between countries and international organizations, to build such capacities, in particular for data collection and analysis, and enhanced migration governance. The session could *inter alia* be prepared in coordination with interested Regional Economic Communities (RECs) in Africa, as well as with relevant Regional Consultative Processes (RCPs) in certain regions to benefit from regional migration and development practices and experiences. In turn, GFMD concerns on Migration and Development Mainstreaming and Migration Profiles could be shared with interested regional bodies and processes in a mutually reinforcing approach.

Outcomes of this session could include strengthening national capacities to manage migration and development activities through improved data gathering procedures, cooperative research and information-sharing between countries of origin and destination in the South-South context. Other outcomes could consist of effective models for government cooperation with civil society to address the social conditions and well-being of migrants and their families in origin and destination countries. By focusing on the gender dimension, the session would also seek to identify national and regional policy and legal initiatives by origin and destination countries for social support systems to migrant women and their families.

### **Roundtable 3: Managing Migration and Migrant Protection for Human Development Outcomes**

Coordinator: Chukwu-Emeka Chikezie; (tbc)

This Roundtable would address different facets of migrant protection in specific and concrete contexts. First, it would explore how to manage public perceptions of migrants and migration, especially as these can in turn influence the protections and support given to migrants and consequently their capacity to contribute to human development. Second, it would focus on how to ensure that migration management policies and programs adequately protect migrants and their families in vulnerable circumstances. Third, it would look at protecting migrant domestic workers and enhancing their human development potential.

The Roundtable sessions would build upon discussions begun in Puerto Vallarta in 2010 and taken further in the Swiss thematic meetings in 2011, particularly in the context of mixed and/or irregular migration flows, or forms of labour mobility inadequately protected by labour laws, that can severely hamper the human development capacities of migrants. The sessions would aim for concrete solutions that involve a shared responsibility of all key actors – countries of origin, transit, and destination; the media; private sector; civil society; and migrants and diaspora themselves.

#### ***Session 3.1 Improving Public Perceptions of Migrants and Migration***

Co-chairs: Mexico, Portugal (tbc), Russia (tbc)

Team members: Philippines, Turkey

This session would examine the relevance of public perceptions of immigration and emigration (and by extension immigrants and emigrants) for successful human development outcomes of migration. The session would take as a starting point the human rights of all migrants and the rights of all minorities to live free from discrimination and stigma. The session would examine the critical roles that different actors – states, the media, employers and the private sector more generally, civil society, and migrants (and diaspora) – play in shaping public perceptions of migrants and migration and what specific steps they can take (individually and collectively) to improve perceptions of migration.

Specifically in relation to the media, the session would discuss its critical role, not just as a neutral purveyor of information (in the form of news, analysis, comment, etc) but also as a semi-autonomous mediator of public opinion, and by extension an agenda-setter for public policy. In other words, in reviewing evidence of the roles that accurate information or public engagement play in deepening public understanding of migration issues, the session would explore contexts in which information and public engagement are used to positive effect.

Key questions the session could explore might include: What/who shapes or influences perceptions? What might be areas where public perceptions of migration need to be changed? What actions need to be taken to change perceptions? While fostering an open space for healthy, if critical debate, about the pros and cons of migration for society, what are legitimate areas for governments to shape public perceptions of migration or to intervene to protect migrants from misinformed stigmatization and discrimination?

The session would explore how different facets of migration (including irregular migration) influence and shape public perceptions, and the political and policy measures most effective in creating an open space for healthy public discourse around immigration to enable a depoliticized debate and consideration of legitimate areas of concern.

In seeking workable solutions, the session could rehearse how the growing evidence about the importance of empowered migrants' visibility and voice, and migrant/diaspora-led development efforts and contributions to development, may be utilized to promote more realistic and fact-based public discourse on migration. This could foster a more balanced debate by and among the public and policy makers about international migration and development issues, global interdependence and how these are especially challenged by migration (and perceptions of migration). The effectiveness of innovative approaches such as migrants and diaspora telling

their own stories, to create more balanced public understanding of migration and its contributions to development, both in countries of origin and destination, could be assessed.

The session would aim to raise awareness of this issue and identify workable models of public debate and interaction between policy makers, politicians, the media and the community, that can shape public perceptions of migration based on objective information on migration. The session would draw upon contextualized case studies (i.e. taking account of the political culture and history of migration) from a range of countries, such as Canada and Australia, that have adopted inclusive, community-based approaches to addressing perceptions of migration, as well as other approaches by migrant origin/destination countries in both the global South and North.

Concrete outcomes could include model programs and practices at national and local levels in developed and developing countries that engage migrants, diaspora and the host communities in mutually beneficial ways; innovative media programs (including those using social media) that broaden public understanding and appreciation of the contributions migrants make to their home and host countries; shared understanding of the critical role that political leaders play in framing debates about migrants and migration; and strategies by countries of origin to shape in positive ways the public image of their emigrés while abroad and after return.

### ***Session 3.2 Migrant Protection as Integral to Migration Management***

Co-chairs: Australia, Indonesia

Team members: Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Philippines, USA

This session would examine migrant protection and migration management issues, particularly in contexts of mixed and/or irregular migration flows<sup>7</sup>. One potential approach would be for interested countries to analyze innovative national, regional, provincial or local initiatives to protect the human rights of migrants in vulnerable situations while enhancing migration management objectives. The session would take due cognizance of the gender dimensions of the challenge of integrating migrant protection within an overall migration management framework.

To allow for an in-depth and constructive discussion within the time available, such a meeting would likely limit its discussion to a few illustrative initiatives. The goal of the session would be to generate information on tools that GFMD member states could voluntarily employ, either unilaterally or in partnership with other interested states, to achieve overall migrant protection and migration management objectives that reflect the principle that those objectives are mutually reinforcing and can and must work in tandem.

The session would examine measures that states can implement themselves, rather than measures that states or international organizations would impose on others. The meeting would also highlight the responsibility of all states - including countries of origin, destination, and transit - to ensure and improve the protection of migrants in vulnerable situations, including women, who happen to be within their borders, within the overall migration and development objectives of the Roundtable theme. A number of possible scenarios, actual or hypothetical, could be employed to develop the discussion to best effect. Within the context of rights protection, governments could also look to making investments in health, legal and social protection as a part of migration policies to address the risks of women's vulnerability.

Possible outcomes sought by the session could be the articulation of good practices, policies, and/or programs by countries individually or jointly that (1) offer or guarantee significant protection to irregular migrants, or migrants in highly vulnerable situations; (2) seek to accomplish critically important migration management

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<sup>7</sup> IOM describes mixed migration flows as complex phenomena composed of, among others, unaccompanied minors; victims of trafficking; refugees; economic migrants, high and low skilled; stranded migrants; migrants moving for environmental reasons; smuggled migrants. See Glossary on Migration, IOM, International Migration Law, Geneva, 2004 ([http://www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/site/myjahiasite/shared/shared/mainsite/published\\_docs/serial\\_publications/Glossary\\_eng.pdf](http://www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/site/myjahiasite/shared/shared/mainsite/published_docs/serial_publications/Glossary_eng.pdf)), p 42.

and/or law enforcement objectives; (3) offer the prospect of a significant impact on participating states' protection or migration management objectives; and (4) are replicable from one country to another or one region to another.

### ***Session 3.3 Protecting Migrant Domestic Workers: Enhancing their Human Development Potential.***

Co-chairs: Philippines, Turkey

Team members: Belgium, Ecuador (tbc), Finland (tbc), Ghana, Jamaica, Mexico, South Africa (tbc), USA,

This session would build on the work of GFMD 2010 and 2011 on the special case study of migrant domestic workers at the interface of migration and development - one of the largest categories of marginalized migrant workers. It would discuss the contribution of migrant domestic work to human development; current gaps in data collection and analysis on migrant domestic workers and ways in which these can be addressed, including through Migration Profiles as tools for appropriate policy formulation; models of legal, social and financial protection for domestic workers, including a gender-sensitive checklist as an aide to governments developing and implementing gender sensitive legislation, in line with the new ILO Convention 189.

The session could explore international best practice models in South Africa, France and the Middle East, but also highlight policy challenges, as well as regulatory and good practice deficits in the implementation of Convention 189. It could present coherent recommendations and a feasible international action plan to address these deficits, and propose the strengthening of capacity of stakeholders for effective enforcement and monitoring. It will also explore opportunities for mapping out a professional trajectory of domestic workers, to break their very low career ceiling and improve their access to alternative job opportunities.

The session could aim for the following outcomes: a) models of legal, health, social and other protections available to migrant domestic workers, and their applicability for policy makers in all countries; b) finalization, dissemination and utilization of the gender sensitive checklist (extensively discussed at GFMD 2011) for the protection of domestic workers; c) factoring international domestic work in country and regional Migration Profiles; and d) country reports on legal and social protections for domestic workers.

#### ***Timelines for RT Session preparations***

By early March, 2012, the RT Co-chairs and Coordinators will have completed draft RT Session Concept Notes and shared them with the respective team members, who will be expected to comment on them in the course of March. By the end of March, all RT Session Concept Notes will have been finalized and posted on the GFMD website. The major part of the RT preparatory work (background paper, planning of the session) will take place in April–August, mostly by emails and teleconferences. Regular RT team meetings will be held on the margins of the FOF meetings in Geneva in April, June and September. In September, the RT teams will review and finalize all RT Session Background Papers. **The final RT Sessions will take place at the GFMD Summit Meeting in Mauritius on 21-22 November, 2012.**

## **5. GFMD Assessment - Phase II**

The Chair will pay particular attention to Phase II of the overall assessment of the GFMD and guide this activity in 2012. The process will be conducted with full transparency, and the Chair and the Assessment Team will consult closely with all governments at all stages of the process, as well as the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on International Migration and Development. In line with the scenario agreed at the 2010 GFMD meeting in Puerto Vallarta, the assessment will be concluded by the end of 2012.

The 02 December 2011 Special Session on the Assessment unanimously endorsed the Survey and Assessment Report on Phase I, which examined the way the GFMD operates as a process, including its structures, the

impact and relevance of its outcomes, and its relationship with other stakeholders.<sup>8</sup> On the basis of this Assessment Report, Phase II will be dedicated to a political and strategic discussion among all GFMD participating governments on possible options for the future of the GFMD.

This analysis and discussion will be guided by the “Work Plan for the Assessment Team in 2012” (see Annex 1) adopted at the 2011 Special Session, which specifies the assessment activities in 2012. While the 2011 Assessment Report will inform the strategic analysis on the Forum’s future, the discussion with the Steering Group and the Friends of the Forum will be of a political nature and thus not strictly limited to the actual findings of the report.

Between January and May 2012, the Assessment Team will discuss specific areas for possible improvements of the way the GFMD functions as a process, structured along the related sections of the 2011 Assessment Report. It will concurrently analyze possible options concerning its relationship with the United Nations, the Global Migration Group and other relevant international agencies, and civil society. The results of these reflections will be shared with the Steering Group and Friends of the Forum, to elicit their views on the different options proposed.

In June 2012, the Assessment Team will present a consolidated paper on the possible options for the Forum’s future to the Steering Group and Friends of the Forum. Based on their responses, a revised paper will be prepared in August and re-submitted to the Steering Group and Friends of the Forum. A final consolidated document would then be prepared for discussion and endorsement at the GFMD Summit Meeting on 21-22 November 2012 in Mauritius. The final assessment report would be prepared by the Mauritian Chair before 31 December 2012.<sup>9</sup> (See Annex 2 for the Provisional Calendar of key GFMD 2012 Meetings.)

## **6. GFMD Supporting Structures**

The Mauritian chairmanship follows a series of successful GFMD meetings hosted by Belgium (2007), the Philippines (2008), Greece (2009), Mexico (2010) and Switzerland (2011). In line with the GFMD Operating Modalities, the Chair’s preparatory work will be assisted by the following GFMD supporting structures and partners:

**The Troika**, which includes the outgoing Chair, the Chair-in-Office and the forthcoming Chair of the Forum.

**The Steering Group**, comprising a regional balance of governments firmly committed to offer sustained political and conceptual support to the Forum process and the Chair-in-Office, and ensure continuity of the process. Meetings in 2012 will be held in Geneva.

**The Friends of the Forum**, which is open to all States Members and Observers of the United Nations. Specialized agencies of the United Nations and other international organizations are invited as observers. There will be at least 3 FOF meetings in 2012, in Geneva.

**The Special Representative of the Secretary General on International Migration and Development**, who is invited to the Troika, Steering Group, FOF and Assessment Team meetings, and co-chairs the Special Session on the Future of the Forum.

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<sup>8</sup> The 73-page Assessment Report was prepared by an Assessment Team comprising Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, India, Kenya, Mexico, Mauritius (Chair), Morocco, the Netherlands, the Philippines, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Arab Emirates. An independent expert assisted in the process, in conjunction with the Swiss Task Force.

<sup>9</sup> Subject to further discussion, this comprehensive report would include the 2011 Phase I Survey and Assessment Report, the final Assessment Document adopted at the Mauritius GFMD Summit Meeting, and also reflect the discussion of the Special Session on the Assessment at this Summit meeting. Subject to the agreement by all Friends of the Forum, the report would be presented to the 2013 UN High Level Dialogue in New York, in a form yet to be decided.

**The Chair's Task Force**, established to help with preparatory activities, comprising officials from all relevant Mauritian Departments/Ministries, as well as some international advisers mostly funded by other governments, GMG agencies or other partner agencies.

**The GFMD government-led *ad-hoc* Working Groups**, established by the Steering Group in line with the GFMD Operating Modalities, help prioritize and follow up on outcomes of previous GFMD meetings and link these to current and future thematic priorities.

**The Support Unit**, which is hosted by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and provides administrative and logistical support to the Chair-in-Office, including maintenance of the GFMD website and Platform for Partnership, financial management of donor funds, and organization of Troika, Steering Group, Friends of the Forum, Assessment Team, ad hoc Working Groups and other GFMD-related meetings.

## **7. Role of Non-State Partners**

The Mauritian Government proposes to work with the current civil society coordinator, ICMC, and a Mauritian-based civil society partner in 2012. In 2012, it is expected that civil society would continue to develop its own agenda, under the guidance of the technical secretariat of the ICMC and the Mauritian-based civil society partner. However, the Mauritian Chair remains open to at least some themes and outcomes being jointly pursued by governments and civil society, as a possible means of strengthening the interaction with civil society and the Common Space approach.

The private sector and international organizations are also encouraged to identify areas where they could provide support to governments. In particular, the member organizations of the Global Migration Group (see footnote 4 above) could support the Roundtable preparations with their current data, evidence and models of good practices, as has been the custom since 2007.

Special regard will be given to the “Common Space” arrangements developed in 2010 and expanded further in 2011, including possible modifications to the format that will be the subject of further discussions with the organizers of the Civil Society Days and the Steering Group.<sup>10</sup> In particular, efforts will be redoubled to structure a space facilitative of genuine dialogue and debate. Fundraising will commence to help cover the costs of the Mauritian civil society partner, also with the EU in Brussels.

Mauritius also encourages civil society to organize itself and formulate proposals for achieving, in partnership with governments, concrete outcomes that improve the wellbeing of migrants and strengthen their development impacts. Once such proposals have been formulated and are the subject of consensus with governments, they may be showcased on the GFMD Platform for Partnerships to mobilize further support and partnerships from other willing governments or expert agencies.

The Chair will encourage civil society and governments to explore all avenues for deeper interaction throughout the GFMD process in 2012.

*Mauritius GFMD Taskforce*  
27 February 2012

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<sup>10</sup> Recommendations for modifications were tabled during the Special Session on Engaging Non-Governmental Partners held during the GFMD Concluding Debate in Geneva on 2 December 2011. The Report of Proceedings of GFMD 2011 is now posted on the GFMD web portal: <http://www.gfmd.org/en/documents-library/switzerland-2011.html>

## Work Plan for the Assessment Team in 2012<sup>1</sup>

### Context

In discussions of the Steering Group and the Friends of the Forum in 2010, governments agreed on an assessment process that would be state-led, transparent and comprehensive, and be spearheaded by an Assessment Team that is selected from interested Steering Group Members.<sup>2</sup> They also agreed that the assessment process would be addressed in two parts:

- Part 1, implemented in 2011, examined the way the GFMD operates as a process, including its structures; addressed the impact and relevance of its outcomes in terms of substantive policy discussion, lessons learned and policy changes; and looked at the relationship of the state-led GFMD with other stakeholders. These issues were examined on the basis of the objectives stated in the 2007 GFMD Operating Modalities and the evolving practice of the GFMD process. The Assessment Team prepared a comprehensive report on this first part, which will inform the discussion at the GFMD 2011 Concluding Debate.
- Part 2, to be carried out in 2012, will be dedicated to a strategic and political discussion among the GFMD participating governments on possible options for the future of the GFMD, based on the results of Part 1.

During the Special Session on the Future of the Forum held in Puerto Vallarta in 2010, Heads of Delegation agreed on the Terms of Reference for the Assessment Team (attached). While these Terms of Reference provide detailed guidance for the Assessment Team's activities in 2011, they only offer general guidelines on the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the assessment to be carried out in 2012. This work plan specifies the Assessment Team's activities for 2012.

### Assessment Team's Work Plan for 2012

In close coordination with the GFMD Chair-in-Office and in on-going consultation with the Steering Group and the Friends of the Forum, the Assessment Team:

- Meets as convened by the Chair-in-Office;
- Reviews the report on Part 1 of the assessment, and, based on this review, prepares a discussion paper with possible options for the future of the GFMD;
- Presents this discussion paper to the Steering Group and the Friends of the Forum to elicit their views and opinions on the different options proposed;
- Presents a summary of the results of these consultations to the Steering Group and the Friends of the Forum during the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2012;
- If necessary, prepares a budget on costs related to the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the assessment process, to be brought to the attention of the Steering Group and the Friends of the Forum.

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<sup>1</sup> This Work Plan was endorsed during the Special Session on the Assessment at the GFMD 2011 Concluding Debate in Geneva.

<sup>2</sup> The Assessment Team is currently comprised by the following 14 countries: Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, India, Kenya, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, the Netherlands, the Philippines, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Arab Emirates.

**PROVISIONAL CALENDAR OF KEY GFMD 2012 MEETINGS<sup>1</sup>**  
(as of 27 April 2012<sup>2</sup>)

18-19 January	Informal Brainstorming Meetings for Governments and Non-Governmental Actors on the GFMD 2012 Concept Paper (Ebene, Mauritius)
06 February	1 <sup>st</sup> Meeting of the GFMD Assessment Team (Geneva)
06 February	1 <sup>st</sup> Meeting of the GFMD Steering Group (Geneva)
07 February	1 <sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Friends of the Forum (Geneva)
14 March	2 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the GFMD Assessment Team (Geneva)
26 April	3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the GFMD Assessment Team (Geneva)
27 April	2 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the GFMD Steering Group (Geneva)
27 April	2 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Friends of the Forum (Geneva)
25 May	4 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the GFMD Assessment Team (Geneva)
18 June	5 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the GFMD Assessment Team (Geneva)
18 June	3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the GFMD Steering Group (Geneva)
19 June	3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Friends of the Forum (Geneva)
12 September	6 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the GFMD Assessment Team (Geneva)
12 September	4 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the GFMD Steering Group (Geneva)
13 September	4 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Friends of the Forum (Geneva)
<b>21-22 Nov</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> GFMD Summit Meeting (Mauritius)</b>
December 2012 -	Wrap-up arrangements for handover; Preparation, posting and printing of final report of proceedings of GFMD 2012

<sup>1</sup> This calendar does not include activities of the ad hoc Working Groups and the Platform for Partnerships, which support the Chair's thematic agenda with their respective work plans for the year.

<sup>2</sup> Please check the web portal ([www.gfmd.org](http://www.gfmd.org)) for the most updated calendar of activities.

## Global Forum on Migration and Development

Mauritius 2012

### Guidelines for the Government Roundtable (RT) Sessions

These Guidelines are intended to assist co-chairs and team members of the GFMD Roundtable sessions in the preparation and conduct of their sessions in Mauritius on 21-22 November 2012.

#### I. Roundtable Sessions and Teams

The Mauritius GFMD Summit Meeting on 21-22 November 2012 will be structured around seven Roundtable sessions organized under three Roundtables. To guarantee transparency and broad participation in the preparations of the meeting, the Chair-in-Office invited interested Friends of the Forum to partner in the preparation and conduct of these sessions.

##### *i) Roundtable session teams*

Each session team will be led by two or more co-chairs, ideally representing developed and developing country governments, in close cooperation with the RT Coordinators from the Chair's Taskforce. The co-chairs are expected to ensure the drafting of the RT session background paper, plan the session with their team, and moderate the final RT session in November.

Other Friends of the Forum governments may join in the Roundtable session teams to assist with thematic input, drafting or review of background papers, and conduct of the session. The co-chairs and team members may invite non-state experts to join in the preparations of the RT background papers.

Co-chairs and team members should bring relevant policy expertise, government practice and useful examples or models to the preparation and discussions of the sessions in Mauritius. An appropriate mix of expertise is essential, including the perspectives and experience of migrant origin, transit and destination countries. Any costs of supporting events or studies must be fully covered and cannot be funded from the GFMD budget.

Government teams should, as far as possible, be regionally balanced and include an appropriate mix of developing and developed countries. The co-chairs should represent different regions. Government participation in the session teams is voluntary, both for co-chairs and team members.

##### *ii) Tasks of the Roundtable session teams*

Each session team will need to:

- produce a brief **background paper** (see outline below) as the basis for the session discussion.
- agree on the scope and **format** of the RT session (panel, open discussion etc).
- identify, **as appropriate, panelists, speakers, discussants and rapporteurs** for the session.

The RT session background paper should be prepared (or coordinated) by the co-chairs, with the assistance of and input by the team members and, as appropriate, international experts and organizations, and with support and guidance of the respective RT Coordinator. The background paper should be brief and pose a limited number of questions to be addressed during the session, describe existing initiatives and lessons learned, and propose some practical outcomes (see below).

The session team members should contribute their experiences and good/bad practices to the background paper and the session discussion. They will also assist in the revision of the background papers, planning of the session panel and discussion, and participate in the discussion.

RT co-chairs are expected to submit to the GFMD Chair the first draft of their background paper by **August 2012**. The final version will be disseminated to all FOFs by **early November 2012**.

### *iii) Format of GFMD Roundtable sessions*

The format of each Roundtable session in November will be discussed and agreed among RT co-chairs, team members and coordinator as the session preparations progress.

Guidelines on the conduct of Roundtable sessions and the roles of moderators/chairs, panelists, rapporteurs etc. will be provided by the GFMD Mauritius Taskforce **by end of July 2012**. The Chatham Rule will apply to the RT session discussions and reports thereof.

## **II. Proposed Outline of Roundtable session Background Papers**

*Executive Summary* - 1 paragraph

### *1. Background and Context* – 1 page

- a) Rationale, definitions and principles
- b) Objectives and key propositions

### *2. Policies and Practices* – 3-4 pages

- a) Key examples of current/proposed effective and less effective practices (with annexes as necessary)
- b) Evaluations or measures of effectiveness and impacts of policies and practices.
- c) Lessons learned

### *3. Questions and Possible Outcomes*- 1 page

- a) Remaining/emerging issues and challenges for governments (knowledge gaps; “replicability” of good practices, and scaling-up opportunities; efficiency/effectiveness indicators;etc.)
- b) Questions to guide the RT discussion (ideally three questions).
- c) Possible outcomes at national, bilateral or multilateral level; research; partnerships, etc.

This outline is indicative and can be adapted according to the sessions, in coordination between the co-chairs and the RT coordinators. The background papers should be **limited to 6-7 pages** to ensure efficient preparation of the discussion.