GFMD 2014-2015 Common Space


Introduction

Since 2010, the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) Common Space has been the principal venue for interaction between Governments, the civil society and other relevant stakeholders during the GFMD Summit meeting.

The GFMD Common Space brings stakeholders from all sectors concerned with migration and development to discuss issues of mutual interest. The overarching theme and sub-themes are decided jointly by the Chair’s Taskforce/Secretariat and the civil society coordinating office ICMC since 2011.


Structure of the GFMD 2014-2015 Common Space

As in the past, the Istanbul Common Space will be held immediately after the opening ceremony of the GFMD Summit, from 15h30 to 19h40. The structure of the 2015 government-civil society interaction will be as follows:

(a) It will open with an introductory plenary session (45 minutes) featuring an inspirational key note address by a global leader (to be announced), who can articulate the rightful place of migrants and migration in the post-2015 development era. The proposed theme of the key note is: “From Millennium to Sustainable Development Goals - integrating migration on the agenda of the 21st century.” The keynote will be followed by a small, moderated and semi-structured panel comprised of government and civil society representatives, and then an interactive question-and-answer session with the floor.

(b) After the introductory plenary, government and civil society delegates will proceed to the break-out sessions. There will be three parallel break-out sessions (120 minutes) with panels featuring government authorities, civil society leaders, and other relevant stakeholders. The break-out sessions will focus on the following themes:

1. Partnerships and action for the protection of migrants in crises and in transit
2. Partnerships and action for decent migrant labour recruitment and employment
3. Beyond xenophobia and exclusion: local partnerships and action for the social inclusion of migrants and diasporas

The cross-cutting theme of “Partnerships and action on indicators and implementation of the new SDGs” will run across all break-out sessions. This means each session will aim to identify concrete indicators and ways of implementation to ensure protection of migrants in crises and in transit, decent migrant labour recruitment and employment, and social inclusion of migrants and diaspora.

(c) Following the 2-hour break-out sessions, all delegates will reconvene for a wrap-up plenary session (40 minutes). Rapporteurs of the three parallel break-out sessions will present a brief report on the highlights of each session.