



**Migration and human mobility
in the context of the Post-2015 development agenda**

Side event to the High-level Political Forum
organized by the Global Forum on Migration and Development
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Delivered by Ms. Sonia Plaza, World Bank, representing the GMG Chair

Chair of the Global Forum on Migration and Development Ambassador Mehmet Samsar,
Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,

Thank you for inviting the World Bank in its capacity as Chair of the Global Migration Group to contribute to this important discussion.

The World Bank approaches migration from a development perspective. The overall objectives of the World Bank GMG chairmanship are two-fold: (a) to continue deepening the linkages between migration and development, applying a human rights and gender sensitive approach, based on the multi-annual work plan (MAWP) of the Global Migration Group covering the three-year period from 2013 to 2015; and (b) strengthen team work among the 18 GMG agencies.

The Global Migration Group supports the inclusion of migration in the Post-2015 Development Agenda. The 18 members of the Global Migration Group (GMG) welcome the progress made towards the inclusion of migration related targets in the proposed sustainable development goals of the post-2015 development agenda. I refer in particular to the targets related to protecting the labour rights and promoting safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers (SDG8.8), safe, orderly and regular migration (SDG 10.7), human trafficking, and disaggregation by migratory status (SDG17.18) as well as the target on remittances (SDG 10c).

The GMG highlights the importance of elaborating sound indicators, aligned to human rights principles and standards, to measure progress towards migration-related targets. In this context, KNOMAD organized the first retreat on indicators that proposed indicators on the reduction of migration costs including recruitment costs, visa costs, passport costs and working permits last April 17, 2013. Other labour migration costs relating to wages, working conditions, skills/qualifications recognition and social security also need to be considered. Two additional retreats were organized jointly with the UNDESA/IOM/GMG working group on data and research and KNOMAD to discuss a set of indicators. It was suggested that indicators should focus mostly on opportunities of migration for development, that cooperation should be sought with the statistical community, given its role in selecting indicators, and that the case should be made to strengthen migration data and capacity building. We are glad that our evidence-based advocacy as indicated above, together with SRSG Sutherland, on the contribution of international migrants, migration and mobility to global sustainable development is paying off.

However, we are concerned about the one-sided, negative reference to migration in the pre-ambular text of the zero draft of the post-2015 outcome document. We are heartened by the commitment of the co-facilitators to redress this issue in the next version of the text.

In the context of the SDGs, the GMG is now pursuing two key technical issues.

First, what indicators to use to monitor the implementation of the migration-related targets?

Second, what indicators to disaggregate by migratory status?

The GMG Chair has submitted a proposal to the secretariat of the Inter-agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators. We hope that our proposals, which are work-in-progress, can count on buy-in from Member States and other key stakeholders.

The GMG working group on data and research is finalizing this set of indicators submitted including their operational definition, rationale for use of the indicator, method of computation, data sources and references, periodicity of measurement, gender and disaggregation issues, data limitations, and agencies involved in data collection, compilation and dissemination.

Just as we have been working closely with Member States in the Open Working Group on the SDGs, we look forward to working with the members of the Inter-agency and Expert Group on SDGs, some of which are present here today.

With regard to issues raised in the concept note, let me make four points.

First, this year, the GMG is strengthening the collaboration with the GFMD and the G-20. In this respect, we welcome the decision by the Turkish Presidency to place development at the center of its G20 agenda. We are pleased to announce that we organized a G-20/GFMD/GMG joint event at the margins of the G-20 Development Working Group meeting on June 3, 2015. The joint event was hosted by the Government of Turkey, concurrent Chair of the G-20 and GFMD for 2015. This was the first time that the migration topic was included as part of the agenda of the Development Working Group. Spain, France, Italy, Greece and other countries welcomed this topic in the discussions since the Development Working Group has been also working on remittances. In addition, ILO, OECD and the World Bank are preparing a joint paper “The Contributions of Labour Mobility to Economic Growth” for the 3rd G-20 Employment Working Group meeting (23-25 July 2015).

Second, the GMG will continue working in developing the indicators for the Post-2015 development agenda as well as to work on the retention of the references to migration and remittances in the outcome document in the Third International Conference on Financing for Development. The GMG is co-organizing a side event with the OECD policy centre at the third FfD. While countries are responsible for their own development, implementation of the post-2015 agenda will require partnerships between a broad range of relevant stakeholders, leveraging their resources and unique skills and advantages.

Third, the GMG members can contribute to the technical discussions and support the GFMD at the request of the GFMD Chair and participating States in preparing background notes, organizing thematic meetings, etc. We welcome this collaboration, also with SRSG Sutherland, which we hope will be even closer as the GFMD work programme is aligning itself with the post-2015 development agenda as well as their implementation.

Some possible areas:

- The working group on Migration, Human Rights and Gender is working with KNOMAD in piloting the migrants’ rights indicators including access to health, education and decent work in Mexico and negotiations are underway for identifying a second country. The findings can also serve as inputs in to the roundtable 2.2 on “Making migration work post-2015: implementing the SDGs.
- The GMG can build bridges between the global, regional and local level. For this, it is important that migration is included in national development plans, poverty reduction strategy papers, common country analyses and related frameworks. In this regard, the GMG is currently developing UNDAF guidelines on migration. The task force on capacity building jointly with JDMI, UNDP and KNOMAD through its work on migration and cities is working in preparing the Second Mayoral Forum in Quito, Ecuador.

Fourth, the GMG could contribute to the monitoring, evaluation and reporting mechanisms enumerated in the SGs synthesis report, in particular with regard to (a) accountability mechanisms at country level, (b) the regional trends and lessons learnt, (c) the universal periodic reviews, and (d) the global thematic reviews. A

GMG report could also be presented during the debate on international migration and development in the second committee of the General Assembly. However, it will be important to work with the GFMD since there is a shift from international global monitoring (largely by UN agencies) in the MDGs to a country reporting framework in the SDGs.

Dear colleagues,

Going forward, let me leave you with two thoughts.

First, the proposed final outcome document of the Financing for Development Conference contains a paragraph on migration, which includes the following text: “We recognize that international migration is a multidimensional reality of major relevance for the development of origin, transit, and destination countries that must be addressed in a coherent, comprehensive and balanced manner. We will cooperate internationally to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration, with full respect for human rights. We endeavour to increase cooperation on access to and portability of earned benefits, enhance the recognition of foreign qualifications, education, and skills, lower the costs of recruitment for migrants, and combat unscrupulous recruiters, in accordance with national circumstances and legislation. We further endeavour to implement effective social communication strategies on the contribution of migrants to sustainable development in all its dimensions, in particular in countries of destination, in order to combat xenophobia, facilitate social integration, and protect migrants’ human rights through national frameworks. We reaffirm the need to promote and protect effectively the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, especially those of women and children, regardless of their migration status.”

The GMG advocated for all these points and will continue to monitor their implementation.

Financing for Development is directly linked to reducing the costs of migration and to ensuring financial inclusion of migrants. Increasing competition and transparency in origin and destination countries, using new technologies, and lowering the costs of remittances are also part of this agenda. The FfD and the Post-2015 Development Framework could be aligned.

The second is review and implementation. The new SDG framework places a huge responsibility on the international community to assist Member States in data collection. I call on donors to launch a dedicated data and capacity building initiative to (a) improve the collection and use of migration data for development from all data sources, and (b) invest in the disaggregation of development indicators by migratory status.

In this context, let me propose to Bangladesh, the incoming GMFD Chair, to organize a thematic meeting in Dhaka on measuring the implementation of the migration-related targets of the sustainable development goals. The GMG stands ready to assist you in such an endeavour.

Lastly, let me reiterate that the GMG stands ready to support Member States, the international community and other relevant stakeholders in their efforts to foster the inclusion of migrants and migration in the post-2015 development agenda and in the implementation of the migration related goals and targets of the post-2015 development agenda, to build national migration capacities, and to strengthen national data collection systems.

Thank you.