



## **GFMD Dialogue on the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration**

Palais des Nations, Geneva, 6 April, 2017

Room XXVII

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### **Working Session III:**

#### **GCM Cluster 6: Irregular migration and regular pathways, including decent work, labour mobility, recognition of skills and qualifications, and other relevant measures**

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This session focuses on drawing recommendations from GFMD discussions for Cluster 6 of the Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, on the issue of irregular migration and regular pathways, including decent work, labour mobility, recognition of skills and qualifications, and other relevant measures. The 2007 Belgian Chairmanship focused on human capital development and labour mobility; as well as fostering the positive contribution of remittances and other diaspora resources. Subsequent chairmanships have continued this important thematic discussion. The issue of protecting and empowering migrants for development was brought to the fore with setting up of an informal ad hoc working group in 2009. Recommendations emerging from roundtable discussions and thematic workshops on related issues, included governments to consider circular or temporary migration schemes as an innovative approach to foster partnerships between sending and receiving countries, promoting bilateral circular labour agreements. This would address a country of origin's responsibility for skills recognition of workers when they return; at the same time the ad hoc group agreed on the need for advancing the thinking on labour migration by focusing on better skills matching as well as on the role of the diaspora in promoting trade and investments.

The objective of this session is to identify key policy recommendations and best practices, drawn from GFMD reports, that might be of particular relevance for GFMD's contribution to the Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.

#### **Key recommendations from GFMD Discussions**

1. Explore policy options to create more safe and legal channels for migrants to move in safety. There needs to be sustainable policies and strategic partnerships with international institutions, government and civil society organisations to prevent irregular and potentially dangerous migratory movements. Admissions based on market and labour needs can be considered, while also enhancing other pathways which may exist for student mobility, family reunification, and entrepreneur and/or investor schemes. (2007; 2014-2015)

2. Develop global, regional and bilateral agreements that promote human mobility between States and which also provide flexibility to migrants to move between different mobility pathways, including seasonal, temporary or circular migration. (2012)
3. Promoting the assessment, and mainstreaming of migration into national development planning and vice-versa, and explore how the migration-related goals of the 2030 Agenda can be subsequently mainstreamed into development planning. (2013-2014)
4. Protection of migrant workers to be prioritized throughout the labour migration process, including through ethical recruitment, industry-led social responsibility and multi-stakeholder certification schemes, as well as increased partnerships with private enterprises. (2009; 2014-15)
5. Promoting government-to-government collaboration and public-private partnerships to enable skills and qualifications recognition that facilitates labour mobility. (2007; 2009; 2012)
6. Address ways to enhance portability of social security coverage and pension benefits among States for migrants. (2010; 2012)
7. Whole-of-government approach to address mobility pathways, including providing evidence-based guidelines to migrants during pre-departure, pre-employment and post-arrival orientation. (2007; 2009)
8. Gender mainstreaming to be prioritized in migration policy, to anticipate and mitigate possible negative impacts for women and men during the migration process. This includes adoption of gender sensitive labor migration policies and practices ensuring decent working conditions; the establishment of gender sensitive support structures in destination countries; and improve gender-related data collection and analysis of the impact of migration on families. (2007)
9. Information to be provided to migrants at all stages of the migration process. In parallel, awareness raising campaigns in the destination countries could inform the public about migrants' contribution to their development. (2009)
10. Promote adherence to international laws, while ensuring that human trafficking and smuggling is prevented, enhance closer collaboration on data-sharing and migration management between law enforcement and labor administration apparatus, and implement interventions viewed at raising and enhancing protection of vulnerable persons. (2007; 2008; 2009)

#### **Guiding Questions:**

1. What best practices and innovative approaches can be implemented that would provide more legal pathways for migration?
2. What approaches have proven successful and could be reviewed for transposition in addressing and preventing irregular flows including the resort to smuggling, overstay, inappropriate and unlawful documentation?
3. In what ways can States promote government-to-government collaboration and public-private partnership that would enhance skills recognition and skills mobility amongst migrants, which would benefit both host and origin countries?
4. How to promote ethical recruitment programmes and adherence to existing legal frameworks amongst all stakeholders, including employers, recruitment agencies, etc.?