

A Thematic Meeting on Migration in the Post-2015 UN Development Agenda

Thursday, 5 February 2015
09.00 to 17.30 hrs
La Salle V, R3 Level, ILO Building, Geneva

CONCEPT NOTE

This meeting will assess the progress that has been made in ensuring the inclusion of migrants and migration in the post-2015 UN development agenda—a goal to which the Turkish GFMD Chair is fully committed. The meeting also will help determine how the GFMD can continue to play a proactive and determinative role in achieving this goal.

The 2014 GFMD in Stockholm produced a series of clear recommendations on migration in the post-2015 agenda, guided by two principles: The promotion of the human rights of migrants, and the recognition of migrants and migration as enablers of development. The main recommendations were to include: i) migration in the narrative of the agenda; ii) migration in the means of implementation; iii) migration-related targets under a number of relevant goals; and iv) disaggregated reporting and follow-up to account for migrant status, in order to capture development outcomes for migrants. The recommendations were submitted to the UN Secretary-General, as well as to the co-chairs of the Open Working Group on the Sustainable Development Goals.

Since then, the Open Working Group has issued its report with proposed Sustainable Development Goals and the UN Secretary-General has presented his Synthesis Report on the post-2015 agenda—both of which, to a significant degree, echo the goals set out by the GFMD. In addition, the SG's Synthesis Report suggests annual thematic reviews, with state-led sharing of best practices and the production of annual thematic reports.

This Thematic Meeting will showcase what the inclusion of migration in the post-2015 agenda could mean in practice, by sharing ongoing national examples of initiatives under two of the proposed migration-related targets¹ in the OWG-report; it also will consider how voluntary follow-up could be done in practice. Governments are therefore invited to come prepared to share their experiences related to targets:

8.8 protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments of all workers, including migrant workers, particularly women migrants, and those in precarious situations; and

10.7 facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies

Members of the Global Migration Group will also be asked to share ongoing efforts to review initiatives and commitments in these areas.

¹ To focus the discussions, the meeting has been structured around two migration-related targets currently in the OWG-report – i.e., promoting decent work and facilitating well-managed migration. But there are other equally important targets such as **10.c:** by 2030, reduce to less than 3% the transaction costs of migrant remittances and eliminate remittance corridors with costs higher than 5%; **17.18:** by 2020, enhance capacity building support to developing countries to increase the availability

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PRELIMINARY AGENDA

09:00 – 10:00 Registration / Welcome Coffee

10:00 – 10:10 Opening statement

- Ambassador Mehmet Samsar, Director General for Consular Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey

10:10 – 11:45 Setting the scene

- Mr. Riaz Hamidullah, Director General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bangladesh
- Dr. Goetz Schmidt-Bremme, Director for Legal and Consular Issues, German Federal Foreign Office
- Mr. Gregory A. Maniatis, Senior Adviser to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on International Migration
 - A reflection on how GFMD recommendations have been accommodated in the reports by the OWG and the UN SG, as well as on the GFMD's possible role in the follow-up and review of the post-2015 agenda
- Mr. John Bingham, Head of Policy, ICMC
 - Civil Society presentation of the 'Stockholm Agenda'
- Open Discussion

11:45 – 13:15 Session 1: Promoting Decent Work – sharing government initiatives and exploring possible GFMD role in the thematic follow up and review of the Post-2015 agenda

Target 8.8 of the OWG report is to "protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments of all workers, including migrant workers, particularly women migrants, and those in precarious situations"

- Introduction by Mr Riaz Hamidullah
- Presentation by Ms. Michelle Leighton, Chief of Labour Migration Branch, ILO
- Presentation of national initiatives promoting decent work for migrants
 - Mr. Natapanu Nopakun, Minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations and Other Organizations in Geneva (UNOG)
 - Ms. Rosanna Margiotta, Chief of Unit, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, Italy
- Open Discussion
 - Guiding questions:
 1. What is the key priority of your government when it comes to promoting decent work for migrants?
 2. What indicators would you like to see measuring progress towards this target?
 3. Please share about your government's initiatives to –
 - a) upgrade the labour standards for migrants
 - b) improve employment, wages and working conditions of migrants.

13:15 – 15:00 Lunch (hosted by the Turkish GFMD chair)

15:00 – 16:30 Session 2: Facilitating Well-Managed Migration - sharing government initiatives and exploring possible GFMD role in the thematic follow up and review of the Post-2015 agenda

Target 10.7 of the OWG report is to "facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies"

- Introduction by Dr. Goetz Schmidt-Bremme
- Presentation by Ms. Jill Helke, Director, International Cooperation and Partnership, IOM
- Presentation of national initiatives facilitating well-managed migration
 - Mr. Ahmed Skim, Director for Migration Affairs, Ministry in charge with Moroccans Residing Abroad and Migration Affairs, Morocco
 - Ms. Kate O'Malley, Minister Counsellor (Immigration), Permanent Mission of Australia to the UNOG
- Open Discussion
 - Guiding questions:
 1. What is the key priority of your government when it comes to facilitating well-managed migration?
 2. What indicators would you like to see measuring progress towards this?
 3. Please share about your government's initiatives to –
 - a. facilitate legal channels of migration
 - b. reduce recruitment costs
 - c. facilitate access to, and portability of social security coverage
 - d. promote recognition of skills and qualifications

16:30 – 17:10 Special session: GMG Perspective and Future work on Migration in Post-2015 Development Agenda

- Ms. Esen Altug, Deputy Director General for Migration, Asylum and Visa, Turkish MFA
- Mr. Dilip Ratha, Lead Economist, World Bank, Current GMG Chair and Head of the Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development (KNOMAD)
- Mr Bela Hovy, Chief, Migration Section, UNDESA
- Open Discussion

17:10 – 17:30 Concluding discussion

- Ms. Kathleen Newland, Director of the Migrants, Migration, and Development Program, Migration Policy Institute (MPI)
- Ms. Esen Altug for the Turkish GFMD Chair