

**TWELFTH COORDINATION MEETING ON  
INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION**

Population Division  
Department of Economic and Social Affairs  
United Nations Secretariat  
New York, 20-21 February 2014

**REPORT TO THE POPULATION DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC  
AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS<sup>1</sup>**

*Center for Migration Studies*

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<sup>1</sup> The views expressed in the paper do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the United Nations Secretariat.

The Center for Migration Studies (CMS) is a New York-based educational institute/think tank devoted to the study of international migration, to the promotion of understanding between immigrants and receiving communities, and to public policies that safeguard the dignity and rights of migrants. CMS has made substantive contributions to the follow-up to and the implementation of the 2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (HLD) through its programmatic work in four principal areas. CMS makes substantive contributions to migration and development through its programmatic work in four principal areas. First, the Center publishes cutting-edge journals, books and policy-related articles on international migration, including scholarship focused on migration and development. Second, CMS sponsors conferences, meetings, briefings, and seminars on migration-related issues and policies. Third, CMS has actively participated in international dialogues under the theme of migration and development. Fourth, the global dimension of CMS is reinforced through its affiliation with the Scalabrini International Migration Network (SIMN), a faith-based network which links 270 programs for migrants worldwide. Fifth, CMS makes a significant contribution to migration-related scholarship through maintaining an extensive archive of immigration history.

#### A. CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE 2013 HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

##### 1. *International Migration Publications*

###### a. *International Migration Review*

The Center's signature publication, the International Migration Review (IMR), is a leading social science journal covering the field of international migration. By providing a forum for interdisciplinary perspectives on migration and development, IMR has supported and strengthened the growing body of policy-relevant research on this theme. Over the past decade, IMR has published over 45 articles, book reviews and conference proceedings specifically focused on migration and development. Among these publications are the address of United Nations (UN) former Secretary General Mr. Kofi Annan to the first High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development in 2006 and the Chairperson's Summary of the High-level Dialogue.

In spring of 2014, CMS will release a thematic edition of IMR on South-South migration covering trends, emerging patterns, and analytic and policy issues concerning international migration between and among developing nations and transitional economies in the Global South. The collection will feature articles addressing the potential development impact of migration on developing destination countries. The

edition makes an important contribution as one of the first scholarly volumes devoted to South-South migration.

In 2014, CMS will also release a Golden Anniversary Edition of IMR, which will be a centerpiece of the organization's 50th anniversary year. The special edition will feature substantial and ground-breaking articles from leading international scholars. CMS has appointed a distinguished, international group of guest editors for the volume: Archbishop Silvano Tomasi, Permanent Observer Mission of the Holy See to the United Nations and Specialized Organization in Geneva, Switzerland; Jørgen Carling, Peace Research Institute Oslo; Jennifer Lee, University of California, Irvine; and Pia Orrenius, Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas.

On September 30, 2014, CMS will host an all-day conference in celebration of the Golden Anniversary Edition. The convening will gather early career scholars and distinguished academics to discuss the issues and findings featured in both the thematic and special editions.

*b. Journal on Migration and Human Security*

In 2013, CMS initiated The Journal on Migration and Human Security (JMHS), a new peer-reviewed, public policy publication devoted to US and international policy debates on migration. This publication complements IMR by bridging the academic and public policy communities, recognizing that important migration-related issues, scholarship and analysis do not receive sufficient attention in public policy circles. JMHS addresses this concern by publishing concise, evidence-based papers on a monthly basis in an online, open access format. JMHS's theme of human security is meant to evoke the widely shared goals of creating secure and sustaining conditions in migrant sending communities; promoting safe, legal migration options; and developing immigration and integration policies that benefit receiving communities and allow newcomers to lead productive, secure lives. JMHS has published articles covering topics such as birth right citizenship; asylum adjudication; alternatives to detention; the role of day labour centers in promoting immigrant integration; the evolution of human security discourse; US labour standards enforcement; and legalization programs for the unauthorized population. CMS actively disseminates journal articles to policymakers, NGOs, United Nations entities, pastoral workers, scholars, and others. CMS is in the process of producing the first annual print volume, which will present over 200 pages of original articles and book reviews. CMS will also produce a series exploring different issues and gaps within refugee protection schemes.

## *2. International Migration Events*

### *a. Side Events to the 2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development*

CMS holds an average of one event per month that serve as fora for the dissemination of research, policy analysis, information and ideas among a broad range of stakeholders on international migration issues. In the past year, CMS has hosted multiple dialogues and side events that explore specific thematic issues in connection with the High-level Dialogue.

On July 15, 2013, CMS co-hosted a side event at the Informal Interactive Hearings on the United Nations High-level Dialogue with the International Organization for Migration (IOM), titled “Human Security, Civil Society and Migration” at United Nations Headquarters in New York, United States of America. Panellists discussed migration and development through the lens of human security, highlighting grassroots efforts by civil society and various international governmental organizations activities. Speakers included Fr. Leonir Chiarello, Executive Director, Scalabrini International Migration Network (SIMN); Donald Kerwin; Lucas Benitez, Co-Founder, Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW); Michele Klein-Solomon, Permanent Observer to the United Nations, International Organization for Migration (IOM). The side event drew 100 participants with representation from United Nations permanent missions and agency heads.

On October 4, 2013, CMS co-sponsored an official side event to the United Nations 2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development with the Permanent Observer Mission of the Holy See, SIMN, and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops’ (USCCB) Office for Migration and Refugee Services, titled, “The Humanitarian Response to the Middle East Refugee Crisis,” at United Nations Headquarters in New York, United States of America. The event featured a panel discussion on the different humanitarian activities by the Catholic Church and its agencies to assist the Middle East refugee crisis. Speakers included Archbishop Francis A. Chullikatt, Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations; Donald Kerwin, Executive Director, Center for Migration Studies; Grainne O’Hara, Senior Policy Advisor, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR); Najla Chahda, Director, Caritas Lebanon Migrant Center; and Donald Rogers, Church Engagement Advisor, Catholic Relief Services. The side event drew 100 participants with strong representation from United Nations permanent missions and agency heads.

*b. Conference in advance of the 2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development in collaboration with the Migration Policy Institute and Government of Sweden*

CMS collaborated with the Migration Policy institute (MPI) and the Government of Sweden to implement a project, titled, “Migration and Development: What Policymakers Should Do,” with support of the Open Society Foundations. The aim of the initiative was to cull lessons that have emerged from the migration and development dialogue over the past decade for senior officials around the world.

The initiative implemented an international conference which aimed to contribute practical, policy-oriented recommendations to the September 2013 High-level Dialogue. The conference, titled “The Evidence Base for October’s High-level Dialogue: What We Know about Migration and Development,” was held on Wednesday, June 12, 2013 at United Nations Headquarters in New York, United States of America. This conference attracted an audience of 230 senior policymakers, members of the UN diplomatic community, representatives from the United Nations secretariat and agencies, and international civil society organizations. National representatives for GFMD also participated, thereby promoting the incorporation of the project’s recommendations into future policy discussions at the 2014 GFMD.

Following debate by key stakeholders at the conference, the policy memoranda and recommendations were synthesized and distributed to those participating in the 2013 High-level Dialogue and the 2014 GFMD. The policy briefs distilled the accumulated evidence on eight aspects of the relationship between migration and development: the impact of demographic trends; remittances; diasporas; circular migration; migrant recruitment; high-skilled labour emigration; development and the protection of migrants’ rights; and the impact of climate-induced migration on development. The first policy brief in the series was authored by CMS Executive Director Donald Kerwin and examines the evidence on whether respect for migrants’ rights has economic benefits for countries of origin and destination.

The initiative allowed states to enter the High-level Dialogue having assessed the accumulated knowledge on the relationship between migration and development and identified policy directions in which they should invest over the next five-to-ten years. It produced a series of policy memoranda that offered specific recommendations on programs and policies related to migration and development, on how to make migration a greater focus for development agencies, and how to include migration in the post-2015 development framework. The goal of the project was to animate international cooperation on migration and development and prepare states to go into the HLD in a position to construct an agenda for action on migration, including on the future course of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD).

The project leveraged the opportunity presented by the HLD to inform the international migration agenda, increase the profile of migration for development agencies, and ensure that the impacts of migration on development are adequately reflected in the future development agenda.

*c. Conference on Migration and Peace in collaboration with Scalabrini International Migration Network and the Permanent Mission of Mexico*

CMS was established in 1964 by the Missionaries of St. Charles, Scalabrinians, and is a member of the Scalabrini International Migration Network (SIMN), a global network of more than 270 organizations that provide diverse programs and services to migrants, including shelters in border communities and welcoming (integration) centers in receiving communities. Through these shelters, SIMN serves victims of human trafficking, women and unaccompanied minors. The network is also engaged in advocacy to promote the dignity and rights of migrants worldwide.

On June 20, 2013, CMS co-sponsored with SIMN and the Permanent Mission of Mexico an all-day conference, titled, “IV Forum on Migration and Peace” at New York Law School in New York, United States of America. The forum sought to create a dialogue on migration issues in the current global context, aiming to not only present the current challenges facing human mobility, but also to discuss possible lines of action and leadership that governments and civil societies should consider, both from a local perspective as well as globally.

## B. INTEGRATING MIGRATION INTO THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

*a. International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC) Migration and Diaspora Push Group*

Over the past five months, CMS has been participating in discussions of the Migration and Diaspora Push Group to craft the Civil Society Vision for Migration as part of the Post-2015 global development framework. The Push Group, convened by the International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC), involves members of the migration group of the Catholic-inspired NGOs Forum, the NGO Committee on Migration, and various Catholic development agencies. These organizations have elaborated a set of distinctly migration-related goals, targets and indicators to advocate towards the post-2015 agenda. Regardless of the ultimate outcome of the post-2015 development framework, the Civil Society Vision for Migration can be applied to broad international, national and regional advocacy on migration-related development. The document articulates a stand-alone goal on human mobility. In addition, it proposes priority migration and diaspora-related targets and indicators which are matched to eight

of the millennium development goals recommended by the High-level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda in the May 2013 report to the United Nations Secretary-General. The goals, targets and indicators will be broadly circulated for sign-on by global civil society groups in March of 2014. The Push Group document will also be shared at upcoming United Nations high-level events in relating to the post 2015 development agenda.

### C. ARCHIVES

CMS maintains a collection of 2,500 square feet of archives that document history of immigration to the United States from the mid-19th century to the present. The collections recounts how past immigrants have been welcomed and integrated and have become successful in the United States of America. The collection also offers insight into the early associational activity of immigrants in New York and the historical development of diaspora groups. The early linkages of migration to development in migrant-sending communities are documented through the establishment of groups to deploy collective remittances, including in response to natural disaster.

In conclusion, CMS will be preparing to celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2014. The organization will continue to expand its publications, events, research, and public policy work, of which migration and development will remain a centrepiece.