

15th Coordination Meeting on International Migration

Concept note for the panel:

International cooperation and governance of migration

Thursday 16 February 2017, 11.45 am - 1 pm

(a) Background

In the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants ([A/71/1](#)), Member States resolved to develop a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration through a process of intergovernmental negotiations and to adopt the compact at an intergovernmental conference on international migration in 2018. The compact would make an important contribution to global governance of, and enhance coordination on, international migration.

Efforts by the United Nations to strengthen cooperation on international migration can be traced back to the world population conferences held in Bucharest (1974) and Mexico-City (1984). Chapter X of the [Programme of Action](#) of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), held in Cairo (1994), provides a comprehensive text on international migration. Since 1994, the General Assembly (GA) has regularly considered the question of whether to convene an intergovernmental conference on international migration. In 2003, the GA decided to organize a High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development.

In October 2005, the Global Commission on International Migration, created by the Secretary-General with the support of a core group of governments, presented its [report](#) with recommendations to strengthen national, regional and global coherence on migration.

The [Berne Initiative](#) (2001 - 2005) aimed at developing a non-binding policy framework for international migration. Today, regional consultative processes on migration can be found in most regions of the world. Since 2007, the [Global Forum on Migration and Development](#) (GFMD) provides a global platform for informal dialogue and cooperation on migration.

The [Special Representative of the Secretary-General on International Migration and Development](#), Peter Sutherland, has prepared a report that proposes ways to strengthen international cooperation and the engagement of the United Nations on migration.

(b) Organization

1. The moderator will make a few introductory remarks and introduce the panellists.
2. Panellists will each make a presentation (max. 10 minutes). The first panellist will provide a brief historic overview of UN-related initiatives to improve cooperation on migration. National representatives will then present their governments' perspective on improving cooperation and coherence on international migration. This will be followed by a presentation of the key findings from the "Sutherland report".
3. The moderator will manage the Q and A and make a few concluding remarks.