



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

2 October 2013

Excellency,

I have the pleasure to transmit the final version of the draft resolution entitled “Declaration of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development”, as agreed by Member States. The Declaration will be issued as a text by the President, to be adopted during the opening of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development which will be held on Thursday, 3 October 2013 at 9:00 a.m.

I would like to express my profound appreciation to His Excellency Jorge Montaña, Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations for his tireless efforts in conducting the discussions and consultations to bring a successful conclusion to this declaration.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John W. Ashe".

John W. Ashe

To All Permanent Representatives
and Permanent Observers
to the United Nations
New York

Draft resolution submitted by the President of the General Assembly

Declaration of the High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development

The General Assembly

Adopts the following declaration:

Declaration of the High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development

We, representatives of States and Governments, gathered at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on the 3rd and 4th of October 2013 on the occasion of the High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development,

Recognize that international migration is a multidimensional reality of major relevance for the development of origin, transit and destination countries and in this regard recognize that international migration is a cross-cutting phenomenon that should be addressed in a coherent, comprehensive and balanced manner, integrating development with due regard to social, economic and environmental dimensions and respecting human rights.

Acknowledge the important contribution made by migrants and migration to development in countries of origin, transit and destination, as well as the complex interrelationship between migration and development.

Decide to work towards an effective and inclusive agenda on international migration that integrates development and respects human rights; by improving the performance of existing institutions and frameworks, as well as partnering more effectively with all stakeholders involved in international migration and development at the regional and global level.

Reaffirm our commitment to address the opportunities and challenges that international migration presents to countries of origin, transit and destination.

Recognize the need for international cooperation to address, in a holistic and comprehensive manner, the challenges of irregular migration to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration, with full respect for human rights.

Recognize the need to strengthen synergies between international migration and development at the global, regional and national level.

Recognize the efforts made by the international community in addressing relevant aspects of international migration and development, through different initiatives, both within the United Nations System and other processes, particularly the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) and regional processes, as well as in drawing on the expertise of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and other member agencies of the Global Migration Group (GMG).

Acknowledge the important contribution of migration in realizing the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and recognize that human mobility is a key factor for sustainable development which should be adequately considered in the elaboration of the post-2015 agenda.

Acknowledge the important role that migrants play as partners in the development of origin, transit and destination countries and recognize the need to improve public perceptions of migrants and migration.

Reaffirm the need to promote and protect effectively the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, regardless of their migration status, especially those of women and children, and to address international migration through international, regional or bilateral cooperation and dialogue and through a comprehensive and balanced approach, recognizing the roles and responsibilities of countries of origin, transit and destination in promoting and protecting the human rights of all migrants, and avoiding approaches that might aggravate their vulnerability.

Recognize that women account for almost half of all international migrants at the global level and the need to address the special situation and vulnerability of migrant women and girls by inter alia incorporating a gender perspective into policies, and strengthening national laws, institutions and programs to combat gender-based violence, including trafficking in persons and discrimination against them.

In this regard emphasize the need to establish appropriate measures for the protection of women migrant workers in all sectors, including those involved in domestic work.

Express the commitment to protect the human rights of migrant children, given their vulnerability, particularly unaccompanied migrant children, and to provide for their health, education and psychosocial development, ensuring that the best interests of the child are a primary consideration in policies of integration, return and family reunification.

Emphasize the need to respect and promote international labour standards as appropriate, and respect the rights of migrants in their workplaces.

Note the contribution of applicable international conventions, including the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families to the international system for the protection of migrants.

Strongly condemn the acts, manifestations and expressions of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance against migrants and the stereotypes often applied to them, including on the basis of religion or belief, and urge States to apply and, where needed, reinforce the existing laws when xenophobic or intolerant acts, manifestations or expressions against migrants occur, in order to eradicate impunity for those who commit those acts.

Reiterate our commitment to prevent and combat trafficking in persons, protect victims of trafficking, prevent and combat migrant smuggling, and protect migrants from exploitation and other abuses; in this regard, stress the need to establish or upgrade, as appropriate, national and regional anti-human trafficking policies, and to reinforce cooperation on prevention, prosecution of traffickers and the protection of victims of trafficking and encourage Member States to ratify, accede to and implement relevant international instruments on preventing and combating trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants.

Encourage Member States to cooperate on mobility programmes that facilitate safe, orderly and regular migration, including through labour mobility.

Recognize the particular vulnerabilities, circumstances and needs of adolescents and young migrants and at the same time their potential to build social, economic and cultural bridges of cooperation and understanding across societies.

Recognize also all efforts made by governments, all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, and other relevant intergovernmental, regional and sub-regional organizations, including IOM and other organizations within the Global Migration Group (GMG), and non-governmental stakeholders, including the private sector, in addressing international migration and development for the benefit of both migrants and societies; and with this goal in mind, further emphasize the need to strengthen partnerships amongst all relevant stakeholders.

Stress the need to deepen the interaction between governments and civil society to find responses to the challenges and opportunities posed by international migration, and recognize the contribution of civil society, including non-governmental organizations (NGOs), to promote the well-being of migrants and their integration in societies, especially at times of extreme vulnerable conditions, and the support of international community to the efforts of such organizations.

Acknowledge the complexity of migratory flows and that international migration movements also occur within the same geographical regions, and in this context call for a better understanding of migration patterns across and within regions.

Recognize the importance of coordinated efforts of the international community to assist and support migrants stranded in vulnerable situations and facilitate, and cooperate when appropriate, for their voluntary return to their country of origin, and call for practical and action-oriented initiatives aimed at identifying and closing protection gaps.

Underline the right of migrants to return to their country of citizenship, and recall that States must ensure that their returning nationals are duly received.

Recognize the need to consider the role that environmental factors may play in migration.

Recognize the necessity to consider how the migration of highly skilled persons, especially in the health, social and engineering sectors, affects the development efforts of developing countries and emphasize the need to consider circular migration.

Recognize that remittances constitute an important source of private capital and further reaffirm the need to promote conditions for cheaper, faster and safer transfers of remittances in both source and recipient countries.

Emphasize the need for reliable statistical data on international migration, including when possible on the contributions of migrants to development in both origin and destination countries; this data could facilitate the design of evidence-based policy and decision-making in all relevant aspects of sustainable development.

Acknowledge that the GFMD has proved to be a valuable forum for frank and open discussions; and that it has helped to build trust among participating stakeholders through the exchange of experiences and good practices, and the voluntary, informal state-led character of it.

Acknowledge that the United Nations System can benefit from the discussions and outcomes of the GFMD, in order to maximize the benefits of international migration for development.

Call upon all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, and other relevant intergovernmental, regional and sub-regional organizations, including IOM and other GMG members, and the Special Representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations on International Migration and Development, within their respective mandates, to strengthen their collaboration and cooperation to better and fully address the issue of international migration and development, to adopt a coherent, comprehensive and

coordinated approach, and to consider migration issues in their contributions to the preparatory process that will establish the post-2015 development agenda.

Welcome the recent efforts made by the GMG to undertake measures to enhance its functioning and to promote coherence and coordination among its member organizations; in this regard, stress the importance of regular interaction between the GMG and Member States.

Request the Secretary General to continue his substantive work on international migration and development and, in collaboration with the United Nations system and relevant organization, including the IOM, to continue assessing the progress made in the field of migration and development.

Also request the Secretary General, in the elaboration of his report on international migration and development to be presented to the 69th General Assembly, to give due consideration to the results and deliberations of this High Level Dialogue.
