

Statement by
Mr. Hossein Gharibi, Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran
At the
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Mr. Chairman,

Allow me at the outset to associate myself with other delegations and the statement made by the Group of 77 and China by congratulating your well-deserved election as the chairman of this session of the Commission on Population and Development. My thanks also go to the other members of the bureau as well as the secretariat for the preparation of this meeting, the most important gathering before the forthcoming General Assembly's high level dialogue on international migration and development.

Mr. Chairman,

The theme of this year's session, "International Migration and Development", is an opportune one to my delegation since my country falls within all categories with regard to migration, namely as the receiving country of considerable numbers of migrants as well as the country of origin and transit. We all aware that this situation could be applied to other countries due to faster mobilization of population in recent years and the influx of refugees in the aftermath of security crisis or natural disasters in regional context elsewhere in the world. However, it is crystal clear that dealing with this multi-dimensional theme falls beyond the current geographical or political groupings of states and requires a global comprehensive policy with the participation of all stakeholders be it from developed or developing states and the international civil society as well.

Having considered the theme in its wide characterizations, my delegation is of the view that the international community urgently needs to have a global normative approach to the entire issue in all its aspects regardless of any biased political orientation. To this end, the General Assembly's high-level dialogue in coming September is seen as a momentum to create global consensus to such prevailing subject in which both challenges and opportunities are laid.

Such consensus would reiterate that the effective potentials of migrants to development of receiving countries with regard to the services they continue to provide should be fully and clearly recognized by receiving states as a prelude to more respecting the human rights of migrants and their families in accordance with the international legal instruments and domestic laws and regulations where applicable. We also emphasize once more that any discrimination as to race, religion and nationality is fundamentally unacceptable.

When it applies to rights, there come the duties and the categorization of documented migrants with those illegal or undocumented migrants. The widening gap between developed and developing nations and the imbalances in population growth rates have fostered the illegal migration which it can, per se, bring more aggravated consequences including, inter alia, trafficking in women and young girls and drugs trafficking. My delegation fully supports measures to adjust and curb the phenomena with a long term vision to address its very root causes. To that, bilateral and multilateral arrangements among states in a regional context and in a prospect to regulate human force mobilization to benefit from advantages it creates and lessen its disadvantages are welcomed mechanisms. It is basically in line with the implementation of internationally agreed development goals including the MDG's.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.