



## **2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development**

### **Side-event on**

## **Shared Experiences from the Global Forum on Migration and Development: 2007-2013**

Co-convenors: Sweden and Philippines

Wednesday, 2 October, 3:00 to 4:30 pm  
Room 3, Conference Building, United Nations, New York

### **Concept Note**

Following the first UN General Assembly High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (HLD) in 2006, the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) has created a unique, global platform for dialogue and cooperation among Governments and other stakeholders. It is the most important and tangible deliverable in the field of migration and development coming out of the 2006 HLD. This process has, over time, built trust among participants through the voluntary and informal sharing of experiences from current and emerging policies and practices.

More than 160 Governments have taken part in the annual meetings of the Global Forum, so far held in Belgium (2007), the Philippines (2008), Greece (2009), Mexico (2010), Switzerland (2011) and Mauritius (2012). The current Chair, Sweden, is planning for next year's GFMD meeting in Stockholm in May 2014. Turkey will take over the GFMD chairmanship thereafter.

Governments have shared experiences and lessons learnt that have been captured in a thematic recollection which has been made available to the 2013 HLD. In this side-event, past, present and future Chairs of the GFMD, together with the UN Secretary-General's Special Representative for Migration and Development, Peter Sutherland, share the main focus and some of the key lessons learnt from the Forum as well as their thoughts on its future direction.

The Global Forum process brings together Government representatives with the agencies of the Global Migration Group and other international organizations, civil

society and the private sector, and encourages exchange with regional consultative processes and other relevant platforms.

The Global Forum has systematically made efforts to strengthen the development perspective of its work. Each year, round-table discussions have been organized around central themes proposed by the host Governments and supported by the participating States. Thematic issues have included strategies for minimizing costs/maximizing human development; labour migration and mobility; diasporas; remittances; strategies for addressing irregular migration and enabling regular migration; the rights of migrants; policy coherence and mainstreaming; data and research; governance of migration and coordination of dialogue; as well as ways of involving civil society and the private sector.

Through dialogue and partnerships, Governments and other stakeholders have learned from each other in order to maximize the development benefits from migration and minimize its negative implications, especially for migrants. A common understanding has emerged that migration is a reality that needs to be addressed at the national, regional and global levels with a coherent and collaborative approach.

The substantive work conducted within the GFMD between the HLD in 2006 until now bears witness to the success of the Forum to engage with the evolving challenges and opportunities shaped by migration dynamics.

The co-chairs, **Minister of Migration and Asylum Policy from Sweden, Mr Tobias Billström** and the **Minister of Labour from Philippines, Ms Rosalinda Baldoz**, will be joined by a panel including the **UN Special Representative of the Secretary General on Migration and Development, Sir Peter Sutherland**, as well as Ministers and other high-level representatives of the **Governments of Belgium, Greece, Mauritius, Mexico, Switzerland and Turkey**.

We envision that this side-event will allow participants to deliberate on how to take further steps to strengthen this positive achievement as well as ensure constructive cross-fertilization between the GFMD and the High-level Dialogue.

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### **Final Agenda**

#### **Opening remarks**

Mr Tobias Billström

*Minister of Migration and Asylum Policy, Sweden (GFMD Chair 2013-2014)*

Ms Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz

*Secretary of Labour and Employment, Philippines (GFMD Chair 2008)*

#### **Keynote speech**

Sir Peter Sutherland

*UN SRSG on Migration and Development*

#### **Statements by GFMD Chairs 2007, 2009 to 2012**

Amb Bertrand de Crombrughe

*Permanent Representative to the UN and other Institutions in Geneva, Belgium (GFMD Chair 2007)*

Amb Michel Spinellis

*Permanent Representative to the UN in New York, Greece (GFMD Chair 2009)*

Mr Alejandro Alday Gonzalez

*Director General on Human Rights and Democracy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mexico (GFMD Chair 2010)*

Amb Eduard Gnesa

*Special Ambassador for International Cooperation in Migration, Switzerland (GFMD Chair 2011)*

Mr Adam Koodoruth

*First Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mauritius (GFMD Chair 2012)*

#### **Comments from the floor**

#### **Closing remarks on the future of the Forum**

Sir Peter Sutherland

*UN SRSG on Migration and Development*

Mr Tobias Billström

*Minister of Migration and Asylum Policy, Sweden (GFMD Chair 2013-2014)*

Ms Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz

*Secretary of Labour and Employment, Philippines (GFMD Chair 2008)*

Amb Şakir Fakılı

*Director General for Consular Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Turkey (GFMD Chair 2014-2015)*