



High-level Dialogue on
International MIGRATION
and **DEVELOPMENT**



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High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development

Round table 3:

**Strengthening partnerships and cooperation on international migration,
mechanisms to effectively integrate migration into development policies and
promoting coherence at all levels**

Friday, 4 October 2013, 17.30 – 18.00

**Summary by the
Co-Chair H.E. Federal Councillor Simonetta Sommaruga,
Minister of Justice and Police,
Federal Department of Justice and Police, Switzerland**

Mr. President,
Deputy Secretary- General,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honor to present on behalf of the co-chairs Nigeria and Switzerland the outcomes of the debate at round table 3 entitled “Strengthening partnerships and cooperation on international migration, mechanisms to effectively integrate migration into development policies and promoting coherence at all levels”.

The insightful and lively debate engaging a variety of stakeholders was framed by identifying the crucial challenges faced by the international community in addressing the multifaceted nature of migration and development. The following points were identified:

- 1) The international community often continues to think in silos and should overcome a sectoral thinking in order to move towards a holistic approach to migration and development.
- 2) Despite the increased number of stakeholders engaged in the dialogue, the potential of cooperation has not been fully exploited.
- 3) The institutional set-up and legal framework is fragmented posing a challenge to coherent policy approaches.

The discussions then ensued by identifying concrete measures on how to address these challenges reflecting the overarching theme of the High-level Dialogue.

Out of the rich discussion in our round allow me to highlight six action points governments and all other relevant stakeholders are invited to embrace:

- 1) Pursue a whole-of-government approach with the necessary resources to implement coherent migration policies in a coordinated manner.

- 2) Factor migration into all relevant policy sectors, in particular in our poverty reduction strategies and development cooperation frameworks. In this regard, the post-2015 agenda offers a unique opportunity to set a strong signal of the relevance of migration as a key development factor.
- 3) Recognize the civil society as important actors not only as grassroots actors, but as partners in all spheres of migration and development policies and dialogue processes.
- 4) Embrace the concept of bilateral and multilateral partnerships between all stakeholders; in particular those who are still absent from the debate such as the private sector and the migrants themselves, as a guiding principle to address migration and development domestically and internationally.
- 5) Recognize the important contributions of regional as well as global platforms, such as the Regional Consultative Processes and the Global Forum on Migration and Development, and ensure the mutual enrichment between these different processes and levels.
- 6) Continue to engage in the GFMD as the leading expert-level state-led informal global platform of dialogue and consider complementing the international dialogue with future UN High Level Dialogues for stock-tacking and agenda setting.
- 7) Acknowledge the relevance of the Global Migration Group, especially the recent steps undertaken to achieve greater coherence and coordination and stress the need to pursue these efforts further with support of Members States.
- 8) Adopt a human rights-based approach as our guiding principle for all migration and development actions. Governments should further consider ratifying all relevant conventions, in particular the ILO Convention 189 on Domestic Workers.

Mr. President,

Taking a step back and looking at the large picture, the debate in round table 3 - at its core - addressed the way forward on global migration governance. A strong message that emerged from the discussion was to move from theory to practice. One major obstacle identified however was the ambivalent, if not to say negative, perception of migrants and migration in many of our societies. Such perceptions impede the necessary political will to jointly pursue a coherent, coordinated and action-oriented agenda forward.

Thank you.