INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

UNITED NATIONS

DESA

JOSÉ ANTONIO OCAMPO
UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL
THREE CENTRAL MESSAGES OF THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

- International migration is a key component of the globalization process.
- International migration is a positive force for development, both in countries of origin and in countries of destination.
- It is possible and advisable to strengthen international cooperation on international migration.
INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION IS A KEY COMPONENT OF THE GLOBALIZATION PROCESS
PERCENTAGE OF PLAYERS FROM NATIONAL TEAMS WHO NORMALLY PLAY IN OTHER COUNTRIES ("KICKER DRAIN")

- Cote d'Ivoire: 100%
- Brazil: 87%
- Argentina: 87%
- Ghana: 83%
- Australia: 83%
- Poland: 65%
- Portugal: 65%
- Angola: 52%
- USA: 52%
- France: 52%
- Netherlands: 48%
PERCENTAGE OF PLAYERS FROM NATIONAL TEAMS WHO ARE FOREIGN-BORN ("IMPORT OF NEEDED SKILLS")

- France: 26%
- Germany: 17%
- Australia: 13%
- Cote d'Ivoire: 13%
- Italy: 9%
- Mexico: 9%
- Spain: 9%
- Portugal: 9%

Percentage of players from national teams who are foreign-born.
WE ARE IN A NEW MIGRATION ERA

- Since the late 1980s: migration has been rising rapidly...
- ...but there is a freer flow of goods and capital than of persons
- Barriers to the movement of low-skilled workers persist
The number of international migrants is almost equally divided into three types.

(Cumulated migrant stock -- Millions of persons)

- North-South: 61
- North-North: 53
- South-South: 62
- South-North: 14
MIGRATION TO INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES IS MORE STEADY THAN THAT TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
(Rate of growth of the migrant stock)

More developed regions without the former USSR
Less developed regions
Migrants constitute high proportions of the population in few countries.

(Migrants as percentage of the population, 2005)
Migration policies have become somewhat less restrictive.

There is great diversity of policy stances.

- Some countries allow permanent migration selected on the basis of skills or family ties.
- Many allow temporary admission often under work permits.

There is growing preference for temporary migration schemes.
INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION POLICIES HAVE BECOME SOMEWHAT LESS RESTRICTIVE

(Percentage of countries)
INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION IS A POSITIVE FORCE FOR DEVELOPMENT, BOTH IN COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN AND IN COUNTRIES OF DESTINATION
FOR COUNTRIES OF DESTINATION

- There are some adverse but small effects on low-skilled workers.
- Most migrants complement local workers and therefore contribute to economic growth.
- Growing educational levels and population ageing increase the positive effects of migration.
- Migration has additional positive effects on economic growth: entrepreneurship, diverse supply of services, etc.
- Main drawbacks: achieving the mutual adaptation of migrants and host societies is not easy...
- ... and irregular migration is not desirable.
WITHOUT MIGRATION, THE LABOUR FORCE WOULD DECLINE DRASTICALLY IN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

Projected population aged 15-64 with and without migration (medium variant)
IN SOME COUNTRIES, THIS EFFECT WOULD BE CATASTROPHIC: GERMANY

Projections of population aged 15-64 with and without international migration (medium variant)
International migrants are usually not among the poorest persons in communities of origin.

The development of migrant networks lower the risks of migration and may enable poorer persons to migrate.

Remittances increase family welfare but their macroeconomic effects are less clear-cut.

Many benefits stem from a close relation between communities of origin and migrant communities abroad.

Return migration and circulation permit countries of origin to reap greater benefits from migration.

Main costs: “brain drain”, which may not be necessarily compensated by higher incentives to acquire training in order to migrate.
REMITTANCES RECEIVED BY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Billions of dollar:
MIGRANTS WITH TERTIARY EDUCATION AS PERCENTAGE OF THE INCREASE IN ALL MIGRANTS AGED 25 OR OVER, 1990-2000

- OCDE: 46%
- USA: 47%
- Canada: 91%
- EU-15: 47%
- UK: 80%
- France: 100%
- Germany: 30%
- Australia: 54%
IT IS POSSIBLE AND ADVISABLE TO STRENGTHEN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION
MODES OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION REGARDING MIGRATION

- The outcome documents of United Nations conferences and summits
- United Nations Conventions, with varying degree of coverage
- International organizations / Global Migration Group
- Global initiatives
- Regional processes
- Bilateral agreements
STATUS OF RATIFICATION OF INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS RELATIVE TO INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

- Protocol on the status of refugees: 143 countries
- Convention on the status of refugees: 143 countries
- Protocol against smuggling of persons: 89 countries
- Protocol against trafficking in persons: 97 countries
- International Convention on the rights of all migrants: 34 countries
- ILO Convention on migration in abusive conditions: 19 countries
- ILO Convention on migrant workers: 45 countries
COMMON INTERESTS ON MIGRATION AND AN AGENDA FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

- Ensure the protection of the rights of all migrants and prevent their abuse or exploitation
- Co-development as the framework to realize the potential of migration as a force for development:
  - Leveraging the use of remittances
  - Strengthen ties with migrant communities
- Global concerted approach to the formation of human capital
Mutual adaptation of migrants and host societies

To combat racism and xenophobia in all their forms

To channel migration through regular streams on the basis of realistic policies to shape those flows

Combat crimes of trafficking and smuggling

To improve the information and evidence base.
A CONSULTATIVE MIGRATION FORUM IN THE UNITED NATIONS

- To consider all dimensions of the migration process
- To promote coherence in terms of migration and development policies
- It would have a consultative character, with voluntary participation of Member States and room for innovation
- It would respect the right of sovereign States to shape their own migration policies