

**Statement of the Mission of Fiji to the United Nations
before the adoption of the resolution on
“New trends in migration: demographic aspects”**

**46th session of the Commission on Population and Development
of the United Nations Economic and Social Council**

New York, 26 April 2013

CPD SESSION 2013 (CLOSING)

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MR CHAIR

THANK YOU FOR GIVING THE FLOOR TO MY DELEGATION TO SPEAK ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP OF 77 AND CHINA. THE GROUP WOULD LIKE TO COMMEND YOU AND YOUR BUREAU FOR THE EXCELLENT WORK AND EXTRA YARDS TAKEN TO COME UP WITH THIS TEXT.

DURING THE COMMISSION INFORMALS, THE GROUP OF 77 AND CHINA ENGAGED WITH OUR PARTNERS IN AN OPEN AND TRANSPARENT MANNER TO ADVANCE THE INTERESTS AND RIGHTS OF MIGRANTS. WE WOULD LIKE TO RELATE OUR GRATITUDE TO OUR PARTNERS FOR THEIR FLEXIBILITIES.. IN AGREEING TO MOST OF OUR GROUP’S CONCERNS AND PLIGHTS.

MR CHAIR

OUR GROUP GOAL WAS TO ARRIVE AT AN OUTCOME THAT CAPTURES AND ADDRESSES THE REALITIES OF WHAT MIGRANTS FACE DURING THEIR MOVEMENTS AND STAY WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THEIR COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN AND THEIR COUNTRIES OF DESTINATIONS, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME ADDRESS THE POPULATION ISSUES AND DYNAMICS AND THE NEW TRENDS IN MIGRATION, INCLUDING MIGRANTS’ CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS.

HOWEVER, WE CAN AGREE WITH THE TEXT AS DRAFTED, BUT OP 6 DOES NOT REFLECT THE CURRENT REALITY OF PEOPLE WHO ARE FORCED TO MIGRATE DUE TO FOREIGN OCCUPATION. WE SHOULD THEREFORE INTENSIFY OUR EFFORTS TO ADDRESS THE ROOT CAUSES OF THIS SITUATION.

WE WOULD LIKE TO FURTHER HIGHLIGHT THAT PEOPLE LIVING UNDER FOREIGN OCCUPATION ARE NOT ONLY FACING EXPROPRIATION OF LAND BUT ALSO DEMOLITION OF HOUSES AND THEY ARE NOT ALLOWED TO ACCESS AND LIVE IN THEIR OWN HOMES AND COUNTRY. THE SITUATION PREVENTS THEM TO ACCESS BASIC SERVICES, INCLUDING HEALTH AND EDUCATION AND COULD LEAD TO VIOLENCE AND HARRASSMENT.

WE WOULD TO REQUEST THROUGH YOU THAT THIS CONCERN BE PUT ON THE OFFICIAL RECORD OF THIS COMMISSION.

WE WOULD LIKE TO REITERATE OUR CONCERN THAT PP30 ON REFUGEES HAS BEEN RETAINED IN THE TEXT. AS WE STATED BEFORE, WE DO NOT CONSIDER REFUGEES AS MIGRANTS. THEY ARE GOVERNED BY THEIR SPECIFIC LEGAL INSTRUMENTS THAT PROTECT THEIR RIGHTS.

THANK YOU.