



Commission on Population and Development

- General Debate on the agenda item 3 (a) –

Statement by H.E. Mr. Victor Moraru Ambassador, Permanent Representative

(New York, 9 April 2018)

Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, I would like to thank you and the other members of the Bureau for your hard work in guiding the preparation of this CPD session which also included informal consultations on the draft resolution "*Sustainable cities, human mobility and international migration*".

Likewise, we appreciate the contribution of the Population Division of DESA and thank it for its reports on the impact of urbanization, human mobility and on the interlinkages between these two megatrends.

Mr. Chairman,
Distinguished delegates,

Human mobility, in particular migration, is a key feature of a globalized world. Understanding its trends, potential impact and developing evidence-based policies aimed at ensuring effective and efficient management of the population flows is critical to achieve sustainable development.

People's wellbeing and dignity are, without doubt, the ultimate goals of both the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development and the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD).

Like some other countries, the Republic of Moldova is facing population ageing, low fertility rates and low life expectancy. In our case, these worrying demographic trends are exacerbated by outward migration. The continuing outflow of skilled labor force is affecting the sustainable development of the country.

In 2017, with the UNFPA support, a *New Conceptual Vision* was developed. According to this document, the national policy priority in the population and development field will move from demographic security to demographic wellbeing. To achieve this goal, a mix of pro-active and adaptive policy interventions are being pursued aiming at reforming wages system, improving preventive healthcare services and reforming childcare leave to better reconcile family and professional life.

To address the emigration phenomenon, the Moldovan Government is implementing important policies and reforms, particularly in the economic, judicial, social and education fields, with a view to secure a sustainable livelihood and future of people at home.

From this perspective, I would like to mention the infrastructure development, modernization of public services, improving investment climate, promoting SMEs development and combating corruption.

Access to quality education for all, adjusted to the labor market requirements, are critical to prevent people from falling into poverty and ensure a future at home.

The Moldovan Government is working to refocus its education system towards this goal through training qualified staff in line with the needs of the private sector, improving the educational policies and institutional framework to support the implementation of demand-driven technical vocational system (VET) and developing partnerships between the labor market and the VET institutions.

Relevant social policies are equally implemented to support, in particular, those vulnerable and encourage their integration in the socio-economic life of the country. The challenges faced by people in need are addressed through such actions as establishing social protection floors, promoting measures to prevent unemployment and motivating employers to hire people with special needs.

Mr. Chairman,

International cooperation and partnerships between countries of origin, transit and destination is critical to effectively manage migration and ensure it benefits all. In this regard, the Mobility Partnership between the Republic of Moldova and European Union provide us with an important instrument in addressing the issue of border management, irregular migration, combating human trafficking, as well as the interlinkage between migration and development.

Additionally, the Republic of Moldova harnesses the bilateral dialogue and cooperation with the countries of destination for Moldovan migrants to develop and conclude Agreements on labour migration, promote circular migration schemes, as well as to develop and promote reintegration schemes and programs.

Respect for human rights of migrants lie at the core of our efforts in this field. Social protection agreements, visa liberalization/facilitation, recognition of diplomas and qualifications became some of the key priorities for our dialogue with the main destinations countries for our citizens.

In closing, Mr. Chairman, I would like to express my delegation's support for the successful conclusion of this CPD session which we find relevant in the context of the current negotiations on the Global Compact on Migration.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.