



**Global Forum on
MIGRATION & DEVELOPMENT**

GFMD Philippines 2008

“Protecting and Empowering Migrants for Development”

7th UN Coordination Meeting on International Migration

Presentation by:

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www.gfmd2008.org

Scope of Presentation

- **Highlights of the Manila GFMD**
 - **Civil Society Meeting**
 - **Government Meeting**
- **Recommendations and Possible Follow-up Actions**
- **The Road Ahead for GFMD and the International Debate on Migration and Development**

Highlights of the GFMD

Civil Society Meeting (27-28 Oct 2008)

- **220 delegates**
- **4 Significant Improvements:**
 - a) **expansion of meeting from 1 to 2 days**
 - b) **incorporation of constructive inputs from CS national and regional consultations**
 - c) **Intro of 3 workshops called “voices from the region”**
 - d) **Interface of government reps with CS**

Highlights of the GFMD

Civil Society Meeting (Cont.)

- **Key Recommendations for Governments:**
 1. Consider the **benefits of migration** and resist the temptation to cut migrant numbers in the current economic circumstances;
 2. Recognize the need for development of a global architecture to ensure a **rights-based approach** to migration; and
 3. Reaffirm the commitment to development through realizing the **MDGs, full employment and decent work** as priorities for development.

Highlights of the GFMD

Government Meeting (29-30 October 20008)

- Over **1130** delegates from **163** Member States and Observers of the UN, and **33** international organizations.
- Opening Session attended by VIPs including **UN Secretary-General** Ban Ki- Moon, **Philippine** Pres. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, **UAE** Labor Minister Ghobash Saqr, **Belgian** Special Envoy for Asylum and Immigration, Rudi Veestraeten, **ACP Secretariat** Secretary-General Sir John Kaputin, and **IOM Director-General** William Lacy Swing (for GMG)

Highlights of the GFMD

Government Meeting (Cont.)

- Seven (7) Roundtable Sessions on the following topics:

RTD 1.1: Protecting the Rights of Migrants – a Shared Responsibility.

RTD 1.2: Empowering Migrants and Diaspora to Contribute to Development

RTD 2.1: Fostering More Opportunities for Legal Migration

RTD 2.2: Managing migration and Minimizing the Negative Impacts of Irregular Migration

Highlights of the GFMD

Government Meeting (Cont.)

- RTD 3.1: Strengthening Data and Research Tools on Migration and Development*
- RTD 3.2: Policy and Institutional Coherence on Migration and Development within Gov't*
- RTD 3.3: Regional consultative processes, Inter-Regional Consultative Fora and Regional Organizations and Economic Integration Processes at the Interface of Migration and Development .*
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- One (1) Special Session on *The Future of the GFMD*

Highlights of the GFMD

Special Session on the Future of the GFMD

- Attended by Heads of delegations only
- Agreed to create a light **GFMD Support Unit** to assist future Chairs-in-Office with basic administrative matters.
- Consensus that the Forum is not responsible for monitoring projects and for follow-up actions that emanate from its meetings.
- GFMD is considered as an effective follow-up to the UN High Level Dialogue, based on UNDESA survey.

Highlights of the GFMD

Special Session on the Future of the GFMD

- The **Global Migration Group (GMG)** is an obvious partner for implementation of GFMD outcomes.
- The Forum's fundamental purpose is to permit a dialogue between governments, which needs to be informed by a relationship with **civil society**.
- Better communication between GFMD and of **regional consultations and processes** was emphasized.
- Identified the need to widen the **donor** base.

Proposed Outcomes of Manila GFMD 2008

RT 1.1

1. Set up an ad hoc **Working Group on Protecting and Empowering Migrants for Development**, which could conduct a study on the actual links between protection for migrants and their capacity to contribute to development.
2. Develop a **compendium of best practices** at national, regional and international levels on protecting migrants, which may be replicated and monitored on a continuing basis.

RT 1.2

3. Prepare a **catalogue** of good practices in joint arrangements to support and empower migrants and diaspora in their contributions to development.
4. Establish a **common lexicon** or dictionary of terms that will cover the migration process so that there is commonality of understanding;

Proposed Outcomes of Manila GFMD 2008

RT 2.1

5. Undertake **assessments** of some pilot circular migration schemes (e.g. Mauritius-France) to evaluate and draw best practices from them. This would enrich the Compendium on best practices in labour migration.
6. Expand and update the new **Compendium of good practices in labour migration** prepared for Spain and Morocco by OSCE, IOM and ILO, also to include contact information on persons in countries with experience in these types of program.
7. Complete **the project** begun in 2007 on assessing how to lower the costs of migration through greater involvement of banks and financial institutions.
8. **Compile information** for all governments on available websites and other information vehicles regarding jobs abroad and/or available supply of labour that facilitate “matching” and regular forms of labour migration (Canada).

Proposed Outcomes of Manila GFMD 2008

RT 2.2

9. Conduct **research** on economic benefits of regular and irregular migration on development for developing countries with significant inward and outward migration flows.
10. Organise a **meeting for heads of regional consultative processes**, possibly in Bangkok, to share information on migration and development related activities and achievements (see also RT 3.3 below) .
11. Establish a systematic **data collection and analysis of trafficking** methodology (eg based on IOM's CTM database, which could be expanded to include issues such as the real economic circumstances of the victims of trafficking

Proposed Outcomes of Manila GFMD 2008

RT 3.1

*12. Establish a **Data and Research Working Group** of experts, governments, international agencies, and others to consider how to improve data and research.*

*13. Include migration questions in the **2010 round of national censuses**.*

RT 3.2

*14. Conduct the **Swedish survey** again, perhaps at two year intervals, and include open-ended questions to supplement the yes/no questions in the current survey. The UK indicated an interest in helping with the survey.*

Proposed Outcomes of Manila GFMD 2008

15. *Bring experts together before Greece to discuss best research methodologies for evaluating policies and programs. A Handbook was one possibility.*
16. *Strengthen the **GFMD focal points** to enhance institutional coherence, and to help government adopt new inter-ministerial coordination mechanisms.*

RT 3.3

17. *Hold a **meeting of chairs and secretariats of the regional groups** to share experiences and lessons learned. Intended for the first half of 2009; the results will likely be shared in Athens in 2009. (Organizer: IOM; sponsor: Government of Australia).*

The Road Ahead

- **GFMD to continue promoting constructive and informal dialogues on Migration and Development among governments, with inputs from IOs, the UN, and civil society, and others.**
- **GFMD to take stock, consolidate, and facilitate sharing of concrete policies and programs on Migration and Development.**
- **GFMD to promote synergy of actions, policy and institutional coherence and partnerships among all Migration and Development actors.**
- **GFMD thematic priorities should address lingering and emerging issues, such as the current global financial crisis.**

CONCLUSION

Protecting the rights of migrants is not only the right thing to do, but also the smart thing to do.

Protecting the rights of migrants is a shared responsibility of governments, the civil society, and the private sector.

We're all in this together. International community needs to cooperate at all levels.



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THANK YOU!

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