

**TWELFTH COORDINATION MEETING ON
INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION**

Population Division

Department of Economic and Social Affairs

United Nations Secretariat

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**THE SIMN COMMITMENT ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT:
CHALLENGES AND PERSPECTIVES FROM THE HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE ON
MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT AND THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA¹**

SIMN (Scalabrini International Migration Network)

¹ The views expressed in the paper do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the United Nations Secretariat.

A. INTRODUCTION

The Scalabrini International Migration Network (SIMN) supports a network of more than 270 Scalabrinian migrant shelters, service centres, schools, research centres, and other substantial programs along migrant corridors and in immigrant receiving communities. Based on this work, it has direct knowledge on the need for effective, rights-respecting migration and development policies.

In accordance with the two main objectives of this coordination meeting, I would like to present briefly the main activities of SIMN to follow-up on the Declaration of the 2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development and the integration of migration into the framework of the post-2015 United Nations Development Agenda.

B. SIMN MAIN INITIATIVES

SIMN is committed to working with civil society organizations toward the fulfilment of the 5-year action plan proposed by the 2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development and its priorities related to development, the rights of migrants, partnerships, and labour mobility. SIMN is carrying out four main initiatives related to the 2013 High-level Dialogue and the post-2015 United Nations development agenda.

1. Migration policies and civil society reports

Since 2010, SIMN has conducted a series of reports on global migration policies and civil society which seek to improve migration governance by educating policymakers, opinion leaders and the public on the benefits, trade-offs and human dimensions of migration. Following a 2010 study on migration in the Western Hemisphere, SIMN published subsequent studies on migration policy and civil society in Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Paraguay and Peru. In 2014 SIMN will conduct reports on migration policies and civil society in the United States, Canada, Central America and some European and African countries.

2. International system of data collection

In accordance with the emphasis of the Declaration of the 2013 High-level Dialogue on the need for reliable statistical data on international migration to facilitate the design of “evidence-based policy and decision-making in all relevant aspects of sustainable development,” SIMN will implement an international system of data collection with specific and relevant indicators on vulnerabilities of migrants, labour recruitment and mobility, human rights violations, and other relevant aspects of migration policies and sustainable development. These indicators are crucial to the post-2015 United Nations agenda and could be integrated into national and regional policies.

3. Sustainable Livelihood Program

In the informal interactive hearings of the General Assembly with representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society and the private sector, Governments were called upon to expand opportunities for all citizens to achieve sustainable livelihoods at home so that, “With decent work and adequate living conditions available in countries of origin, migration would occur out of choice, not necessity.” In addition, Governments were called upon to guarantee labour rights for migrant workers equal to the rights of nationals. In this context, SIMN is promoting a Sustainable Livelihood Program for migrants, deportees and families by promoting projects of micro-enterprise and micro-credit in migrant-sending communities.

4. International Forum on Migration and Peace

The assistance and protection needs of migrants stranded in distress, especially those trapped in situations of war, conflict or disaster was another concern of the 2013 High-level Dialogue that we hope will be considered in the post-2015 United Nations Agenda. For this reason, SIMN has promoted the International Forum on Migration and Peace to stimulate critical dialogue and identify concrete actions on safe migration and peaceful coexistence between host communities and migrants. Following forum's convening in Guatemala in 2019, Colombia in 2010, Mexico in 2011, and the United States in 2013, the fifth Forum will take place in Berlin in June 2014, with a focus on integration policies and democratic participation,

With 126 years of Scalabrinian service and advocacy programs for migrants, SIMN hopes to continue playing a critical and leading role in efforts to develop comprehensive initiatives on migration policy and sustainable development.

Leonir Chiarello
Executive Director of SIMN