



Statement by
H.E. Ewald Limon
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Suriname
to the United Nations



General Assembly - Sixty-First Session
High —Level Dialogue on International Migration
and
Development

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Permanent Mission of the Republic of Suriname to the United Nations
866 United Nations Plaza, Suite 320, New York, NY 10017 Telephone 212-826-0660
fax : 212 980-7029 email: Suriname@un.int

Madam President,

On behalf of the delegation of Suriname I avail myself of this opportunity to extend to you my sincere congratulations on your election to preside over the Sixty — first session of the General Assembly.

Globalization and the advantages in communications and transportation, underdevelopment, the lack of opportunity and poverty have all contributed to the increase in the flow of migrants.

We share the view that there is need for effective management of international migration and that arriving at such management will require that all stakeholders are involved and that all root causes be examined.

My delegation therefore welcomes the convening of this dialogue and considers it an excellent opportunity to exchange view at a global level.

We align ourselves with the Statement delivered by South Africa speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Madam President

The Government of Suriname agrees with the view that international migration should be managed in a manner that contributes to the development efforts of states.

A process of consultation and exchange of views including best practices on the various aspects of international migration is therefore needed.

The consultations on co-development and the maximalization of the impact of remittance on the development process are of special interest to my delegation.

Suriname believes that there is need for a steady flow of skilled human resources to meet the nation's development objectives.

Hence the dialogue should discuss and explore possible arrangements that the receiving State and the State of origin could make in order to compensate for the lost of skilled personnel given the high cost of training of human resources.

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In addition the advantages of the brain gain and brain circulation arrangements could be examined.

The dialogue could examine options in using remittance for economic investment and social advancement eg for education and health services and for housing purposes, as well as assisting in analyzing financial services that would attract savings for and investment in these areas.

Madam President,

With regard to international migration Sriname is engaged in a process of evaluation at the national level and consultation and exchange of view at the regional level, in order to strengthen our migration policy.

We are convinced of the need to have international migration evolved within a frame work that guarantees the full respect for human rights.

Part of the commitments at national level are the actions taken to ensure that migration takes place within a legal framework and that trafficking in persons is more efficiently countered.

Core to these actions is the establishment of a special police unit, responsible for the tracing and combating of human trafficking and related crimes. In addition an information campaign concerning trafficking in persons and related crimes was launched and policy decisions were taken that will guarantee a safe return of victims of trafficking to their country of origin.

Madam President,

Suriname values the contribution and initiatives of the various regional organizations and institutions with regard to the several aspects of international migration.

We are therefore active participating therein.

At the regional level consultation is ongoing within the frameworks of the African Caribbean and Pacific group of States; the South American consultation mechanism and the Caribbean Community.

The dialogue can significantly contribute to the discussion on improving coherence on migration policy, foster dialogue between sending and receiving states, support regional consultative processes and strengthen coherence and coordination among agencies at all levels.

Hence we consider this meeting the start of a process at the global level that compliments the consultations and actions at the regional and bilateral level with regard to international migration.

We support therefore the Secretary General's proposal for the establishment of a "Consultative Forum on migration and development issues".

Thank you Madam President