



Realizing the inclusion of migrants and migration in the post-2015 United Nations development agenda

One year after the United Nations General Assembly adopted a landmark Declaration (A/RES/68/4) at the 2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, the 18 members of the Global Migration Group (GMG) welcome the progress made towards the inclusion of migrants and migration in the post-2015 development agenda and express their support for the migration-related targets proposed by the Open Working Group (OWG) on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in July 2014. In particular, the GMG is greatly encouraged by the inclusion of targets related to migrants and migration in proposed SDGs 5 (gender equality), 8 (decent work), 10 (reducing inequality), 16 (peaceful and inclusive societies) and 17 (means of implementation and global partnership) in the final outcome document of the OWG.

<i>Members of the GMG</i>	
<i>Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)</i>	<i>International Labour Organization (ILO)</i>
<i>International Organization for Migration (IOM)</i>	<i>Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)</i>
<i>United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)</i>	<i>United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)</i>
<i>United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)</i>	<i>United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)</i>
<i>United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)</i>	<i>United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)</i>
<i>United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)</i>	<i>United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)</i>
<i>United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)</i>	<i>United Nations Regional Commissions</i>
<i>United Nations University (UNU)</i>	<i>United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women)</i>
<i>World Bank</i>	<i>World Health Organization (WHO)</i>

Today, there are more than 232 million international migrants worldwide, an estimated 3.2 per cent of the world's population. Approximately half of all international migrants are women and seven out of ten international migrants are of working age (20 to 64 years), with young people aged 18 to 29 representing a large proportion of those migrating. If those who move internally within a country are added, migrants amount to close to one billion persons. Countless millions more are directly and indirectly impacted by migration, including migrants' families and communities of origin, transit and destination.

The GMG supports and is undertaking initiatives to implement the Secretary-General's eight-point agenda for action, as elaborated in his report on international migration and development to the 2013 High-level Dialogue (A/68/190), which acknowledges the important contribution of migrants and migration to global development and underscores the need to advance efforts to: (a) protect the human rights of all migrants; (b) reduce the costs of migration, particularly labour migration; (c) eliminate migrant exploitation, including human trafficking and smuggling; (d) address the plight of stranded migrants; (e) improve public perceptions of migrants; (f) integrate migration into the development agenda; (g) strengthen the migration evidence base, and (h) enhance migration partnerships and cooperation.

With regard to the integration of migrants and migration in the post-2015 development agenda, the GMG recognises the need to place people at the centre of sustainable development, in line with the "human rights up front" policy of the Secretary-General and with international human rights and labour standards. The GMG further recognises the need to address the root causes of

migratory movements motivated by necessity or coercion rather than by genuine choice, eliminate human trafficking and migrant smuggling, enhance protection for child migrants and other vulnerable groups, as well as explore opportunities for leveraging migrants' social and financial resources, within the context of the SDGs and financing for development processes.

In the further elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda, the GMG draws specific attention to the importance of:

1. ***The proposed migration-related targets***, in keeping with people-centered, inclusive, human rights-based and gender-sensitive approaches to sustainable development. Specifically, the GMG welcomes the targets related to: (a) protecting the rights of all workers, including migrant workers; (b) facilitating safe and regular migration; (c) reducing remittance transaction costs; (d) eliminating human trafficking; (e) enhancing capacity building to increase the availability of reliable disaggregated data, including by migratory status. The GMG also highlights the importance of elaborating sound indicators to measure progress towards migration-related targets.
2. ***Including prevention of causes leading to displacement (natural and man-made), and ensuring durable solutions for refugees and displaced persons***. Displacement issues also need to be addressed in the formulation of indicators concerning targets whose implementation will have an impact on the well-being of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs), including those relating to health, education, gender equality, decent work, urban planning, resilience and disaster risk reduction.
3. ***Considering migration as part of the means of implementation and the global partnership for sustainable development*** with a view to fostering partnerships on migration and mobility – including at the regional level and through multilateral agreements covering trade in services – that:
 - Involve a wide range of stakeholders such as the private sector, employers' and workers' organizations, civil society and migrant/diaspora organizations;
 - Promote policy coherence, including on social, employment, economic, trade, investment, industrial and environmental policies, within and across governments as well as with other stakeholders; and
 - Address key challenges such as reducing the costs of migration, including those relating to remittance transactions costs and recruitment, enhancing portability of social security benefits and other acquired rights, and promoting mutual recognition of diplomas, qualifications and skills.
4. ***Including migrants, displaced persons, refugees and stateless persons in a standardized list of groups in vulnerable situations and, where relevant and feasible, in the disaggregation of data in the post-2015 development agenda***. This would ensure that progress in achieving key development goals and targets in areas such as poverty, education, health, social protection, food, housing, water and sanitation, decent work and reducing inequalities are appropriately elaborated and monitored.

The GMG stands ready to support Member States, the international community and other relevant stakeholders in their efforts to foster the inclusion of migrants and migration in the post-2015 development agenda, elaborate targets and indicators that reaffirm a commitment to human rights-based and gender-sensitive approaches, and promote multi-stakeholder cooperation, coordination and coherence at all levels.