



GMG Statement

First High-level Meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation:
Building towards the Post-2015 Development Agenda
15-16 April 2014, Mexico

Excellences, Distinguished delegates,

The Global Migration Group (GMG), represented here by the International Labour Organization (ILO) as Chair, welcomes the opportunity to take the floor on behalf of its 16 member entities.

Migration is becoming a more critical aspect of policy dialogues around growth and development. Member States' investment in greater international cooperation at the global level (i.e., the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio +20), the Global Forum on Migration and Development, and the 2013 United Nations High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development) has succeeded in setting migration on the agenda of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals.

The GMG calls for the inclusion of migrants and migration into the post-2015 UN development agenda, both as part of a new global partnership for inclusive development, as well as part of other relevant goals and indicators. In that vein, the GMG's *Working Group on Human Rights and Gender* and the Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development (KNOMAD) have recently developed a draft set of indicators on the right of migrants to health, education, and decent work.

Knowledge sharing can be an important enabler of human rights-based, inclusive, equitable and sustainable development. As individual agencies, and as a group, the GMG is promoting the exchange of experiences and good practices between field and global levels.

For example, the GMG's *Working Group on Mainstreaming Migration into National Development Strategies* is supporting 8 countries (Bangladesh, Ecuador, Jamaica, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Morocco, Serbia and Tunisia) in their efforts to improve the evidence base on migration and development linkages and formulate integrated policies and institutional responses in this area.

The GMG *Taskforce on Capacity Development* is in the process of developing an online inventory of training activities and tools which will aid in centralizing information as a first step towards establishing a more comprehensive and systematic approach to the training needs of migration stakeholders.

The GMG is also mobilizing its knowledge pool to enhance the capacity of Regional Economic Commissions. For instance, GMG agencies are supporting the long-term programme of collaboration on migration that the African Union Labour and Social Affairs Commission is leading in follow-up to the 2004 Ouagadougou Declaration on Poverty Alleviation and Employment Creation. This programme will subsequently feed into targeted projects for the various sub-regional economic communities.

Ladies and gentlemen,

We recognize the importance of South-South and triangular cooperation in promoting the development of countries of origin and destination. Migration flows among countries of the South are now as significant as South-North migration. Significant governance challenges have arisen in southern countries as migration policies have not kept pace with the increase in cross-border mobility, including for labour, family reunification, protection and other reasons.

With more countries reaching Middle Income Country status and financing development from domestic resources and private capital, effective cooperation will increasingly be about policy coherence and not just aid. Policy coherence for development in both countries of origin and destination requires a 'whole-of-government' approach to ensure that migration and its human development impacts are appreciated in the context of national development objectives and accounted for in sector-specific strategies.

In responding to these challenges, the GMG's *Taskforce on Decent Work and Migration* will implement a needs assessment and capacity-building project to improve the ability of the social partners to more effectively engage in labour migration policy development in regional integration processes.

We expect migration to continue as an important reality of the 21st century. Multi-stakeholder cooperation at all levels to ensure regular, safe and fair migration, while upholding the human rights of all migrants, regardless of their migration status – is crucial to human rights-based, inclusive, equitable and sustainable development. The GMG looks forward to continuing to support Member States and other stakeholders in the development of standards, policies and programmes, and good practice guidance for protecting and promoting the human rights of all migrants and maximizing the development benefits of migration. More specifically, the GMG will:

- Foster convergence and pooling of agencies' expertise to advance knowledge and produce guidance in thematic priority areas captured in the GMG's multi-annual work plan.
- Follow-up on priorities identified by United Nations Secretary General at the 2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development in collaboration with other stakeholders, including civil society.
- Provide support to countries and regional bodies through concrete programmes/projects, including push for closer collaboration with the United Nations Development Group.
- Work closely with the Global Forum on Migration and Development to ensure synergies between work programmes and strengthen what could be a nascent global partnership on migration and development.

Thank you.