

# The UN High-level Dialogue and possible follow-up within the GFMD process

# The High-level Dialogue UN General Assembly

*“Today, we are united in a joint declaration on the importance of migration to development, and on the protection of the rights of all migrants.*

*This progress has been made possible by the climate of trust that we established in the Global Forum on Migration and Development”*

H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General

# The High-level Dialogue UN General Assembly

- **The UN Secretary-General's Report to the HLD (A/68/190) eight-point agenda for action**
- **A consensus Declaration adopted by the General Assembly**
- **The Civil Society eight key action points over five years**
- **Plenary sessions, four thematic roundtables, side events**
- **GFMD thematic recollection, plenary speech and side event**

# The High-level Dialogue: Seven main points for the GFMD

1. Integrating migration into the post-2015 global development agenda
2. Improving the portability of migrant skills and reducing the costs of labour migration
3. Protecting the human rights of all migrants
4. Improving the public perceptions of migrants
5. Addressing the plight of stranded migrants and migrants in crisis situations
6. Enhancing migration partnerships and cooperation
7. Strengthening the evidence-base

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## 1. Integrating migration into the post-2015 global development agenda

- mainstream migration into national development plans, poverty reduction strategies, sectoral policies, programmes
- define common set of targets and indicators, monitor migration's impacts on development, for consideration in post-2015 agenda
- in an action-oriented and pragmatic way, including the development of a roadmap
- GFMD RT 1.1. mainstreaming and 1.2: post-2015, targets and indicators, partnerships

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## 2. Improving the portability of migrant skills and reducing the costs of labour migration

- portability of skills, promoting mutual recognition of diplomas, qualifications and skills, improving labour matching
- enhancing portability of social security, other acquired rights
- reducing the costs of labour migration, incl. for recruitment
- brain drain, circular migration
- **GFMD RT 2.1, 3.1, 3.2, Business Roundtable**

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## 3. Protecting the human rights of all migrants

- international instruments and conventions
- national legislation, implementation
- eliminate all forms of exploitation affecting migrants, especially trafficking in persons, vulnerable groups, such as women, girls and children
- provide information to migrants about their rights, legal migration opportunities and the risks of using irregular channels
- **GFMD RT 3.1 implementation, empowerment, access to social services, RT 2.1. and cross-cutting**

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## 4. Improving the public perceptions of migrants

- more efforts to combat discrimination, xenophobia and intolerance, reinforce existing laws
- creating greater public awareness about migrants experience, integration
- partnerships between governments, social partners, media, educational institutions and migrants
- **GFMD RT 3.1, 2.1, 2.2, MWP (Communication Strategy), Business Roundtable**



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## 5. Addressing the plight of stranded migrants and migrants in crisis situations

- pay special attention to migrants in humanitarian crises and natural disasters as they are often overlooked
- strengthen capacities to assist through better preparedness, expanded consular assistance, assisted voluntary evacuation, return and reintegration
- SRSG Sutherland, USA, the Philippines: state-led process, examination of the responsibilities of different actors
- **GFMD RT 3.1, PfP**

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## 6. Enhancing migration partnerships and cooperation

- need for comprehensive and coherent whole-of-government approaches, factoring migration into all relevant policy sectors
- recognition of civil society as important actors and partners, as well as the private sector and the migrants/diaspora
- usefulness of bilateral and multilateral partnerships
- recognition of regional and global platforms, such as GFMD
- SG asked SRSR Sutherland to hold regular meetings with GFMD and GMG Chairs to identify shared priorities
- **GFMD: outreach to GMG and civil society**

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## 7. Strengthening the evidence-base

- promote evidence-based policymaking and invest in data collection, research and capacity development
- create a dedicated capacity-building initiative to assist countries improving collection and use of migration data
- measurable targets and indicators for monitoring the protection of migrants
- **GFMD: Government Team working methods, Expert Network, GFMD Survey, Policy and Practice Database**

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## Points for discussion

- Which of these seven points as outcomes from the HLD should be prioritized for follow-up within the GFMD?
- In what ways should these points be reflected in a more focused and holistic way in the GFMD Roundtables, the Platform for Partnerships and the Business Roundtable?
- How can the GFMD process contribute to keeping the momentum and political interest to ensure progress in the global debate on migration and development?