



Fair Migration and the Post-2015 UN Sustainable Development Agenda

Convened by the Republic of Turkey, Chair of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) and the International Labour Organization (ILO), Chair of the Global Migration Group (GMG)

Wednesday, 9 July 2014 1:15 – 2:30 p.m.

Conference Room 10 (Conference Building, Ground Floor), UNHQ, New York

“More than a billion people rely on international and domestic migration to improve the income, health and education of their families, escape poverty and conflict and adapt to environmental and economic shocks. Countries receiving migrants can also benefit significantly. Yet many barriers limit the positive effects of migration, including possible large economic and social gains. Discrimination is widespread and the human rights of migrants are often denied at different points in the migration process. The scourge of human trafficking, an unacceptable dimension of migration, must be ended.” [Excerpt from *A life of dignity for all: accelerating progress towards the Millennium Development Goals and advancing the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015*, Report of the United Nations Secretary General, UN doc. A/68/202 (26 July 2013), para. 93]

The GFMD is a voluntary, informal, non-binding and government-led process on migration and development. The GMG is an inter-agency coordination group on international migration bringing together the heads of 15 UN agencies and the International Organization for Migration. As discussions on the post-2015 UN development agenda progress, the GFMD and GMG are collaborating to:

- Give renewed impetus to global cooperation and coordination on international migration and development, and to widen and strengthen partnerships to this effect;
- Recognize the significant contributions that migrants make to the development of destination, transit and origin countries; and
- Advance the promotion and protection of their human and labour rights in accordance with international standards, and support fair and effective governance of migration.

The landmark [Declaration](#) adopted by the United Nations General Assembly at the second High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (HLD), held in October 2013, called for recognition that “human mobility is a key factor for sustainable development which should be adequately considered in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda” (para. 8), a position supported by the [UN Secretary-General’s eight-point agenda for action](#) submitted to the HLD. Inclusion of migrants and migration in the post-2015 development agenda is also a priority area of mutual interest in the enhanced coordination and collaboration taking place between the GFMD, the GMG, and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) for International Migration and Development.

The side event will allow participants to discuss some of the practical ways in which the post-2015 development framework might incorporate migrants and migration that are needed to advance inclusive, equitable and sustainable development, and how the GFMD and GMG, working with the SRSG and other stakeholders such as social partners, migrant and diaspora associations and civil society generally, might contribute to and bolster this process.