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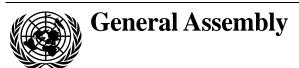
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Globalization and interdependence

International migration and development

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

In resolution 65/170, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of that resolution at its sixty-seventh session. The report was also to include organizational details of the 2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, including possible themes.

Section I of the present report includes recent data on migratory patterns by origin and destination. The information allows for an assessment of the scope of international migration from developing countries, providing a critical underpinning to the debate on international migration and development. It describes recent levels of remittance transfers, including evidence on the costs of transferring remittances, and highlights recent activities to safeguard the rights of migrants and to combat irregular migration. It also discusses gaps in protecting and assisting migrants, including "stranded migrants" and people who move in the context of environmental change.

Section II synthesizes recent efforts of the United Nations system to enhance partnerships, coordination and cooperation, including through the Coordination Meeting on International Migration and the Global Migration Group. It contains a review of the support provided by the Group to Member States, including the Global Forum on Migration and Development.

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* A/67/150.

Section III contains proposals for the organization of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, to be convened by the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session, in 2013, pursuant to resolution 63/225. It also contains a suggested structure and format for the event, as well as possible themes, preparatory activities and outcomes.

The report concludes with a set of concrete recommendations to enhance the benefits of migration and to reduce its negative impacts on development and recounts the steps that are being taken to prepare for the 2013 High-level Dialogue.

I. Introduction

1.   International migration is a global phenomenon that is growing in scope, complexity and impact. Today, virtually all countries in the world are simultaneously countries of destination, origin and transit for international migrants. Traditional immigration patterns are complemented by new migratory flows, fuelled by changing economic, demographic, political and social conditions. Changing migration patterns affect the size and composition of immigrant populations as well as economies and societies in countries of origin and destination.

2.   The rise in global mobility, the growing complexity of migratory patterns and the impact of such movements on development have all contributed to international migration becoming a priority for the international community. Prior to the first High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, held in 2006, international migration had been addressed as part of the United Nations development agenda at various international conferences and summits. Chapter X of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, held in Cairo in 1994, remains one of the most comprehensive internationally agreed texts on international migration to date.

3.   The 2006 High-level Dialogue was the first high-level meeting of the General Assembly exclusively devoted to migration. In May 2011, the President of the General Assembly organized an informal thematic debate on international migration and development, which provided an opportunity for Member States to exchange views and to take stock of their achievements in addressing the opportunities and challenges of international migration on the way to the 2013 High-level Dialogue (see A/65/944). The informal thematic debate provided further evidence that international migration could significantly contribute to poverty reduction, provided that partnerships and capacity development were strengthened and that the rights of migrants were safeguarded.

4.   The 2013 High-level Dialogue comes at a crucial time. Seven years after the first High-level Dialogue and one year ahead of the special session of the General Assembly to review the implementation of the 1994 Programme of Action, the international community is well positioned to assess the impact of international migration policies and programmes, recommend concrete actions for follow-up and mainstream migration into the post-2015 development agenda.[1]

II. Recent developments on migration and development

A. Global migratory patterns and the role of the South

5.   More people live outside their country of origin today than at any time in history. The global number of international migrants increased from 155 million in 1990 to 214 million in 2010. During that period, the number of international migrants in the more developed regions, or the North, grew by 46 million, or 56 per cent, while the immigrant population in the South increased by 13 million, or 18 per

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[1] See "Realizing the future we want for all: report to the Secretary-General", United Nations system task team on the post-2015 United Nations development agenda, 2012.

cent. By 2010, almost 60 per cent of all international migrants in the world were living in more developed countries, compared with 53 per cent in 1990.[2]

6.   While reasonably accurate global estimates on international migrants by country of destination have been available for some time, documenting the origin of such migrants has been a major challenge. However, knowledge about the country of birth or citizenship of international migrants is critical for evidence-based migration policies. Information on the size and location of transnational communities, or diaspora, is therefore critical for countries of origin to mobilize their citizens abroad for development at home. Similarly, information on the origin of immigrants is essential for destination countries when designing immigration policies. At the aggregate level, information on the origin of international migrants allows for an assessment of the role of South-South movements in global migration.

7.   The Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, with the support of partners, has produced a data set that estimates, for the first time, the global migrant population by origin.[3] The estimates indicate that the increase in the international migrant population in the North was primarily due to the growth in the number of migrants from the South. Between 1990 and 2010, the number of international migrants in the North who were born in the South (South-North migrants) almost doubled, from 40 million in 1990 to 74 million in 2010, accounting for 75 per cent of the increase in immigration in the North. The remaining 11 million persons who were added to the immigrant population in the North were born in the North (see table 1).

Table 1
Number of international migrants by origin and destination, 1990 and 2010

	Migrant stock (millions)			*Migrant stock (percentage)*		
Origin/destination	*1990*	*2010*	*Absolute change*	*1990*	*2010*	*Percentage change*
North-North	42.1	53.5	11.4	27.1	25.0	27.0
North-South	13.3	13.3	(0.1)	8.6	6.2	(0.4)
South-North	39.9	74.3	34.4	25.7	34.7	86.0
South-South	59.8	73.2	13.3	38.5	34.2	22.3
Total in North	**82.0**	**127.8**	**45.7**	**52.9**	**59.6**	**55.7**
Total in South	**73.2**	**86.4**	**13.3**	**47.1**	**40.4**	**18.1**
Total from North	**55.4**	**66.8**	**11.3**	**35.7**	**31.2**	**20.4**
Total from South	**99.8**	**147.4**	**47.7**	**64.3**	**68.8**	**47.8**
Grand total	**155.2**	**214.2**	**59.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**38.0**

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[2] See *Trends in International Migrant Stock: the 2008 Revision* (United Nations publication, POP/DB/MIG/Stock/Rev.2008).

[3] See *Trends in International Migrant Stock: Migrants by Destination and Origin* (United Nations publication, forthcoming).

8. As a result of such trends, the share of South-South migration in global migration fell from 39 per cent in 1990 to 34 per cent in 2010, with South-North migration overtaking South-South migration as the dominant migration corridor. In 2010, the number of South-South migrants was about 73 million, slightly fewer than the 74 million South-North migrants. The number of North-North migrants stood at 53 million in 2010, while North-South migrants numbered about 13 million.

9. Recent immigration data, compiled by the Population Division, confirm the growing contribution of migration from the South to migration in the North.[4] In Australia and New Zealand, the average annual share of foreign immigrants originating from less developed regions rose from 53 per cent in 1990-1999 to 59 per cent in 2000-2009. Likewise, Europe recorded an increase in the average annual share of foreign immigrants from the South from 36 per cent in 1990-1999 to 43 per cent in 2000-2009. In North America, however, the share of immigrants from developing countries in total immigration during both periods remained stable at around 84 per cent. The growth in migration from the South has generated significant flows of remittances in the opposite direction.

B. Remittance transfers: flows and costs

10. According to the World Bank, remittances to developing countries reached $372 billion in 2011, an increase of 12 per cent compared to 2010.[5] While remittance transfers recorded a brief decline in 2009 in the wake of the economic crisis, they recovered the following year and are projected to continue to increase during 2012-2014. China, India, Mexico and the Philippines were the main destination countries for remittances, each receiving more than $20 billion in 2011. As a percentage of gross domestic product, Lesotho, the Republic of Moldova, Samoa and Tajikistan were the largest remittance-receiving countries in the world.

11. Remittances are an important source of income for households in developing countries. A recent study of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, using data from 77 developing countries, found that a 10 per cent rise in remittances was estimated to lead to a 3.1 per cent reduction in the poverty headcount ratio.[6] The report concluded that, while the character of remittances as private funds should be respected, sustained policy interventions could encourage migrant families to use remittances for skills improvement and could promote the use of remittances as collateral for procuring small business loans and for other productive purposes.[7]

12. The international community has long emphasized the need to reduce the costs of transferring remittances (see General Assembly resolution 60/206). In July 2009, the members of the Group of Eight agreed to reduce global remittance costs from 10 to 5 per cent over five years (the "5 by 5" objective) and to make financial services more accessible to migrants and their families. The global average total costs of transferring remittances declined from 9.8 per cent in 2008 to 8.9 per cent

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[4] See *International Migration Flows to and from Selected Countries: the 2010 Revision* (United Nations publication, POP/DB/MIG/Flow/Rev.2010).

[5] World Bank, "Migration and development brief 18" (Washington, D.C., 2012).

[6] Percentage of the population living on less than $1.25 per day.

[7] United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, *Impact of Remittances on Poverty in Developing Countries* (Geneva, 2011).

in the third quarter of 2010, but rose again to 9.3 per cent during the third quarter of 2011.[8] Remittance transfer costs between developing countries exceed those between developed and developing countries, while the costs of transferring remittances between countries in sub-Saharan Africa were particularly high. Factors that contribute to the high costs of transferring remittances in some migration corridors include insufficient market competition, limited transparency, small transaction volumes and the use of informal channels. In the third quarter of 2011, commercial banks were found to charge the highest rates for transferring remittances (13.7 per cent), followed by money transfer operators (7.4 per cent) and post offices (7.2 per cent).

C. Migrant rights and migration policies

13. International migration, development and human rights are intrinsically interconnected. Respecting the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants is essential for reaping the full benefits of international migration. Migrants in an irregular situation are particularly vulnerable to discrimination and abuse.

14. By June 2012, 83 States had ratified at least one of three international instruments related to migrant workers, namely, the 1949 International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention concerning Migration for Employment (Revised) (No. 97), the 1975 ILO Convention concerning Migrations in Abusive Conditions and the Promotion of Equality of Opportunity and Treatment of Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) (No. 143) and the 1990 United Nations International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. Member States that had ratified at least one of the three international instruments hosted approximately 68 million international migrants in 2010, almost one third of the global migrant population.[2]

15. In 2010, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) coordinated a global ratification campaign to increase the number of States parties to the 1990 Migrant Workers Convention. The Secretary-General and the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants repeated the call for ratification on the occasion of International Migrants Day in December 2011. At the 2010 Global Forum on Migration and Development, OHCHR issued a joint statement of the Global Migration Group expressing concern about the human rights of migrants in an irregular situation and called for an end to their criminalization. Participants at a round table organized in May 2011 by OHCHR and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) concluded that the detention of immigrants did not reduce irregular migration or deter the arrival of asylum seekers.

16. In June 2011, the International Labour Conference of ILO adopted the Convention concerning Decent Work for Domestic Workers (No. 189) and Recommendation No. 201. The Convention recognizes the economic and social value of domestic work, provides standards to improve working conditions and encourages the inclusion of domestic workers in labour and social protection

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[8] World Bank, "Remittance prices worldwide", issue No. 3 (Washington, D.C., 2011).

mechanisms. The new standard represents an important step in advancing the rights of millions of women migrants who are employed as domestic workers.

17. The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) promotes the ratification and implementation of the Convention concerning Decent Work for Domestic Workers and has developed a checklist to assist Governments in formulating and implementing legislation to protect migrant domestic workers. UN-Women has assisted the Chairs of the Global Forum in highlighting the rights of migrant domestic workers.

18. The 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol thereto, which are the main pillars for the international protection of refugees, guide the activities of UNHCR. The 148 countries that had ratified either of the two international instruments by mid-2012 had collectively hosted over 6 million refugees, or 42 per cent of the global refugee population.[9] Excluding approximately 4.8 million Palestinians who fall under the mandate of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, the proportion of refugees hosted by States parties to the 1951 Convention and its 1967 Protocol increases to 61 per cent.[10]

19. Combating human trafficking and migrant smuggling is a key priority for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). As at June 2012, 149 countries had ratified the 2000 Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, while 130 countries had ratified the 2000 Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air. UNODC focuses its activities on organizing information campaigns to prevent such heinous crimes, prosecuting their perpetrators and protecting their victims. In 2010, UNODC published a set of model laws against trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants to assist States in adopting adequate legislation to implement the two Protocols.

20. Several regional conventions govern the recognition of academic qualifications. The conventions, overseen by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), have been signed in varying degrees. More generally, the lack of mutual recognition of diplomas, skills and qualifications is an important barrier to leveraging the benefits of migration.

21. In 2010, the World Health Assembly adopted at its sixty-third session a global code of practice on the international recruitment of health personnel. The voluntary code promotes the ethical recruitment of migrant health workers and the strengthening of health systems in developing countries.

22. Migrant workers who are caught in situations of natural disasters, civil conflict or war are often unable to avail themselves of the protection and assistance of their country of citizenship, residence or transit. Cut off from their means of subsistence, they face economic hardship upon return. The plight of these "stranded migrants" may be particularly precarious for those who are undocumented. In 2011, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and UNHCR launched a massive humanitarian response to assist and repatriate third country nationals who were affected by the crisis in Libya. The crisis revealed the absence, or the inadequate

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[9] UNHCR, *2010 Statistical Yearbook: Tenth edition* (Geneva, 2011).
[10] See www.unrwa.org/etemplate.php?id=253.

implementation, of existing norms, obligations or standards and thus highlighted the need for the international community to address the situation of "stranded migrants" more systematically.

D. Migration and environmental change

23. Migration in response to environmental or climate change may range from gradual movements as part of adaptive strategies to slow-onset environmental changes, to massive forced displacement in response to sudden-onset disasters. Environmental change is seldom the sole reason for people to move, but is often one of the reasons to migrate, alongside political, social, economic and demographic factors. Although exact figures are lacking, it is believed that most environment-related migration takes place over relatively short distances and only rarely across international borders. Those who cross international borders as a result of natural disasters are not considered refugees under international law and may lack international protection. Displacement due to natural disasters is often short term. Paradoxically, people who are unable to move away from affected areas, so-called "trapped" populations, may be most vulnerable in the context of environmental change.[11]

24. In the fall of 2011, the Global Migration Group called on Member States to recognize migration as an adaptation strategy to environmental risks and to make migration an option available to the most vulnerable. Furthermore, the Group recommended that immigration policies take into account environmental factors, that the least developed countries mainstream migration and mobility in national adaptation plans to climate change and that the relationship between climate change and migration be incorporated in poverty reduction strategies and national development strategies.[12]

25. At the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 2012, Member States agreed to include population and migration factors in their development strategies. They also resolved to promote the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants regardless of migration status, especially those of women and children, to address international migration through international, regional or bilateral cooperation and dialogue, to recognize the roles and responsibilities of countries of origin, transit and destination and to avoid practices that might increase the vulnerability of international migrants (see General Assembly resolution 66/288).

E. Strengthening the global evidence base

26. Evidence-based policymaking and informed public debate require timely, reliable and easily accessible data and analysis. The decennial population census is the primary source for internationally comparable migration information. According to the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, 228

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[11] United Kingdom, Government Office for Science, Foresight, "Migration and global environmental change: future challenges and opportunities — final project report" (London, 2011).

[12] See www.globalmigrationgroup.org/uploads/english.pdf.

countries or areas have conducted or will conduct a population census during the 2010 round of population censuses, an increase of 21 countries over the previous round. Early indications suggest that the reporting on "country of birth", "country of citizenship" and "year or period of arrival" during the 2010 round of censuses, all of which are critical topics for the analysis of global migration trends, has improved little compared to the 2000 round of censuses. However, the number of census questions covering other migration topics, such as return migration, remittances and the integration of first and second generation immigrants, appears to be on the rise.

27. The Population Division, in collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund, the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank, developed the United Nations Global Migration Database, which contains a comprehensive set of empirical tabulations on international migrants by country of enumeration, birth, citizenship, sex and age (www.unmigration.org). For the 2000 round of population censuses, the database covers over 90 per cent of immigrants in Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, North America and Oceania, but only 70 per cent in Africa and Asia. During the 2010 census round, Africa and Asia continued to lag behind other major areas in reporting migration data.

28. In response to requests for information,[13] the Population Division prepared various new data sets on international migration and international migrants. Thus, the Division produced, for the first time, a set of estimates on international migrants by age and sex.[14] The Division also produced, for the first time, estimates of the international migrant stock by country of birth or citizenship.[3] Furthermore, the Division created a database on annual immigration and, where available, emigration and net migration flows by country of origin and destination for 43 countries.[4]

29. In 2005, the European Commission initiated migration profiles to improve the evidence base on international migration. To date, migration profiles are available for over 80 countries.[15] In 2011, the Global Forum annual meeting endorsed a proposal by the Global Migration Group to develop a common set of indicators for migration profiles. Those indicators, finalized by the Group in 2012, provide comparable estimates on population, international migration and development as well as information on the ratification of relevant legal instruments for all Member States.

30. The UNESCO Institute for Statistics, in collaboration with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and Eurostat, collects data on internationally mobile tertiary students for issues of the *Global Education Digest*. The number of international students has grown from 0.8 million in 1975 to 3.4 million in 2009, fuelled in part by the internationalization of educational institutions. A recent UNESCO study indicated that member States of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) had the highest outbound mobility ratio for tertiary students worldwide.[16] Unlike their counterparts from other parts of

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[13] See, for example, resolution 2006/2 of the Commission on Population and Development on international migration and development and General Assembly resolutions 65/190 and 66/128.

[14] See *Trends in International Migrant Stock: Migrants by Age and Sex* (United Nations publication, POP/DB/MIG/Stock/Rev.2010).

[15] See www.gfmd.org/en/pfp/policy-tools/migration-profiles.

[16] UNESCO Institute for Statistics, "New patterns in student mobility in the Southern Africa Development Community", *UIS Information Bulletin*, No. 7 (February, 2012).

Africa pursuing tertiary education in Europe and North America, nearly half of all mobile students in the SADC region are choosing to study in South Africa.

III. Coherence, partnerships and coordination

A. Coordination Meeting on International Migration

31. The annual Coordination Meeting on International Migration, unique inter-agency mechanism open to Member States, non-governmental organizations and experts, has been organized by the Population Division since 2002. The Tenth Coordination Meeting, held in 2012, included an intergovernmental segment, which fostered interaction between the United Nations system and the Global Forum on Migration and Development; a coordination segment, which identified gaps and synergies in migration activities within the United Nations system; and an expert segment, at which recent migration research was presented.

32. The fact that there were 138 participants at the 2012 Coordination Meeting, compared with 45 at the 2002 Coordination Meeting, testifies to the growing interest in this inter-agency platform. By allowing for informal interaction among representatives of the Global Forum, Member States, civil society, researchers, the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations, the mechanism has played a critical role in sharing information, facilitating dialogue and strengthening coherence on migration.

B. Global Migration Group

33. The Global Migration Group was established by the Secretary-General prior to the 2006 High-level Dialogue. The Group is tasked with fostering coherence in the inter-agency response to the challenges and opportunities of migration. As at 2012, the Group includes 16 members, comprising 15 United Nations entities and IOM. It meets regularly at the working level, organizes technical meetings and issues joint statements. The Group is planning to launch a report on migration, youth and human rights in November 2012.

34. The working group of the Global Migration Group on mainstreaming, co-chaired by UNDP and IOM, is piloting a handbook on mainstreaming migration in national development planning in four countries. The working group has also created a repository of guidance documents and tools for United Nations country teams. The working group on data and research, co-chaired by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and IOM, produced a common set of indicators for migration profiles and promotes the implementation of the report entitled *Migrants Count: Five Steps Toward Better Migration Data*.

35. Led by UNODC and UNESCO, with support from the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the Global Migration Group has initiated a review to take stock of its achievements and challenges since its creation in 2006. The goal of the review is to formulate recommendations for a robust inter-agency response to the opportunities and challenges of international migration post-2013.

36. The Global Migration Group is playing a major role in formulating a set of conclusions and recommendations on international migration and development by

the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders. That initiative, coordinated by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and IOM, and assisted by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, will highlight the good practices and challenges encountered in undertaking migration and development activities since 2006.

C. Global Forum on Migration and Development

37. The Global Forum on Migration and Development is an informal, non-binding, voluntary and Government-led process open to all States Members and observers of the United Nations. It was launched during the 2006 High-level Dialogue and provides a platform for Governments to discuss the opportunities and challenges of international migration for development in practical and action-oriented ways. The Global Forum offers opportunities for cooperation and partnership between stakeholders at the national, regional and international levels. The Chair in Office of the Global Forum submits an annual report to the United Nations through the Secretary-General.

38. The Secretary-General has addressed three of the five Global Forum meetings. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for International Migration and Development chairs annual sessions on the future of the Global Forum and participates in its Steering Committee and in meetings of the Friends of the Forum.

39. In 2010, the Global Forum initiated an assessment, the first part of which, led by the Chair-in-Office of the 2011 Global Forum, focused on the operating modalities, outcomes and follow-up to the Global Forum and on the relationship between the Global Forum, international organizations and civil society. The Chair-in-Office of the 2012 Global Forum leads the second part of the assessment on the future of the Global Forum, which will be presented at its forthcoming meeting.

40. From 2007 to 2011, the Global Forum organized 15 round tables, which produced a total of 199 recommendations (see table 2). Thirty-five of the recommendations were followed up by one Global Migration Group member, and 149 were followed by two or more. Members of the Group undertook 759 actions to follow up on the 199 recommendations. The average number of follow-up actions per recommendation increased from 2.4 in 2007 to 5.4 in 2010, while the number of recommendations not to be followed up fell from 5 in 2007 and 2008 to 3 in 2011. The figures confirm the key role of the Group in implementing Global Forum outcomes and, consequently, adding value, increasing the relevance and enhancing the impact of the Global Forum process.

Table 2
Follow-up of Global Forum recommendations by the Global Migration Group, 2007-2011

Year	Round table	Title	Total	By one Group member	By two or more Group members	No follow-up	Number of follow-up actions reported by the Global Migration Group	Ratio[a]
				Number of Global Forum recommendations				
				Follow-up by Global Migration Group members				
2007	I	Human capital development and labour mobility	9	3	5	1	21	2.3
	II	Remittances and other diaspora resources	19	7	11	1	47	2.5
	III	Policy and institutional coherence and partnerships	15	4	8	3	34	2.3
Total 2007			**43**	**14**	**24**	**5**	**102**	**2.4**
2008	I	Migration, development and human rights	13	3	9	1	39	3.0
	II	Optimizing development impacts of regular migration	9	4	5	0	20	2.2
	III	Policy and institutional coherence and partnerships	11	2	5	4	27	2.5
Total 2008			**33**	**9**	**19**	**5**	**86**	**2.6**
2009	I	Migration and development policies to achieve the Millennium Development Goals	19	2	17	0	87	4.6
	II	Migrant integration, reintegration and circulation	9	1	6	2	17	1.9
	III	Policy and institutional coherence and partnerships	10	1	9	0	44	4.4
Total 2009			**38**	**4**	**32**	**2**	**148**	**3.9**
2010	I	Partnerships for migration and human development	18	1	17	0	111	6.2
	II	Human mobility and human development	14	3	11	0	55	3.9
	III	Policy and institutional coherence	13	1	12	0	76	5.8
Total 2010			**45**	**5**	**40**	**0**	**242**	**5.4**
2011	I	Labour mobility and development	12	1	8	3	36	3.0
	II	Addressing irregular migration through coherent strategies	9	0	9	0	46	5.1
	III	Tools for evidence-based migration and development policies	19	2	17	0	99	5.2
Total 2011			**40**	**3**	**34**	**3**	**181**	**4.5**
Grand total			**199**	**35**	**149**	**15**	**759**	**3.8**

Note: For a detailed list of implementation actions by Global Migration Group entity, see www.unmigration.org.

[a] Number of follow-up activities reported by the Global Migration Group divided by the number of Global Forum recommendations.

D. Building national migration capacity

41. In follow-up to the 2006 High-level Dialogue, the United Nations system has stepped up efforts to assist Member States in building institutional capacities to develop, formulate and implement evidence-based policies on international migration and development.

42. From 2009 to 2012, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), in collaboration with the other regional commissions and the Population Division, carried out a project to strengthen national capacities to maximize the development benefits and to minimize the negative impact of international migration. Through workshops, studies, online data repositories and a toolkit, the project assisted developing countries in dealing with the multidimensional aspects of international migration. By convening two interregional meetings, the project also fostered partnership and cooperation between regions of origin and destination of international migrants.[17]

43. The Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), with the support of UNFPA, organized several training workshops to improve migration statistics in Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia. The workshops allowed participants to exchange data on the size and composition of the foreign population in their countries. A clearing house on migration statistics, established by ECE, allows for a systematic exchange of migration statistics in the region. The Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) convened a dialogue in October 2011 to develop a regional position on international migration and development in preparation for the 2013 High-level Dialogue. ECA assists the Government of Mauritius in highlighting the contributions and challenges of international migration to development in Africa during the 2012 Global Forum.

44. The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) supported the Scalabrini Migration Center in the Philippines in the development of the Migration Information System in Asia, a network of 16 Asian partners that collaborate in sharing migration data. ESCAP also worked with partner organizations in the preparation of a situation report on international migration in South and South-West Asia, providing an overview of the migration situation, including laws, policies and programmes in the region.[18]

45. In 2011, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) launched a project to strengthen local migration governance through online learning tools. UNITAR, in collaboration with IOM, UNFPA and the MacArthur Foundation, organizes seminars on migration and development to inform the diplomatic community in New York. The International Training Centre of ILO, based in Turin, Italy, hosts the Labour Migration Academy, a summer course organized in collaboration with ILO and other Global Migration Group partners.

46. The International Dialogue on Migration of IOM provides a forum for Member States and other stakeholders to exchange views and experiences and promote cooperation on international migration. In 2011, the Dialogue addressed the linkages between migration and environmental change and the relationship between

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[17] ECLAC, "International migration from a regional and interregional perspective" (Santiago, 2012).
[18] ESCAP, *Situation Report on International Migration in South and South-West Asia* (ST/ESCAP/2622).

migration and the economy. The 2012 edition will focus on migrant workers who are trapped in crisis situations. IOM also organizes training courses on immigration law and policies for representatives of Governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations. In 2011, IOM and the Migration Policy Institute published *Developing a Road Map for Engaging Diasporas in Development: a Handbook for Policymakers and Practitioners in Home and Host Countries* to encourage expatriate communities to engage in development efforts. Together with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, IOM also developed training modules on the management of labour migration.[19]

IV. 2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development: modalities, format and organization

47.   The General Assembly, in its resolution 63/225, decided to hold, within existing resources, a High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development during its sixty-eighth session, in 2013. The resolution also indicated that the Assembly would decide on the focus and modalities of the High-level Dialogue at its sixty-seventh session.

48.   In its resolution 65/170, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report to it at its sixty-seventh session on the organizational details and possible themes of the High-level Dialogue. The recommendations provided below are submitted in response to that request and draw upon recent experiences in organizing high-level meetings of the Assembly. A detailed programme is also proposed (see annex).

A.   Scope

49.   The focus of the High-level Dialogue could be on identifying concrete measures that enhance the benefits of international migration, while reducing its costs, for countries of origin and destination and migrants alike. The General Assembly may wish to focus on identifying good practices and lessons learned since the 2006 High-level Dialogue, with a particular emphasis on national, regional and global policies and programmes that have leveraged the development benefits of international migration. In so doing, the Assembly may wish to take into account the experiences of the informal, State-led Global Forum on Migration and Development.

B.   Duration and timing

50.   Should the General Assembly wish to consider convening the High-level Dialogue over the course of two days before the general debate of its sixty-eighth session, as was the case for the 2006 High-level Dialogue, the following elements should be taken into consideration. Given that the sixty-eighth session of the Assembly is scheduled to start on Tuesday, 17 September 2013, that the first week the Assembly is reserved for the General Committee and the adoption of the agenda and that, in accordance with resolution 66/124, the High-level Meeting of the

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[19] See www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/shared/shared/mainsite/published_docs/brochures_and_info_sheets/ Training-Module.pdf.

General Assembly on the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities is scheduled for Monday, 23 September 2013, the High-level Dialogue could be held on 24 and 25 September 2013. This option would require a decision by the Assembly to postpone the opening of the general debate to Thursday, 26 September 2013. The decision needs a clear provision if Member States wish to continue, with additional cost, the general debate on Saturday, 28 September 2013 before it resumes on Monday, 30 September.

51.   Alternatively, the Assembly may wish to hold the High-level Dialogue during the two days immediately following the conclusion of the general debate.

C.   Structure and format of the plenary meetings

52.   The General Assembly may wish to structure the High-level Meeting around four plenary meetings, with two plenary meetings held each day, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., in order to accommodate statements by the maximum number of Member States.

53.   In its resolution on the modalities of the High-level Dialogue, to be adopted during its sixty-seventh session, the General Assembly may wish to specify a time limit of interventions by Member States or groups of States as well as the number of speakers per plenary meeting.

54.   Member States may wish to begin the High-level Dialogue with statements by the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Economic and Social Council, and by an eminent person actively engaged in the field of international migration and a representative of a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, both to be selected by the President of the General Assembly.

55.   At the conclusion of the afternoon plenary meeting on the second day, the chair of each interactive round-table meeting might present an oral summary of the deliberations of each of the four round tables, in the event that Member States decide to hold such round tables (see paras. 60-64 below). The Special Representative of the Secretary-General could be invited to make a brief statement summarizing the main achievements of the High-level Dialogue.

D.   Participation in the plenary meetings

56.   Participation in the plenary meetings could be in accordance with the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and thus be open to Member States and the Holy See, Palestine and the European Union in their capacities as observers, as well as other intergovernmental organizations and entities having received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the sessions and work of the Assembly, including IOM.

57.   In addition to Member States and observers, the Assembly could consider inviting the heads of relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes. The Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants might also be invited to participate in the plenary meetings.

58. For security reasons, and given the space limitations at Headquarters, the broad participation of civil society in the High-level Dialogue would not be possible. However, one representative of each of three categories (non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, civil society organizations and the private sector) could be included in the list of speakers for the plenary meetings. The speakers would be different from those invited to speak at the opening of the Dialogue or in the round tables.

59. Furthermore, recognizing the importance of the contributions of civil society and other stakeholders, including the private sector, the Assembly may wish to hold informal interactive hearings with civil society groups prior to the High-level Dialogue (see paras. 69-73 below).

E. Structure, format and themes of the interactive round-table meetings

60. As was the case with the 2006 High-level Dialogue, the Assembly may wish to consider convening four interactive round-table meetings in parallel with the plenary meetings. It should be noted that holding parallel meetings would result in additional costs, as occurred in 2006 (see A/60/623 and A/C.5/60/23).

61. Should the Assembly decide to convene such interactive round tables, the first and second meetings could be held in the morning and afternoon of the first day of the High-level Dialogue, respectively. The third and fourth meetings could be held in the morning and afternoon of the second day of the High-level Dialogue, respectively.

62. Possible themes for the round-table meetings are set out below.

Round table I: Leveraging diaspora contributions for development

63. The round table could focus on the experiences gained since 2006 in leveraging remittances and other diaspora contributions for development, facilitating the portability of diplomas, skills and benefits, reducing the costs of migrating and of transferring remittances, and promoting the reintegration of returning migrants.

Round table II: Promoting legal and orderly migration, while protecting migrant rights

64. The round table could include a review of the progress made in promoting legal, safe and orderly migration, including temporary, circular and return migration for all skills levels. It could also include a review of the concrete measures to prevent and combat irregular migration in a systematic way. The relationship between migration policies and the protection of migrant rights would also be discussed in this context. Measures could also be considered to improve the response of the international community to the situation of "stranded migrants". The role of women, children and youth in migration and the impact of migration on families could also be reviewed.

Round table III: Mainstreaming migration into the development agenda

65. The focus of the round table would be on concrete experiences in mainstreaming migration into national development planning. The integration of

migration into the post-2015 United Nations development agenda could be a main focus, and measures to improve the evidence base for migration policymaking could also be discussed.

Round table IV: Strengthening partnerships and cooperation on international migration at all levels

66. Discussions at the round table, could include concrete steps to promote coherence and cooperation among all stakeholders. The discussion could build on the experiences of Member States, international organizations and civil society in promoting coherence, cooperation and partnership on international migration and in maximizing development outcomes for migrants. The role of the United Nations and IOM in providing a coherent and robust inter-agency response to the challenges and opportunities of migration, including by supporting the Global Forum on Migration and Development and its outcomes, could also be considered. The results of the Global Forum assessment could be presented at the round table.

67. The chairs of the round tables could be designated by the President of the General Assembly, after consultation with the regional groups, from among the ministers attending the High-level Dialogue and with due regard for geographical and gender representation.

68. Summaries of the deliberations of the interactive round-table meetings could be presented orally by the chairs of the round tables at the concluding plenary meeting of the High-level Dialogue.

F. Participation in the interactive round-table meetings

69. Participation of Member States in each of the round-table meetings could be subject to the principle of equitable geographical distribution.

70. In addition, the General Assembly may wish to make specific provisions to allow for the participation in the round-table meetings of heads of entities of the United Nations system and representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, civil society organizations and the private sector.

71. The number of participants could be limited to 50 or fewer, with at least 4 representatives of entities of the United Nations system and 6 representatives of other relevant institutional stakeholders, including civil society organizations and the private sector.

72. Each delegation could be requested to indicate its preference for participation in one of the four round tables to the chair of its respective regional group.

G. Preparatory activities

73. The General Assembly may wish to consider organizing informal interactive hearings with civil society organizations prior to the High-level Meeting, as was the case for the 2006 High-level Dialogue. The hearings could take place over the course of one full day and include two sequential segments. As in previous events of this type, the President of the General Assembly could preside over the informal

interactive hearings, and each segment could consist of presentations by invited participants from non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, civil society organizations and the private sector, and include an exchange of views with Member States.

74. The hearings could be open to accredited representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, the private sector, Member States and observers of the General Assembly.

75. The General Assembly may wish to entrust the President of the Assembly to determine the list of invited participants and the exact format and organization of the hearings, in consultation with Member States and representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, civil society organizations and the private sector. The President of the General Assembly could be tasked with preparing a summary of the hearings prior to the High-level Dialogue.

76. In order to facilitate the participation in the hearings of non-governmental and civil society organizations from developing countries, the General Assembly may wish to urge Member States and others to make contributions to a trust fund set up specifically for this activity.

77. The General Assembly may wish to recommend that other preparatory activities, such as panel discussions or expert meetings, be organized with support from interested Member States, relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes or other institutional stakeholders.

H. Outcome

78. The outcome of the High-level Dialogue could be presented as a note, prepared by the President of the General Assembly, which would be widely distributed to Member States, observers, United Nations agencies and other relevant organizations. The note may include the summaries of the round-table discussions and be issued as a document of the Assembly.

79. Alternatively, the General Assembly may wish to consider a succinct action-oriented outcome document and entrust the President of the Assembly with producing a draft text in consultation with Member States based on their inputs and on inputs from the preparatory process, where relevant, and convene informal consultations at an appropriate date in order to enable sufficient consideration and agreement by Member States prior to the High-level Dialogue.

V. Conclusions, recommendations and way forward

80. In the period 1990-2010, the number of international migrants increased by 59 million, or 39 per cent. Most of that increase, which occurred in the North, was driven by migration from the South. The increase in South-North migration has triggered a significant flow in remittances in the opposite direction. Member States should redouble their efforts to reduce the costs of transferring remittances and to enhance the benefits of remittances for development, bearing in mind that they are private financial flows.

81. The adoption of a new ILO instrument to defend the rights of domestic workers is an important milestone in protecting female migrant workers. However, millions of migrants continue to face discrimination, xenophobia and abuse. The 2013 High-level Dialogue presents an opportunity to accelerate the ratification and promote the implementation of international instruments related to international migration.

82. Without additional resources to collect baseline data, policy formulation and public debate on migration is bound to remain ill-informed. The international community should prioritize the dissemination of migration data from the 2010 census round, facilitate access to data generated by administrative records and consider funding a dedicated survey programme in countries that lack adequate migration data.

83. The increase in migration activities has prompted the need for enhanced coordination. The inter-agency Coordination Meeting on International Migration, organized by the Population Division, plays a critical role in exchanging migration information among stakeholders. The Global Migration Group has improved inter-agency cooperation on migration since 2006 and engages constructively with the Global Forum.

84. The Global Migration Group has launched a review to consider how the United Nations system and other key stakeholders can provide a robust and coherent support to Member States in responding to the opportunities and challenges presented by international migration and in promoting a wider implementation of relevant instruments and norms. The review will also address the question of how the United Nations system can provide effective support and follow-up to Global Forum meetings.

85. UNFPA and IOM are leading a system-wide initiative to formulate recommendations for the 2013 High-level Dialogue, based on the experiences and lessons learned in implementing migration and development programmes since 2006. The initiative is expected to produce a set of concrete recommendations to maximize the benefits and address the challenges of migration.

86. In April 2013, the Commission on Population and Development, at its forty-sixth session, will consider the demographic aspects of recent migration trends, allowing the Economic and Social Council to contribute to the 2013 High-level Dialogue.

87. The Global Forum on Migration and Development is currently undertaking the second phase of an assessment, focusing on the future of the Global Forum beyond the 2013 High-level Dialogue. The results of the assessment, which will also consider the linkages with the United Nations, are expected to be available by the end of 2012.

88. With the right set of policies, the benefits of international migration for countries of origin and destination, and for migrants and their families, can be harnessed, while its negative impacts may be reduced. The 2013 High-level Dialogue is a crucial step for the international community to guide the global migration policy agenda, make concrete recommendations on how to make migration work for development and ensure that the issue of international migration is brought into the post-2015 development debate.

Annex

Proposed programme of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development at United Nations Headquarters

The High-level Dialogue would consist of four plenary meetings, on the basis of two meetings a day, and four interactive round-table meetings to be held in concurrence with the plenary meetings.

First day of the High-level Dialogue

10 a.m.-10.30 a.m.	Opening of the High-level Dialogue by the President of the General Assembly
	Statements by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the President of the Assembly, the President of the Economic and Social Council, and an eminent person and a representative from civil society, both to be selected by the President of the Assembly
10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.	Continuation of the first plenary meeting
	Round table I: Leveraging diaspora contributions for development (to be held in parallel with the first plenary meeting)
3 p.m.-6 p.m.	Second plenary meeting
	Round table II: Promoting legal and orderly migration, while protecting migrant rights (to be held in parallel with the second plenary meeting)

Second day of the High-level Dialogue

10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Third plenary meeting
	Round table III: Mainstreaming migration into the development agenda (to be held in parallel with the third plenary meeting)
3 p.m.-5.30 p.m.	Fourth plenary meeting
	Round table IV: Strengthening partnerships and cooperation on international migration at all levels (to be held in parallel with the fourth plenary meeting)
5.30 p.m.-6 p.m.	Oral summaries of the deliberations of the four interactive round-table meetings presented by the respective chairpersons
	Summary statement by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General
	Closing of the High-level Dialogue by the President of the General Assembly

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