



Global Forum on  
**MIGRATION & DEVELOPMENT**



GFMD

Bangladesh 2016

**REPORT  
of  
Third Thematic Workshop  
under  
Ninth GFMD Chairmanship**

19 July 2016 ■ New York





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# GFMD 2016 Third Thematic Workshop on Migration for Peace, Stability and Growth

19 July 2016, UN HQs, New York

## Summary Report

### Inaugural Plenary

The third thematic workshop under the Ninth GFMD Chairmanship (Bangladesh) 2016 on “Migration for Peace, Stability and Growth” was held at the UN Head Quarters, New York on 19 July 2016. 140 representatives, from 60 Member States and 17 international and civil society organizations, participated in the Workshop.

The thematic workshop also came in the backdrop of the UN Secretary General convening the High-level Summit on Large Movements of refugees and migrants (New York, 19 September 2016). As contemporary debates on migration and mobility within and across societies bring new dimensions and challenges, UN member states, international organizations and global civil society are seized with discussions on having a “global compact” on safe, regular, orderly and responsible migration - as a key outcome of the Summit – with a view to accomplishing the sustainable development goal (i.e. SDG Target 10.7).

In the opening remarks, Ninth GFMD Chair-in-Office, Amb. Shahidul Haque, highlighted that the 2030 Agenda recognized international migration as a multi-dimensional reality of major relevance for the development of the countries of origin, transit and destination. Migration requires a coherent and comprehensive response. He underlined that, in that backdrop, it was an opportune time for the international community to engage in result-oriented cooperation to ensure safe, orderly and regular and responsible migration as well as to address the “darker sides” of migration. He further underlined that while attempts to 'politicize' and 'securitize' migration has always been there, the most contemporary context demands a more robust, coordinated and comprehensive response from all relevant stakeholders at sub-regional, national, regional and global levels.

It was recalled that Bangladesh – as the GFMD 2016 Chair – recognized that the casual linkages between migration vis-à-vis attainment of peace, securing wider stability and attaining of growth across economies and societies had not received due attention. This was felt even further in the context of complex debate on the SDG 16 i.e. the goal related to governance, rule of law, peace and stability. The complex and diverse flows and patterns of migration were impacted inter alia by four factors in the recent times: (a) rise of terrorism and violent extremism, leading to forced displacement, (b)

rise of strong nationalistic and identity-based politics, (c) recent debate on pluralistic, multi-ethnic, multi-religious, multi-cultural societal fabric across countries at different levels of development, and (d) declining impacts of globalization, leading to slow economic and job-rich employment growth.

The Chair urged the Workshop to explore inter alia the inter-linkages between migration, peace, stability and growth; to unpack the nature of conflicts i.e. human-made or, natural and their cause and effect vis-à-vis migration and mobility; and to examine existing migration governance mechanisms. He elaborated that the current principles, tools, instruments and framework(s) – most of which were created in the wake of the Second World War (WW II) – were increasingly proving inadequate to deal with the present-day volatile and fluid migration. He reasoned that in order for migration to truly work and contribute to peace, stability and growth, a different approach to migration governance would be required.

The inaugural plenary also featured a few high-level presentations - as **annexed** hereto - that brought to the fore a number of key themes and viewpoints, as summarized below:

### ***Linkages between migration and peace, stability and growth***

Migration and human mobility lends positive impact on development and recognized as a driver of economic prosperity and social progress in both origin and destination countries. Beyond financial remittances, migrants create knowledge and trade networks, foster exchange of know-hows and bring home much-needed skills, knowledge, diverse experience and connections as also enhanced financial and other forms of cultural literacy. Migrants also fill in skills and labour gaps at all levels, bringing innovation and entrepreneurship in their host societies.

The 2030 Agenda suggested fostering positive effects of migration on development. In order for the global community to achieve the SDGs, especially aiming 'to leave no one behind', including all migrants, among others, through lowering remittance transfer costs, improving migrants' working conditions and comprehensively facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration. Harnessing the overall development impacts of migration can effectively deliver on realizing the SDGs.

Migration is a visible face of globalization, not merely a challenge. It is crucial to foster a balanced debate on migration - so as to prevent migration from being used as a "convenient surrogate" in the backdrop of prevailing political, social and economic issues that a given society may face in the context of dynamics of globalization. The discourse also needs to be shifted from looking at just the 'negative aspects of migration' to looking at 'how to bring stability and growth for the migrants and their host societies'.

## ***Need for a comprehensive international migration governance***

Global migration crisis shows no sign of abating. 2016 should be seized as a year of opportunity for the international system to finally address the gaps, limitations and consequently design and adopt meaningful measures toward better governance of international migration.

While there are trans-national frameworks to deal with environment, trade and finance, there exists no comprehensive approach for international migration governance.

Bringing IOM into the UN system is a crucial first step to this end. It is important to give IOM the required leading role for it to effectively and comprehensively improve addressing the migration related issues and questions globally.

In order for the international community to ensure that migration contributes to global peace, security and growth, a comprehensive framework has to be developed addressing all aspects of migration, including the areas identified as problematic e.g. irregular movement, violations of rights and matters relating to security. Above all, the cooperative framework for international migration governance must work with, rather than against, the realities of globalization.

### ***19 September UN Summit on Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants***

The UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants (19 September 2016) provides an important opportunity to advance the implementation of the SDG Target on safe, orderly, regular and responsible migration. It is fitting that the UN Secretary-General's Report (in preparation for the Summit) calls for undertaking a State-led process to elaborate a comprehensive international cooperation framework on migrants and human mobility in the form of a Global Compact for Safe, Regular and Orderly Migration; and to hold an inter-governmental Conference on international migration in 2018 to adopt the consensus Global Compact.

### ***Aspirational elements for a Global Compact on safe, orderly, regular and responsible migration***

The global Compact must promote migration and development by facilitating mobility of migrants, ensuring their inclusion in destination countries and allowing them to keep what they earn.

It would need to address irregular migration by enhancing the orderliness of migration and combatting smuggling and trafficking of human beings. This also means ensuring the protection of migrants in vulnerable situations and full protection of the human rights of migrants as well as their right to return to their countries of origin.

It should address the displacement and the crisis dimensions of migration, including mixed migration flows.

It needs to manage the long-term drivers and impacts of migration while responding to short-term crises.

It must manage new flows of migrants in combination with the integration of former migrants;

***During the presentations and deliberations of the high-level speakers and discussants, inter alia the following key views /observations came up:***

GFMD has a responsibility to set the positive tone and human-rights centered discourse on promoting safe, orderly, regular and responsible migration. Ninth GFMD Summit (Dhaka, December 2016) is expected to make a valuable contribution in that direction - not just to the thematic review of the SDGs, but also through contributing inputs to the process of the inter-governmental Conference on international migration (2018).

The international community ought to ensure that the 19 September Summit and the “Global Compact” it would endorse, do not become an exercise merely re-stating or, re-negotiating the hard-won progress made to date. Instead, the process must be geared towards making further advancement on operationalizing existing obligations and establishing the institutional setting and frameworks for making migration a positive phenomenon.

A collective response towards development of a comprehensive approach to migration governance is both a humanitarian and an economic imperative. In order for the international community to address migration purposefully and coherently, three key policy clusters would need to be put in place: (a) creation of a comprehensive set of safe and regular options for people to move from one country to another, (b) effective management of borders and actions towards prevention and prosecution of smuggling and trafficking, and (c) development of policy toolkit to respond to mobility arising of crises and emergencies (natural or, man-made).

UN has to be the place to work towards articulating a more positive vision i.e. to apprise how member states can cooperate in effective governance of migration and harness benefits that reach individual migrants, their families and to the countries of origin and destination. Up until present, GFMD has fostered many of these discussions and built necessary trust among the States for undermining multiple sensitivities regarding the governance of Migration.

Following the launch of the European Agenda on Migration (2015), the European Union (EU) stepped up its ambitions and efforts by convening the Valletta Summit on migration (2015) and by launching the EU Emergency



Trust Fund for Africa with the objective of addressing both the root causes of forced displacement and irregular migration as well as improving the overall governance of migration and refugee flows in the African partner countries.

External dimension of citizenship laws and the political integration of migrants also need to be accounted. While civil and social rights are largely attached to residence, the political rights and mobility rights tend to be connected to citizenship status. The lack of political participation for immigrants i.e. lack of access to citizenship, lack of political liberties and lack of access to indirect representation (NGOs, Unions, consultative bodies) creates 'a democratic deficit' that must be addressed.

Securing further effective governance of international migration is a challenging task. International migration is often viewed as “a disrupter”, in ways similar to other great disrupters e.g. technological change or, changing gender roles. These disruptions on a global scale bring significant transformative benefits for all, yet they also create winners and losers. Nonetheless, there are enough common goals on which all states and other stakeholders can agree to build up a sizable agenda of cooperation on international migration governance e.g. need for more knowledge and better understanding of migration, recognition of the imperative for fewer deaths of migrants at sea or, deserts, and at the hands of ruthless smugglers; aspiration to reduce the influence of criminal networks; importance of minimizing the tensions between migrants and host communities, and of securing greater safety and dignity for migrants; pursuit of greater national security, and greater capacity for states to implement the policies that they adopted.

Over the years, discussions in GFMD influenced the global debate on migration and development and improved national and regional policy making. But, time has come for the next steps to improve global cooperation and coordination on human mobility based on principles and values. GFMD should continue to serve as the platform for dialogue - not only for implementation of the SDGs, but also in the process of developing a global compact on migration.

It is imperative to focus on creating a balanced narrative on migration and improving the perceptions of the general population on migration issues and migrant communities. Media's approach or overall outreach in the wider public domain vis-à-vis migration-related issues is needed to be looked at. Conventional and emerging set of actors e.g. journalists, advocates, policy-makers and the general public out to be reached out with a more complete and nuanced understanding of the current critical issues concerning migration and mobility. In doing so, broader platforms for deeper and more accurate public debate need to be facilitated and fostered. In 2015, UN Alliance for Civilisations (UNAOC) launched “#SpreadNoHate initiative” with a view to exploring the reasons why 'hate speech' remains a pervasive

element that contributes to violent extremism, particularly focused on migrant communities.

### ***Interactive Open Discussions***

During the interactive discussions at the plenary, sixteen Member states and three organizations shared their respective perspectives. They all underlined deeper inter-linkages between peace, stability and growth on one hand and migration and mobility, on the other. One delegate eloquently explained, “Without peace it would be difficult to ensure the mobility of individuals and the movements of populations. The migration phenomenon cannot prosper if there are internal crises or international conflicts. Without stability and security of states, it would be difficult, almost impossible, to control movements and migrant flows. Without growth, the international community will always be confronted with challenges. To ensure a dynamic migration that is beneficial for all, we have to make sure that there is peace in all places across the globe.”

### **Linkages between migration and peace, stability and growth**

The Workshop stressed on strengthening prevailing international refugee protection regime as also importance of improving migration governance. The participants recognized the common principles and the rights that apply to both refugees and migrants; and supported the elements that are included in (the current draft of) the outcome document of the 19th September Summit, including the protection en route, reception conditions, countering xenophobia and promoting policies of inclusion. They reiterated that all discussions and actions geared towards establishing a migration governance framework must be centered on the human rights of migrants.

A common concern was about the 'negative' and 'toxic' narratives about migrants and migration which impede building a harmonious society, especially in the destination countries. Participants underlined the imperative to address this problem, including by improving public perceptions of migrants and migration working with the conventional and new media and enhancing the educational and immigration systems.

The contribution of migrants to development of origin, transit and destination countries was acknowledged resoundingly. The participants maintained that migration has been and will remain a key factor and catalyst for economic, social and educational development for almost every nation in the years to come. As such, it was underscored that facilitating and effectively managing the movements of people across borders can be a useful tool for engaging in and benefiting from specialized production networks, bilateral trade and export. This would increasingly be so within the emerging global supply chains led production worldwide. Conversely, complex visa requirements reduce trade and result in substantial negative

impact on enterprises i.e. in the form of inclusive costs, delayed projects or delivery, insufficient operation, and loss of control or opportunity.

In addition to opening more regular paths for migration, the participants stressed on providing decent work and social protection for people in the destination countries (including nationals, migrants and refugees). In that context, decent work and productive employment were emphasized as key to achieving SDG 8.

Participants also shared their respective national policies and programs aiming to promote peace, stability and growth for migrants and their host communities. It was noted that some countries accord migrants the same rights as their own citizens, and some others changed their policies to include irregular migrant workers in the provision of healthcare, education for children, and human security. For instance, some of the African countries (e.g. Western Africa) have always offered hospitality and integration to migrants in their territories with a view to attain peace, stability and development. Yet, migrants of those African countries were noted to fall victim of arbitrary repression and/or are expelled by certain other host communities, where the participants urged GFMD to focus on addressing such problems and work towards effective promoting of sharing of good practices for the good of migrants.

### ***Governance of international migration***

The Workshop was unanimous on strengthening relationship of IOM with the UN. While there was general expectation that this development will address some of the gaps at the international level, it was underlined that migration governance gaps also exist outside the UN and international human rights frameworks. While State-led processes like GFMD has evolved over time to integrate all aspects of migrations, these remain limited by their voluntary nature i.e. in making contribution to address the gaps.

The importance of clarifying concepts and terminologies was highlighted. One suggestion was to further explain the term “governance.” Establishment of a special working group involving all concerned UN institutions was suggested to better identify and understand the inter-cultural elements that can promote peaceful co-existence of migrants and their host communities and foster social dialogue on migration.

There was general support for a comprehensive and multi-stakeholder approach and for promoting dialogues for convergence at all levels. Many participants insisted that efforts, time and resources of the international community must be focused; and disparate or duplicative initiatives be avoided.

There was unequivocal emphasis that migration governance must be a shared responsibility: first within nations, between governments - non-

government institutions - civil society - international organizations; and, beyond that, between nations and regions. However, the differentiated capabilities of member states must be considered in the sharing of such responsibility. An appeal was made to highlight the need for international cooperation and burden-sharing, especially as it is crucial for the countries hosting large refugees and other displaced population.

The other important aspect was to break through the “silos” existing in the UN system as also at the national level i.e. between development and humanitarian agencies. It is imperative for all the concerned actors to work jointly to make sure that forced displacement is prevented as well as vulnerable people are able to move out, of their own free choice.

***Role of multiple stakeholders (civil society, business sector, trade union, regional partners, etc.)***

At the national and local levels, multi-stakeholder approach and partnership would be vital. In achieving the targets for decent work and social protection, for instance, Trade Unions have important role to play. Local authorities are likewise crucial stakeholders in promoting migration for development and harmonious societies.

Integration of migration policies in regional and international cooperation framework(s) was stressed equally. The Regional Economic Communities (RECs), especially in Africa, MICIC and Nansen initiatives are some of the functional and result-oriented examples of cooperative frameworks on migration.

Development actors could address more the situations of fragility that eventually lead to forced displacement. The background papers for the World Humanitarian Summit, for instance, pointed out the number of people in fragile situations which actually rose by a very significant percentage.

To promote a cohesive and coordinated approach in responding to the needs of both refugees and migrants, global civil society recently developed a collective action agenda - New Deal for Refugees, Migrants and Societies. The document draws attention to the Guiding Principles and calls for a sharing of responsibility, a change in migration narratives and strengthening multi-stakeholder partnership to ensure safer and more regular and orderly migration, and to work for better protection and assistance to vulnerable migrants, whether refugees or migrants.

Private sector was noted as an important partner in fostering global dialogue on migration, human mobility and development. In this regard, the GFMD Business Mechanism was cited as an important step to filling in a long-standing gap in the Global Forum debates on migration and development.

## ***Recognizing the contributions of GFMD***

There was unanimous appreciation of the contribution of the Global Forum in advancing migration in the 2030 Agenda and recognizing its potential to further contribute to the enrichment of the global debates and processes geared towards strengthening international migration governance (global compact)

### ***Highlights of the three (parallel) Break-out Sessions***

A. Governing Migration – Implementation of migration commitments vis-à-vis 2030 Agenda

*[Moderator: Mr. Dominique Favre, Deputy Assistant Director General, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)]*

In setting the tone of the discussion, Mr. Thomas Gass, Assistant Secretary General, UN DESA welcomed the thematic focus of the workshop as it complements the ongoing efforts of the global community to respond to large movements of migrants and refugees and to implement the 2030 Agenda. Underlining the cross-cutting aspect of migration issues, he pointed to the principle of inclusiveness, embodied in the Goal 16 of the Agenda. He stressed on inclusiveness to be a guideline not only for the societies, but also for effective functioning of inter-governmental bodies and cooperation across organizations. He recognized the potential of GFMD to serve as one of the 'docking stations' for the High Level Political Forum (HLPF) i.e. by providing a platform for doing groundwork and holding informal discussions. He also highlighted SDG 17 i.e. on strengthening the means of implementation and the targets with direct relevance to migration. It was acknowledged that monitoring the 2030 Agenda and ensuring the progress of its implementation calls for considerable innovation and flexibility at various levels.

There were also concerns on ways to reaching the holistic and universal goals of the 2030 Agenda as the absorption and implementation capacities differ between countries i.e. between the global south and global north. It was stressed that real partnerships to strengthen cooperation should address both causes and symptoms. In addition, results of relevant surveys and papers were also shared, such as on gender equality and lowering migration costs. These studies can help policy makers in understanding the diversity of migration and guide actions. Member states were also encouraged to ratify existing Conventions - particularly on labor mobility and migration.

There was wider agreement on the objective of 'leaving no one behind', which could be met through mainstreaming of national migration policies in development planning and implementation of 2030 Agenda as well as better regulated systems, resources and international instruments. This includes the bilateral agreements and regional cooperation frameworks. Migration

relevant elements of the Agenda 2030, the September 19 Summit 2016 and the (proposed) Global Compact on migration (2018) - each constitute a pillar for the establishment of a more robust international migration governance.

## B. Governing Migration – Addressing the challenges of migration

*[Moderator: **Amb. Miguel Ruis Cabañas**, Under-Secretary (Multilateral Affairs & Human Rights), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mexico]*

Mr. Gervais Appave, Adviser to Ninth GFMD Chair, referred to the prevailing paradox around migration. On the one hand, there is international recognition of its importance, as evidenced by the inclusion of migration in the new development framework (2030 Agenda); and, on the other, migration continues to be seen as a social, economic and political threat. He agreed (with an earlier assertion) that migration is a disrupter – i.e. a phenomenon with powerful, transformative impacts. He opined that the issues need to be addressed in a coherent and purposeful manner. Yet, the difficulty lies in the absence of common and shared values on migration. He questioned on how migration continues to be perceived as a negative phenomenon and then how to develop a comprehensive approach founded on normative instruments that can foster diversity, unity and development.

Representatives of member states as well as of international organizations and civil society organizations shared their specific concerns and offered their ideas on moving forward. Some asked for greater clarity on best ways to move forward on the (upcoming) governance framework affecting societal plane and security. They also advocated for further inclusion of the darker aspects of migration (e.g. human trafficking) in the discussions, more information-sharing and transparency in migration policy field, sharing of responsibility and addressing situations of fragility. Finally, there was a call to engage more at the regional level e.g. by organizing more meetings in the African continent.

Possible ways and certain practical experiences /ways were cited aimed at translating words into action e.g. consular protection and services, capacity building in countries of departure, recruitment initiatives, transportability of pension and social services. But, the most important aspect would be to develop and operationalize a common governing framework that links the varied initiatives. All agreed on addressing the remaining gap i.e. the presence of a dispersed body of international laws in the area of migration and the need to translate these principles into practice.

## C. Governing Migration – Addressing Displacement and Crisis Migration

*[Co-moderator(s): **Ms. Suzanne Sheldon**, Director, Office of International Migration, US State Department; and **Attorney. Francisco Noel Fernandez**, Special Assistant (Chief of Mission II), Office of the*

Under-Secretary for Migrant Workers Affairs, Philippines]

Protection of vulnerable migrants in situations of conflict or natural disasters and the concept of 'mini-multilateralism' were focused.

The representative of Mary Robinson Foundation, stressed on the rising challenges posed by increasing global temperature and climate change – as a threat multiplier for people in vulnerable situation. She elaborated that climate-induced displacement remains a growing concern, not only because of its destructive scope but also because of the lack of legal protection for the affected persons and communities. Rather than creating new mechanisms, she advocated for leveraging the already existing legal and policy guidelines to incorporate climate displacement therein.

Ms. Michelle Klein Solomon, Director of Migrants in Countries in Crisis (MICIC) Secretariat, cited MICIC as a successful example of 'mini-multilateralism' i.e. a State-led process with a broad, consultative and inclusive approach, while non-binding yet action-oriented, and resulting in a guiding toolbox for member states and other concerned stakeholders. She expounded on the drivers of crisis-induced migration underscoring that crises arise in all three stages of migration and in countries of origin as also in transit, where migrants can face extreme vulnerability and finally in destination countries, where secure conditions may be missing. Migrants' resilience, she said, can be improved if migrants are protected in normal situations. She urged for consolidation of existing bodies of law, in particular the 1951 Convention that can be applied flexibly to adapt to different situations.

The participants further cited the Nansen Initiative – which has now shaped as the Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD, October 2015) – as another noteworthy example of mini-multilateralism. PDD now focuses on cooperation and protection gaps faced by migrants in situations of natural disaster. Participants called for coordination and convergence of different initiatives and cautioned against reopening the discussion on the 1951 Refugee Convention. What is needed, they asserted, they argued, is the wider ratification and implementation of the Convention and recognition of other situations that create vulnerabilities.

## Closing Plenary

The respective moderators briefly reported on each of the three break-out sessions and also shared their own reflections. **Mr. Guy Ryder**, the Director-General of ILO, **Mr. Reinhard Krapp**, representing incoming GFMD 2017-2018 co-chair Germany, and **Ambassador Masud Bin Momen**, Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the UN in New York spoke at the session.

Brief conclusions from **Mr. Dominique Favre** (*Moderator, break-out*)

*session I*): participants welcomed the Agenda 2030 as a huge opportunity to embed migration and migrants across numerous SDG themes e.g. health, gender, education, etc. Participants expressed their willingness to factor migration in respective national implementation strategies of 2030 Agenda, and to deliver on their normative commitments. They also acknowledged the lack of balance between international and national discourses and realities. Participants hoped that the outcome(s) of the 19 September Summit will reinforce migration commitments in the 2030 Agenda and beyond.

**Ambassador Miguel Ruiz Cabañas** (*Moderator, break-out session II*): recounted the rich discussions covering many aspects and issues, including the concerns of small island countries, the relationship of migration to different themes in the 2030 Agenda, the human rights of migrants and the push factors. He said that many countries that have expressed support for continued international cooperation, are now ready to take it to the next level of global governance. He argued, however, that before moving in that direction, the States should first look at their national policies and strengthen their national capacity. He enumerated different elements for the establishment of migration governance - to examine factors that lead people to leave their homes, to define and agree on a common roadmap, to recognize both the shared responsibility and shared prosperity in migration, and to ensure safe and orderly movement of people that protect the right of migrants and states and thus contribute to greater security at the global level.

**Ms. Suzanne Sheldon** (*Moderator, break-out session III*) narrated that the session recognized the many layers and drivers of crisis-induced migration as well as the gaps in policy responses. This calls for responses at different levels i.e. international, national and sub-national (local). Referring to many participants, she agreed that there was no need to expand the existing refugee definition which has proven to be quite flexible. Participants also underlined on the existence of a large body of laws, practices and policies applicable to migrants - which need to be compiled, collected and presented to the States and other stakeholders in a coherent way in the absence of a comprehensive framework. The session also highlighted the MICIC and Nansen Initiatives as examples of successful “mini-multilateralism” - State-led, practical, action-oriented, and broadly inclusive of multiple stakeholders. At the same time, the session recognized the importance of Regional Organisations and Regional Economic Communities in bringing forth creative and innovative solutions within regions. The session also upheld that the human rights of all people, including migrants, must remain as a core principle that underpins every discussion or action of the international community.

**Mr. Guy Ryder, DG ILO**, remarked that the complex notion of migration for peace, stability and growth finds resonance with ILO's work, which was



founded on the proposition that without social justice, peace and stability will be under threat. He recognized 2030 Agenda as a mega building block upon which the 19 September Summit can construct an edifice of migration governance issues. He acknowledged the existence of enormous normative capital - policies and standards - that should not be jettisoned or forgotten, but used and harnessed in establishing migration governance. He maintained that toxicity of migration that has leaked into the political discourse, is a reflection of hostile public sentiment and manifest concerns over governance of migration. He argued that the only way out is to guarantee due respect for the human rights of migrants. In labour migration, this means ensuring equal treatment at work, enforcement of minimum wages, addressing youth unemployment, combatting labour market informality, and enhancing access to the labour market in general. Regardless of the reasons that lead people to leave their own countries, the need to access the labour market is a common factor.

**Mr. Reinhard Krapp** (*on behalf of Ambassador Harald Braun, Permanent Representative of Germany to UN, New York*), on behalf of the incoming German GFMD Chairmanship, articulated that as a country with substantial immigration experience, Germany recognizes human mobility as an increasingly important global reality that affects the future of both developing and developed countries. He said, migration offers significant development opportunities on the one hand, but also poses risks on the other hand, if not properly managed. As Germany supports the ongoing efforts to improve international migration governance, it points to the challenge of pooling in the interests of migrants and countries of origin, transit and destination. Germany also believes that good migration governance requires policy coherence among governmental institutions, regional and local administrative entities, as well as the involvement of the general public. In this regard, he highlighted the importance of the GFMD as a platform for the exchange of experiences in migration governance and the implementation of migration-related targets and the 2030 Agenda. Together with Co-chair Morocco, Germany will advance the discourse and cooperation on international migration during their GFMD 2017-2018 co-chairmanship.

**Ambassador Masud Bin Momen**, (*Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to UN, New York*) acknowledged the participants for their thought-provoking deliberations throughout the day. He viewed that the cooperation between Geneva and New York will continue. He announced that a 'Friends of Migration' group was floated at the UN (New York, 13 May 2016). Co-chaired by Benin, Sweden, Mexico and Bangladesh, this group has 36 member states with cross-regional representation aimed at promoting the positive narratives of migration and migrants as major enablers of development in countries of origin, transit and destination. He reiterated the need to develop a comprehensive framework or a global compact for well-governed migration that can shift the focus from

securitization of migration to looking at how to bring stability and growth - for both the migrants and their home and host societies. He expressed optimism that the outcome(s) of 19 September will be a step towards this direction. He closed by inviting all participants to the Ninth GFMD Summit in Dhaka (10-12 December 2016).

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- i. Annex A contains the Concept Note of the Workshop
  - ii. <http://gfmd.org/docs/bangladesh-2016> for the full speeches / presentations.
  - iii. *More participants wanted to intervene; however, it was not possible to accommodate all of them due to time constraint.*
  - iv. *See Annex C for an overview of policies and programs that were shared by the participants.*

## Concept Paper for Third Thematic Workshop on Migration for Peace, Stability and Growth

UN HQ, New York; 19 July 2016

*With a view to supporting the discussion at this Thematic Workshop, this concept paper focusses on two issues: (i) to shift the discourse from securitization of migration to focus on enhancing mobility; and (ii) the need for well-managed migration policies.*

*The paper also proposes some general questions to be discussed at the workshop.*

### The case for migration governance

Migration, as a global phenomenon, continues to loom large as a subject of intense media scrutiny, of community pre-occupation and of political controversy. States are confronted with rapidly evolving situations offering, on one hand, opportunities for social and economic growth and, on the other, with complex policy challenge of balancing the facilitation of movement across border with objectives of security and control. In order to derive greatest benefit from this international migration - for the migrants themselves as also for their families, their host societies and their countries of origin - States have little choice but to collaborate with each other and with all stakeholders to develop their policy development and programme management capabilities in this field and prepare a flexible migration governance framework which would promote peace, stability and growth.

However, migration is one of the newer areas of governance to receive attention; and migration governance is a work in progress, not yet a completed project. While there are numerous elements of international law, policy and principles that are of direct or indirect relevance, there is as yet no overarching, unifying legal framework.

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In 2000, there were 150 million migrants. This figure could rise to 405 million by 2050. In the absence of such an agreed platform (which would provide the basis for common orientations to governance), the political discourse and policy discussions invariably gravitate towards those aspects of migration that loom large in media coverage of the topic, and end up dominating community debates. The issues that receive most attention tend

to be related to the “problematic” aspects of migration: irregular movement, violation of rights, human smuggling and trafficking, and perceived threats to national and personal security. These concerns are not without basis: they deserve attention and must be addressed. But, they should not distort our perception of the place and importance of mobility in contemporary world, nor should they steal attention from the broader assignment that must be undertaken by policymakers i.e. the development of comprehensive approach to international migration governance and one that does not detract from but contributes to peace, stability and growth.

## **Moving towards international migration governance**

Several trans-boundary issues e.g. environment, trade, finance have an identifiable institutional framework at the global level<sup>1</sup>, whilst migration lacks a coherent governance structure that can facilitate migration at a global level. This is one of our century's biggest challenge, considering that in 2015 there were some 244 million migrants worldwide<sup>2</sup> (UNDESA).

Most migration occurs through safe and regular means. The majority of the world's international migrants leave from, transit through and move to countries of destination without incident. However, this is not the case for all migrants, many of whom experience significant discrimination, lack of opportunity and exploitation. While the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognizes the “positive contribution of migrants for inclusive growth and sustainable development,” it also recognizes that migrants' energy and ingenuity is often squandered. Regrettably, the current state of governance and policy development on migration tends to breed vulnerabilities and prevents migrants and states from reaping the full benefits of this global reality.

There are clearly, some serious obstacles to be overcome including the general inclination of governments to address migration from a unilateral rather than from a plural perspective; the lack of political will to undertake the energy-consuming task of constructing a global/legal policy framework; the difficulty of pulling together all the constituent parts of a comprehensive global framework, one that would have to include elements as diverse as labour migration, migration and development, smuggling and trafficking, border control and social diversity together with linkages in adjoining fields such as trade, employment, health and climate change.

In order to work forward, we need to distill some orientations for action out of the bewildering “busyness” of this policy space: there are, in fact, three distinct but inter-connected policy areas that require exploration:

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- The first covers the measures that the international community requires to enable what is arguably the world's most valuable resource i.e. human beings – to move about in safety and dignity. It is about the provision of safe and legal options for people to move from one country to another. The focus here is about those aspects of migration which can be facilitated and enhanced, including labour migration, tourism, family-reunion, student migration and promoting short-term migration for skills enhancement or training for the youth. Enhancing mobility, as well as providing legal and safe access to migrate, will promote innovation and growth in both the country of destination and the country of origin. Facilitation of these movements will require cooperation and partnership of all stakeholders. This is enshrined in SDG 17 - which highlights the importance of multi-stakeholder partnerships to promote sustainable development.
- The second line of policy intervention covers the measures required to address the issues arising from irregular movement, effective management of borders and prevention and prosecution of smuggling and trafficking. Ultimately, the international community is faced with two competing modes of migration: (a) which is sanctioned by states and is intended to enable people to move in a safe and orderly manner; and (b) which is kept in operation by lucrative smuggling and trafficking networks. Migrants are the victims who, in effect, pay for the services they wish to have but end up being the targets of exploitation or abuse. The problem require urgent attention.
- The third area of reflection covers international responses to mobility arising of crises and emergencies whether man-made or natural. There is just one authoritative reference in this area i.e. the 1951 Refugee Convention, which covers the situation and protection needs of refugees. Recent experience has, however, shown that there are many vulnerable migrants who have left their countries of origin driven by a wide range of factors, including conflict, social and political unrest, environmental degradation and entrenched poverty.

There is one common dimension to these three areas of investigation, one that forms an essential platform for the three pillars: the issue of the human rights of migrants. The question of protection and well-being of migrants must be at the centre of all discussions of migration governance.

It is generally recognized that migration is an integral part of our globalized world. It is further agreed that migration can contribute significantly to peace, growth and stability. In order for us to attain this objective, the international community must develop a comprehensive framework for the governance of migration, bearing in mind that it is first and foremost a human experience.

## Guiding questions

1. What gaps exist in migration governance? How can these gaps be addressed?
2. What are the current limitations of existing principles, processes and institutions governing migration at the global and regional levels?
3. How can we shift the discourse from the focus on security-related aspects of migration to looking at how to bring stability and growth for both the migrants as well as to the host society?
4. How can a balance be achieved between State responsibilities versus a global governance regime on migration?
5. How can capacity be built at various levels – local, regional, national, international – so as to enhance policy formulation and implementation?

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## Introductory Remarks

**Amb. Md. Shahidul Haque**  
**Chair-in-Office, Ninth GFMD**

New York, 19 July 2016

2030 Agenda recognized that international migration is a multi-dimensional reality of major relevance for the development of the countries of origin – transit – destination which requires coherent and comprehensive response (Para 29). For the first time, international community also felt the need to cooperate to ensure safe – orderly – regular migration, involving full respect for human rights and humane treatment of migrants, regardless of their status (Para 29).

While negotiating 2030 Agenda, we somehow did not see the darker side of population movement, except human trafficking and smuggling of people. Conflicts as a driver of mass population movement did not receive adequate attention in our drafting. Yet, now we see how large-scale disorderly population movement can hurt stability, peace and eventually affect growth.

The process of integration in the globalized world became so intense that one a half decade back, Thomas Friedman labeled the world as 'flat'. We were, however, complacent about flow of all factors of production, including services and labor. Today, we all recognize that we live in a transformative world – where the world continues to be flattened.

There has always been an inherent interface between mobility, peace and stability - sometimes too obvious, sometimes remaining in the backdrop. This interface was a reality during both the World Wars and subsequent other Conflicts. But, the world avoided taking this issue more robustly and directly – thinking that this is a temporary phenomenon and that there is no causal link between the two processes. Over the past couple of years, this interface between peace and stability along with growth became stronger because of three factors:

1. Rise of terrorism and violent extremism globally, leading to forced displacement;
2. Rise of strong nationalistic and identity-based politics, leading closure of border
3. Threatening the long-held pluralistic fabric of societies; and perhaps the most important,
4. Slowing down of the forces of globalization leading to decline in economic growth, job opportunities in some of the traditional destination countries.

There is no denying the fact that migration has always been a sensitive

issue. Yet, politicization of migration dampened the spirit of mobility of labour along with other factors for the betterment of global economy and collective well-being of peoples. At the same time dawned a preponderant sense of State 'losing its control over its borders' because of unregulated and disorderly mobility of people.

In fact, for decades, forces of globalization have been shaping migration – which eventually led to the greatest era of human mobility in human history: people continue to move in search of livelihood, safety and security.

When we talk about multi-dimensionality of migration, often we forget the security and stability aspects of migration and human mobility. We tend to think that migration is a labour issue or, at best, a growth issue.

Interestingly, 2030 Agenda clearly establishes the link between sustainable development and peace, security and stability (Para 35). The new Agenda also recognizes the need to build peaceful and inclusive societies - which will be secure, just and equal.

Migration has to be governed as a critical mean of peace-stability-growth. Migration has to be recognized as a geo-political issue. In the current situation - where unregulated and unplanned migration is seen to be the cause of instability and anti- sustainable development - We would have to explore how best we can respond. Securitization of migration in today's scenario surely cannot be a path to pursue.

The objectives of this Thematic Workshop is to explore the links between migration and mobility with that of growth in terms of contemporary realities. Long time back, Prof Galbraith pointed out migration as the oldest response to poverty. Prof. Sen articulated that, migration always provided opportunities to people to enlarge their capabilities and freedom- to choose a better world and in moving out of poverty.

These ideas are much more realistic than ever before - going beyond “economic want”. Indeed, 'economic gains' could be meaningless without political stability and peace in longer term.

We would need to unpack how migration can help avoiding conflicts, make people safer, moving them out of conflict zones, people trapped in environmental distress or, forcibly displaced due to factors beyond their control. In the process, we would also like to explore the responsibilities – including States and non-State.

Let us see how proper and adequate governance can logically help these interfaces. We have to build on the realities – connects and disconnects.

And, let us appreciate: how migration could also be a pro-people and pro-growth phenomenon.

With these, let me proceed.



## Remarks

**Mr. Peter Sutherland**  
**SRSR**

19 July 2016, New York

We find ourselves at a critical inflection point in history—a moment when our most fundamental principles are being challenged, when our democratic and multi-lateral institutions are under serious strain, and when the post-WWII order more generally is fraying.

The global refugee crisis is a potent symbol of all this. Today, 65 million people have been displaced from their homes, by far the highest number since the Second World War.

Conflict is rife; compassion is in short supply. Our understanding of why we established institutions to protect refugees has faded.

In Europe, the chaos of the past year has allowed xenophobic, nationalist parties to surge in popularity. Anti-migrant crimes are rampant. Newcomers have become the scapegoats for economic, political, and social shortcomings that have little to do with them.

And now, after Brexit, the crowning achievement of the post-war peace, the European Union, is at risk of disintegration.

No one can doubt that the refugee crisis and immigration figured mightily in the debate and the Brexit outcome.

But it would be an epic mistake to take the wrong message away from it.

While many voters across Europe are deeply unsettled by the perceived scale and speed of immigration, they are more concerned by the seeming ineffectiveness of their governments in the face of the crisis.

This comes less than 12 months after world leaders gathered at the United Nations and committed to cooperate internationally to ensure and facilitate safe, orderly, regular and responsible migration.

I am speaking of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, of course.

This is an agenda that recognizes the benefits of migration for economic growth, inclusive development, and human advancement.

It is an agenda that asserts that the human rights of migrants, refugees, and other displaced persons will be protected.

And it is an agenda that commits not to leave migrants—or anyone else—behind.

Contrary to the wisdom that went into the 2030 Agenda, political leaders have nurtured a misguided belief that safeguarding sovereignty means acting unilaterally; governments have resisted a collective approach to

migration.

But as events in the Mediterranean have starkly demonstrated, this approach is self-defeating.

It leads to paper-tiger sovereignty, undermines the credibility of democratic governments, of institutions for regional cooperation, and of the international system; instead, it empowers smugglers and authoritarian populists.

Reversing these trends is not only essential for reducing human suffering, but also for maintaining our liberal democratic societies and the freedoms that depend on them.

That is why the Summit on large movements of refugees and migrants is so important.

We all have a responsibility to ensure that this Summit, and the “global compact” it will endorse, do not become exercises do merely restating or, worse, renegotiating, hard-won achievements.

Instead, the process must be geared towards making further progress, operationalizing existing obligations, and establishing the institutional conditions for doing so.

Bringing IOM into the UN is a good starting point for enhancing coherence and coordination on migration. It is important that the IOM be given the leading role that is required for it to effectively improve how the UN addresses migration.

Looking beyond the institutional set-up of the UN, and drawing on the commitments and the spirit of the 2030 agenda, the Global Compact also needs to:

Promote migration and development, by facilitating the mobility of migrants, as ensuring their inclusion in destination countries, and allowing them to keep what they earn.

It also needs to address irregular migration, by enhancing the orderliness of migration and combatting smuggling and trafficking of human beings. This also means ensuring the protection of migrants in vulnerable situations and full protection of the human rights of migrants, as well as their right to return to their countries of origin.

And it needs to address the displacement and the crisis dimensions of migration, including mixed migration flows.

Later this year, I will be issuing a report making clear that, if we want to make progress on these fronts, greater international cooperation is essential.

I hope that this report can inspire the negotiations that will lead to the adoption of the global compact on migration.

Thank you very much!

## Key Note Presentation

**Mr. Neven Mimica**  
**Commissioner for International Cooperation  
and Development, European Commission**

19 July 2016

**Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

I am happy to be with you today, and not only because we have an important subject to discuss. When we travel a long distance, to meet with colleagues from all over the world, we see our own problems in a new light. We remember that our view of the world is one of many. And we regain a sense of perspective.

Today, Europe faces its greatest refugee crisis since the Second World War. This crisis is testing our values, and it is testing our will. It is reminding us that solidarity is not only a moral virtue but an essential part of our European Union values. A European Union whose original mission – to promote peace and to promote prosperity – is as relevant and as necessary as ever.

One thing we have learned is that when over one million refugees arrive on our shores, the only response available is common and it is shared. No country can manage the task alone. No country can say it is not concerned. And, as we have seen time and again, unilateral action does not work.

In this context, and while standing here in the United Nations building, I think it is more than appropriate to recall the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which indeed previous speakers have already done. The inclusion of migration considerations into this global framework confirms and reinforces the important links that exist between migration and development, and that migration can be a powerful development enabler.

With the inclusion in the 2030 Agenda, with its overall objective of leaving no-one behind, migrants and refugees are finally mainstreamed into our development goals. It also provides a testament of the importance of development cooperation in addressing migration and forced displacement.

Finally it is a call for action to all of us to ensure that our development policy, our programmes and our concrete development cooperation must address both the challenges and the opportunities of migration.

While the urgency and the pressure to save lives and to address the reasons for people to feel forced to leave their countries is currently increasing, none of this is of course new to any of us. Many countries and many organisations have been addressing migration and refugee concerns in

a development context for years, including the European Union.

But under current circumstances, we need to do more and we need to do better. For the part of the European Union, we have drawn lessons and learned from our earlier responses and interventions on migration.

It has become quite clear to us that we need to engage in a different manner with our partners and we need to ensure that this engagement is comprehensive.

Following the launch of the European Agenda on Migration in 2015, we therefore stepped up our ambitions and our efforts. The Valletta Summit on migration with our African partner countries is one example of this deepened engagement. Another example, linked to this, was the launch of the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa, with the objective of addressing both the root causes of forced displacement and irregular migration as well as improving the overall governance of migration and refugee flows in our African partner countries.

The added value of the Trust Fund approach is that funding can be pooled together from different sources and different actors, and most importantly that concrete assistance can be launched in a more tailor-made, flexible and rapid way than was previously possible.

I believe that the strong partnership approach established through the Valletta Declaration, coupled with a comprehensive, balanced and effective implementation on the ground, through the Valletta Action Plan, is the right way forward. Needless to say, to be successful, all of this must be undertaken in genuine partnership and with the full commitment, ownership and responsibility of all partners involved. Both sides have to get closer to each other's needs.

The partnerships must take the interest of all concerned parties into account, and must focus on the challenges as well as the opportunities and positive aspects of migration.

While we all agree on the need to continue to fight against trafficking in human beings and migrant smugglers, and while we need to ensure that borders are properly managed, we cannot simply stop there.

For example, we all know that remittances sent by migrants and refugees to their families at home represent a crucial contribution for development. And also the direct involvement of diaspora and migrant communities abroad has a huge positive impact on the origin communities, for example through the transfer of skills and through investments. We need to provide more support to these areas.

Also, we need to invest more in helping build up alternatives to irregular migration, for instance through ensuring appropriate legal migration opportunities between our countries. The European Union is currently

developing new and improved proposals for how this can become a reality.

In short, we need to make migration work for development, and development work for migration. We need to pay much more attention to the drivers of forced displacement and migration, or if you wish, its root causes.

This is exactly what the EU is aiming to do through our latest policy proposal on migration. We will further strengthen the European Union's support to our partner countries on migration and refugee issues through new and strengthened partnership frameworks.

These will be results-oriented and tailor-made, adapted to each country and each context. Support will be delivered through coordinated use of all our available instruments and policies, including development cooperation.

It will consist of short-term actions - to address the most pressing needs in our partner countries – and long-term actions – aiming to engage in sustainable cooperation with our partners to address the underlying reasons for forced displacement and irregular migration.

In addition, the European Commission will propose in autumn an ambitious External Investment Plan, whereby 3.1 billion euro could be made available to mobilise up to 31 billion euro for public and private investments, in particular in Africa.

We are now working on the best ways to provide guarantees and reduce risks for financial institutions and privates who really want to help concrete progress in the least developed countries.

## **Ladies and Gentlemen,**

The current unprecedented refugee and migration situation is a global challenge, which needs a global response. All countries and all stakeholders must join forces in ensuring we can live up to our commitments as expressed in the 2030 Agenda - to leave no-one behind.

Meetings like the one we are having today, and the upcoming summit in New York in September, will be key benchmarks for how the international community will step up to the challenge. The European Union is ready to play its part in this endeavour.

Thank you.

## Remarks

**Ms. Laura Thompson**  
**Deputy Director General**  
**International Organization for Migration**

19 July 2016, New York

**Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

It is a distinct honor and privilege to be invited to this Thematic Workshop of the Global Forum on Migration and Development on 'Migration for Peace, Stability and Growth.' I wish to thank my distinguished colleague and friend, Foreign Secretary Shahidul Haque, and the GFMD team for organizing this important event and giving me the opportunity to offer some introductory remarks.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted here in the General Assembly less than one year ago, recognized the positive contribution of migrants and migration to inclusive growth and sustainable development. This historic recognition rectified the omission in the 2000 Millennium Development Goals, and reflects the tremendous progress in understanding that has emerged on migration in the intervening fifteen years. The nearly 500 billion US dollars of remittances annually to developing countries alone far exceeds official development assistance and is on a par with foreign direct investment, can be said to have opened the eyes of the development community to this link. However, as we in the migration community know, that is just the tip of the iceberg. Remittances, while private funds, are often accompanied by investment in the creation of small businesses and jobs, in community development projects, particularly when matched by pooled funds generated by home town associations and diaspora organizations in the hosting countries. Beyond remittances, migrants create knowledge and trade networks, fostering the exchange of know-how, and bring home much needed skills and connections as well as enhanced financial and other forms of cultural literacy. Economists at the World Bank and elsewhere have highlighted that global gains from further liberalizing the movement of people even very modestly would far outstrip global gains from liberalizing any other forms of cross-border movements, for example of goods, capital and services.

Moreover, and frequently under-reported but not to be overlooked are the tremendous contributions that migrants make to their host countries – filling skills and labour gaps at all skills levels, bringing innovation and entrepreneurship. Migrants, as we all know, are capable, resilient and dynamic actors, who by coming to a new country have already demonstrated a remarkable degree of ingenuity, resilience and determination – personal

characteristics which bode well for continuing contributions and innovations in their host societies, not just in the economic sphere but in terms of the cultural richness, diversity and dynamism they bring.

More than the benefits they bring to home and host country development, migration is first and foremost an opportunity for human development for the millions of persons who migrate each year, as was so eloquently articulated in UNDP's 2009 Human Development Report. Freedom from want and freedom from need are possible for migrants and their families who achieve an opportunity for safety, enhanced educational and work opportunities, and more in their new homes, whether temporary or permanent.

But these facts and this narrative stand in stark contrast to the prevailing narrative on migration in the media, in national political debates, and indeed in the human and labour rights communities. Much migration today takes place not as a matter of genuine choice but of desperate necessity. Conflict, human rights abuses, natural disasters, increasing effects of climate change, extreme poverty and lack of opportunity are just some of the factors that compel people to leave their homes. And far too often, whether because of these factors or because of the lack of adequate regular migration opportunities, they migrate in unsafe and often exploitative ways. Criminal smugglers and human traffickers are just some of the most visible negative actors preying on their desperation and subjecting the persons in vulnerable situations to tremendous exploitation and abuse, as we regularly see in the media headlines, with unthinkable numbers of persons losing their lives in the process. Unscrupulous recruiters and employers also take advantage by charging illegal and unreasonable fees, provide substandard working contracts and conditions, and in too many cases effectively creating situations of indentured servitude. Moreover, discrimination and abuse often continues in host countries, who, far from welcoming these newcomers, routinely see them as threats to jobs, cultural values and ways of life, and subject many to serious discrimination, violence, and racist attacks, again as we see daily in the media headlines.

To a certain extent, the focus on the forces that compel people to leave their homes is both appropriate and understandable. We live in an era of unprecedented simultaneous, complex and protracted crises and humanitarian emergencies including economic collapse and natural disasters,.

Not surprisingly, these have led to much displacement or irregular movement. As a result, there are currently some 65 million people who have been displaced by persecution, war, conflict or disaster – the most we have seen in the post-World War 2 era.

These large population movements are at the heart of much public and political anxiety. There is, for instance, discomfort about the economic

strains or social stresses that arise when newcomers arrive; the supposed competition for jobs; the perceived unfair demands on social welfare. Migrant advocates worry, rightly, about a lack of leadership or vision, an erosion of international moral authority when it comes to addressing human needs and human rights; and there is a visible decline in public confidence in governments' ability to manage mass movements of population.

One of the greatest challenges for those who wish to foster a rational debate on migration is therefore to prevent migration from becoming – in the words of IOM's World Migration Report 2011 – “a convenient surrogate” for other political, social and economic issues that create discomfort for societies faced with change in a globalizing world. Migration is all too often the catch-all issue that masks broader fears and uncertainties in a world that has changed and is continuing to change rapidly. Governments have a legitimate right to know and determine which non-nationals enter their territories, and therefore need to be able to manage migration. There is a desperate need to restore a sense of balance to the debate. A debate that does not portray migration as having benefits without costs but establishes its rightful place in our interconnected societies, and bridges the tremendous gap between the potential of migration – the vision articulated in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of facilitating migration that is safe, regular and orderly, and that ensures humane treatment and human rights for all migrants – and the glaringly negative reality faced by many migrants today coupled with the unfounded fear and demonization of migrants and migration in far too many societies.

Let us make the most of this opportunity to reflect on the contributions of migration to peace, stability and growth. Let us recall then that historically migration has contributed enormously to social and economic development. The challenge, for the international community is to maximize these benefits through sound governance. Reflecting some of the important conceptual orientations laid out in the 2030 SDGs, the background paper prepared for this thematic meeting reminds us that there are three important clusters of policy measures that need to be put into place if the international community is to address migration with the purposefulness and coherence that have been achieved in other comparable “trans-boundary issues such as the environment, trade or finance.

- The first is the creation of a comprehensive set of safe and regular options for people to move from one country to another. I am keenly interested in finding out what suggestions will come out of the breakout sessions on this topic.
- The second is an essential complement to the first, but whose thrust may appear, at first glance, to contradict the first. It is about the effective management of borders and about action towards the prevention and prosecution of smuggling and trafficking.



- Finally, the international community must continue to develop its policy toolkit to respond to mobility arising of crises and emergencies, whether natural or man-made. Significant progress has been made in recent years, notably through the Migrants In Countries In Crisis and Nansen Initiatives, but there is considerable work remaining to be done to put into practice the principles laid out in the MICIC and Nansen action plans.

To conclude, if the international community is to be successful in ensuring that migration contributes to global peace, security and growth it has to develop a comprehensive framework that addresses all forms of international migration. IOM Member States have already signified their intention to approach migration governance from a broad and balanced perspective through the adoption of the Migration Governance Framework. A short-term, crisis-mode response focused primarily on security is not likely to achieve the longer term objective of regular, humane and orderly flows. Disjointed piecemeal approaches will not work. Solutions can only be found within a wider, coherent and long-term policy framework that addresses all aspects of migration. A collective response to the development of a comprehensive approach to migration governance is both a humanitarian and an economic imperative. We must and can do so. We must work to make migration a genuine choice and not a desperate necessity. And we must work together as we develop a global compact for safe, regular and orderly migration to put migrants -- their rights and their dignity -- at the center of our efforts.

## Remarks

### **Ms. Karen AbuZayad** **Special Adviser on the Summit on Addressing** **Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants**

19 JULY 2016

I thank His Excellency Mohammed Shahidul Haque and colleagues at the Permanent Mission of Bangladesh for organizing this thematic workshop. Its title – Migration for Peace, Stability and Growth – points us toward a vision for migration, a positive vision that is quite different from the narrative dominating the headlines in many countries around the world. Those headlines warn us about insecure borders, forced displacement, and human trafficking, and they instill a sense of fear about migration. This hurts migrants, who face discrimination and stigmatization; it is chipping away at the moral foundations of diverse, free societies.

The United Nations is the place to work toward a more positive vision—to inform how States can cooperate in governing migration effectively to harness benefits that extend to individual migrants, their families, and to both countries of origin and destination.

The GFMD has fostered many of these discussions on an informal basis and built trust among States to discuss an issue that has multiple sensitivities.

Last year in the Agenda for Sustainable Development, the United Nations recognized that migration makes an important contribution to development, and the Agenda set a number of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) specifically relating to migration, such as ‘facilitating safe, regular, orderly and responsible migration.’

The UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants on 19 September provides an important occasion to take forward the implementation of this goal. In the Secretary-General’s report in preparation for the Summit, there is a call to undertake a state-led process to elaborate a comprehensive international cooperation framework on migrants and human mobility, in the form of a Global Compact for Safe, Regular and Orderly Migration, and to hold an inter-governmental conference on international migration in 2018 to adopt this Global Compact.

A comprehensive international framework must also address the problematic areas of migration—such as irregular movement, violations of rights, and security matters.

But this is only a small part of the story. The purpose of the framework is to provide safe and legal options for people to move from one country to

another in ways that are beneficial to them and to their countries of origin and destination. This is about making it easier for young people to study in another country, a migrant worker to earn enough money for her children to go to college, or for family members to have a joyous reunion with their relatives who live abroad. There are many more migrant success stories waiting to happen.

I look forward to the discussions today as an exercise in preparing for a comprehensive international framework. We will be determining priorities and discussing policy options. We have an opportunity to change the tenor of the conversation and talk about migration as a driver of peace and stability. My hope is that a decision will be taken in September to move concretely toward a comprehensive international framework by 2018, and that the GFMD will continue in its role of facilitating the open dialogue that will help bring about a strong result.



## Governance of International Migration Towards a Compact



**Amb. Md. Shahidul Haque**  
FOREIGN SECRETARY – BANGLADESH  
20 July 2016, New York



## Governance of International Migration Towards a Compact

### Migration Politics

- Migration is an **individual undertaking**: driven by need, human aspirations, security concerns, livelihood opportunities
  - *migrants at the centre, but changing 'drivers'*
  - Migration shaped by geo-politics, demography, socioeconomic forces, cultural realities
  - *society and/or politics important*
  - Migration is a complex, multi-layered phenomenon: primarily State-governed
  - *sovereignty, security, national interest critical*
- Migration for work is market-driven and primarily controlled by destination countries
- *destination country-centric!*
  - Migration is an integral component (enabler) of Sustainable Development
  - *Development is at the core*



## Governance of International Migration Towards a Compact

### Contemporary World

#### Changing Development paradigm

- Hyper- connected flat world: complex systems
- **Globalisation:** *slowing down*
- **'Triple F' crises** (2007 - '09)
- **People first, leave no one behind:** *individual empowered*
- Fourth industrial revolution
- **changing** '*world of work*'

**unprecedented transformation**

**Migration and Mobility**

#### Changing geopolitics

- **protracted conflicts:**
- **humanitarian challenges**
- **fragility of States**
- **sovereignty: non-State actors**
- **large-scale population movement**
- **institutional failure**

**UNCERTAIN, TUMULTUOUS TIME**



## Governance of International Migration Towards a Compact

### State – Migration interface

- States face three challenges in managing international migration:
  - i) Drawing a balance between maximizing economic gains, protecting citizens (at home and abroad) and maintaining state security (Regulate or Counter)
  - ii) Managing tensions between state sovereignty /national interest (of State) and universal human rights of citizens/non-citizens
  - iii) Matching capacity and resources with rising demand for governing migration and mobility

***How to effectively address these dilemmas ?!***



## Governance of International Migration Towards a Compact

### Governance - concept

“...Governance is the sum of laws, norms, policies and institutions that define, constitute and mediate relations among citizens, society, market and the State- the wielders and objects of the exercise of public power.”

*[Thomas Weiss and Ramesh Thakur,  
Global Governance of the UN, 2010]*



## Governance of International Migration Towards a Compact

### Concept of Governance (contd.)

#### Three ways to look at Governance:

1. **Governance** as government  
A top-down, hierarchical structure of authority.  
Global governance is not global government.
2. **Governance** as regime (substantive)  
Creation of norms, values, principles and decision-making procedures around which actors' expectations converge
3. **Governance** as collaboration (process)  
sum of many ways individuals and institutions, public and private, manage their common affairs. It is a continuing process through which conflicting or diverse interests may be accommodated and cooperative action may be taken. It includes formal... as well as informal arrangements that people and institutions have agreed to or perceive to be in their interest (Commission on Global Governance, 1995)



## Governance of International Migration Towards a Compact

### Migration Governance ?

- From simple population movement in the post World War-II to more complex contemporary migration (**unprecedented, fluid, unregulated**)
- There is no single, unified, global regime to govern migration (*except refugees*)
- Mostly fragmented, ad-hoc, derived primarily from international law, practices and non-binding initiatives
- Difficulties in developing a regime for migration governance in the absence of convergence of interests

**Portrayed simultaneously,  
as a necessity and impossibility !**



## Governance of International Migration Towards a Compact

### Migration Governance ?

- **Approaches (not mutually exclusive):**
  - 1) Regime-centric approach
  - 2) Institution-focused approach
  - 3) Process-based approach
  - 4) Rights-based approach
  - 5) Sustainable Development approach (facilitate safe, orderly, regular and responsible migration)
    - “Safe” refers to physical and mental safety
    - “Orderly” refers to a system whereby migrants move are made systematic, consistent, predictable and humane
    - “Regular” refers to legal migration
    - “Responsible” refers to all parties / stakeholders assuming corresponding roles and responsibilities, taking into account circumstances



## Governance of International Migration Towards a Compact

### Migration Governance

#### IOM working definition:

“... System of institutions, legal frameworks, mechanisms and practices aimed at regulating migration and protecting migrants. Used almost synonymously with the term ‘migration management’...”

[Ref.: IOM Glossary of Migration, 2nd Edition, 2011]

#### IOM Migration Governance Framework (106th IOM Council, 2015)

##### Three Principles:

- adherence to int'l standards, fulfillment of migrants' rights
- evidence and whole-of-government based migration policy
- strong partnerships

##### Three Objectives

- to advance well-being of migrants and society
- effective response to mobility dimension of crises
- safe, orderly, dignified migration



## Governance of International Migration Towards a Compact

### Evolving Migration Governance

- **Contemporary discussion on international migration governance began in the first half of 1990s**
- **Global Commission on International Migration and Development (GCIM, 2003 - '05)** (six principles to manage international migration)
- **Berne Initiative (2004): Developed common understanding for the International Management of**

**Migration** (20-point international agenda for migration management).

- **Regional Economic Organisations and Communities** (ECOWAS, MERCOSUR, NAFTA, CELAC, EU, SAARC, ASEAN etc.)





## Governance of International Migration Towards a Compact

### Migration Governance = Cooperation!

- ILO Multilateral Framework on Labor Migration (2005)
- UN High Level Dialogue on Migration (2006, 2013, 2018)
- Various Regional Consultative Processes
- Global Forum on Migration and Development (2007 - )



## Governance of International Migration Towards a Compact

### Migration Governance = Cooperation!

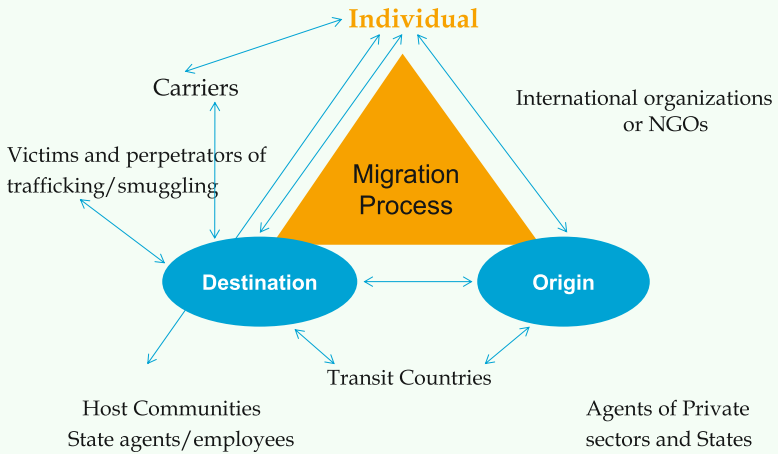
#### Global processes:

- Agenda 21 (1992)
- Cairo Conference on Population and Development (1994)  
(Turning point)
- UNFCCC and Paris Agreement on Climate Change 2015
- GATS (of WTO)
- Istanbul Programme of Action for LDCs (2011-2020) (2011)
- Rio+20 (The Future We Want, 2012)
- Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015- 2030; and Nansen Initiative
- Addis Ababa Action Agenda (July 2015)
- Development Agenda 2030 (Turning point)



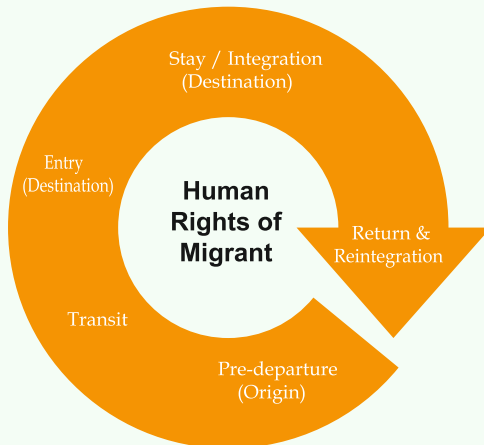
## Governance of International Migration Towards a Compact

### Stakeholders in Migration Process



## Governance of International Migration Towards a Compact

### Migration/Mobility "Life Cycle"





## Governance of International Migration Towards a Compact

### Migration Governance – recent/upcoming developments

- High-level Political Forum (HLPF): Leaving No One Behind: July 2016
- IOM joining the UN: September 2016
- UN SG's initiative to convene a high-level meeting on 19 Sept. on large-scale movements of refugees and migrants  
SG's Report - In Safety and Dignity: Addressing largescale movements of Refugees and Migrants
- Negotiation on Outcome doc. of high-level meeting
- Sutherland Report on Governance of Migration : Nov. 2016
- Ninth GFMD Summit: Dhaka, December 2016



## Governance of International Migration Towards a Compact

### Governance: Way Forward

#### Realities:

- International migration will continue to increase (geography, demography, productivity, connectivity, conflicts, failures)
- Diverse societies under stress
- Ad-hoc fragmented approaches to govern failed
- Migration can no longer be effectively managed unilaterally by State
- Migration governance is a global political undertaking - not just a technical, labour issue

#### Realization:

- Migration is an integral component (enabler) of Sustainable Development (i.e. 2030 Agenda)
- Migration governance can strengthen state sovereignty and security: within and beyond borders
- Effective governance can address migration crises and maximize benefits



## Governance of International Migration Towards a Compact

### Governance: Way Forward contd.

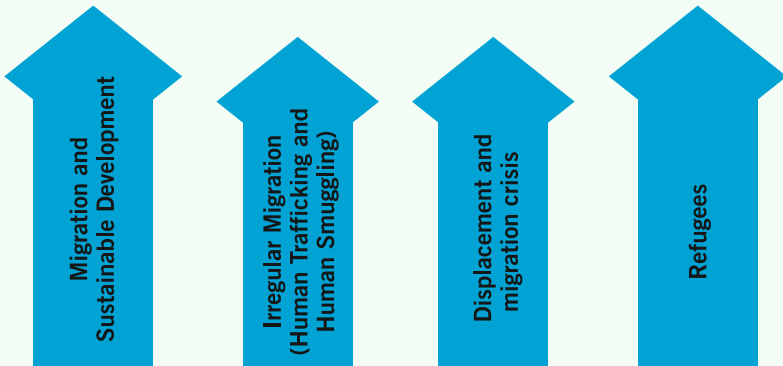
- **Key governance challenge to make migration safe – orderly – regular – responsible, while balancing:**
  - a) **State's sovereignty** on population movements across borders while respecting rights and ensuring protection of migrants  
And simultaneously.....
  - b) **People's need/desire to migrate** for life and livelihood while respecting host country culture and laws

**A paradigm shift ...**



## Governance of International Migration Towards a Compact

### Global Compact on Migrants and Refugees Migration: a paradigm shift?



**Protection and Human Rights  
of Migrants and Refugees**



## Governance of International Migration Towards a Compact

**THANK YOU**







