

“Protecting and Empowering Migrants for Development”

7th UN Coordination Meeting on International Migration

Presentation by:

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Scope of Presentation

- **Highlights of the Manila GFMD**
 - ∅ **Civil Society Meeting**
 - ∅ **Government Meeting**
- **Recommendations and Possible Follow-up Actions**
- **The Road Ahead for GFMD and the International Debate on Migration and Development**

Highlights of the GFMD

Civil Society Meeting (27-28 Oct 2008)

Ø **220 delegates**

Ø **4 Significant Improvements:**

a) **expansion of meeting from 1 to 2 days**

b) **incorporation of constructive inputs from CS national and regional consultations**

c) **Intro of 3 workshops called “voices from the region”**

d) **Interface of government reps with CS**

Highlights of the GFMD

Civil Society Meeting (Cont.)

- Ø **Key Recommendations for Governments:**
 1. Consider the **benefits of migration** and resist the temptation to cut migrant numbers in the current economic circumstances;

Highlights of the GFMD

Government Meeting (29-30 October 20008)

- Ø Over **1130** delegates from **163** Member States and Observers of the UN, and **33** international organizations.
- Ø Opening Session attended by VIPs including **UN Secretary-General** Ban Ki- Moon, **Philippine** Pres. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, **UAE** Labor Minister Ghobash Saqr, **Belgian** Special Envoy for Asylum and Immigration, Rudi Veestraeten, **ACP Secretariat** Secretary-General Sir John Kaputin, and **IOM Director-General** William Lacy Swing (for GMG)

Highlights of the GFMD

Government Meeting (Cont.)

Ø Seven (7) Roundtable Sessions on the following topics:

RTD 1.1: Protecting the Rights of Migrants – a Shared Responsibility.

RTD 1.2: Empowering Migrants and Diaspora to Contribute to Development

RTD 2.1: Fostering More Opportunities for Legal Migration

RTD 2.2: Managing migration and Minimizing the Negative Impacts of Irregular Migration

Highlights of the GFMD

Government Meeting (Cont.)

- RTD 3.1: Strengthening Data and Research Tools on Migration and Development*
- RTD 3.2: Policy and Institutional Coherence on Migration and Development within Gov't*
- RTD 3.3: Regional consultative processes, Inter-Regional Consultative Fora and Regional Organizations and Economic Integration Processes at the Interface of Migration and Development .*
- .
- ∅ One (1) Special Session on *The Future of the GFMD*

Highlights of the GFMD

Special Session on the Future of the GFMD

- ∅ Attended by Heads of delegations only
- ∅ Agreed to create a light **GFMD Support Unit** to assist future Chairs-in-Office with basic administrative matters.
- ∅ Consensus that the Forum is not responsible for monitoring projects and for follow-up actions that emanate from its meetings.
- ∅ GFMD is considered as an effective follow-up to the UN High Level Dialogue, based on UNDESA survey.

Highlights of the GFMD

Special Session on the Future of the GFMD

- ∅ The **Global Migration Group (GMG)** is an obvious partner for implementation of GFMD outcomes.
- ∅ The Forum's fundamental purpose is to permit a dialogue between governments, which needs to be informed by a relationship with **civil society**.
- ∅ Better communication between GFMD and of **regional consultations and processes** was emphasized.
- ∅ Identified the need to widen the **donor** base.

Proposed Outcomes of Manila GFMD 2008

RT 1.1

1. *Set up an ad hoc **Working Group on Protecting and Empowering Migrants for Development**, which could conduct a study on the actual links between protection for migrants and their capacity to contribute to development.*
2. *Develop a **compendium of best practices** at national, regional and international levels on protecting migrants, which may be replicated and monitored on a continuing basis.*

RT 1.2

3. *Prepare a **catalogue** of good practices in joint arrangements to support and empower migrants and diaspora in their contributions to development.*
4. *Establish a **common lexicon** or dictionary of terms that will cover the migration process so that there is commonality of understanding;*

Proposed Outcomes of Manila GFMD 2008

RT 2.1

5. Undertake **assessments** of some pilot circular migration schemes (e.g. Mauritius-France) to evaluate and draw best practices from them. This would enrich the Compendium on best practices in labour migration.
6. Expand and update the new **Compendium of good practices in labour migration** prepared for Spain and Morocco by OSCE, IOM and ILO, also to include contact information on persons in countries with experience in these types of program.
7. Complete **the project** begun in 2007 on assessing how to lower the costs of migration through greater involvement of banks and financial institutions.
8. **Compile information** for all governments on available websites and other information vehicles regarding jobs abroad and/or available supply of labour that facilitate “matching” and regular forms of labour migration (Canada).

Proposed Outcomes of Manila GFMD 2008

RT 2.2

9. Conduct **research** on economic benefits of regular and irregular migration on development for developing countries with significant inward and outward migration flows.
10. Organise a **meeting for heads of regional consultative processes,**

Proposed Outcomes of Manila GFMD 2008

RT 3.1

*12. Establish a **Data and Research Working Group** of experts, governments, international agencies, and others to consider how to improve data and research.*

*13. Include migration questions in the **2010 round of national censuses.***

RT 3.2

*14. Conduct the **Swedish survey** again, perhaps at two year intervals, and include open-ended questions to supplement the yes/no questions in the current survey. The UK indicated an interest in helping with the survey.*

Proposed Outcomes of Manila GFMD 2008

15. *Bring experts together before Greece to discuss best research methodologies for evaluating policies and programs. A Handbook was one possibility.*
16. *Strengthen the **GFMD focal points** to enhance institutional coherence, and to help government adopt new inter-ministerial coordination mechanisms.*

RT 3.3

17. *Hold a **meeting of chairs and secretariats of the regional groups** to share experiences and lessons learned. Intended for the first half of 2009; the results will likely be shared in Athens in 2009. (Organizer: IOM; sponsor: Government of Australia).*

The Road Ahead

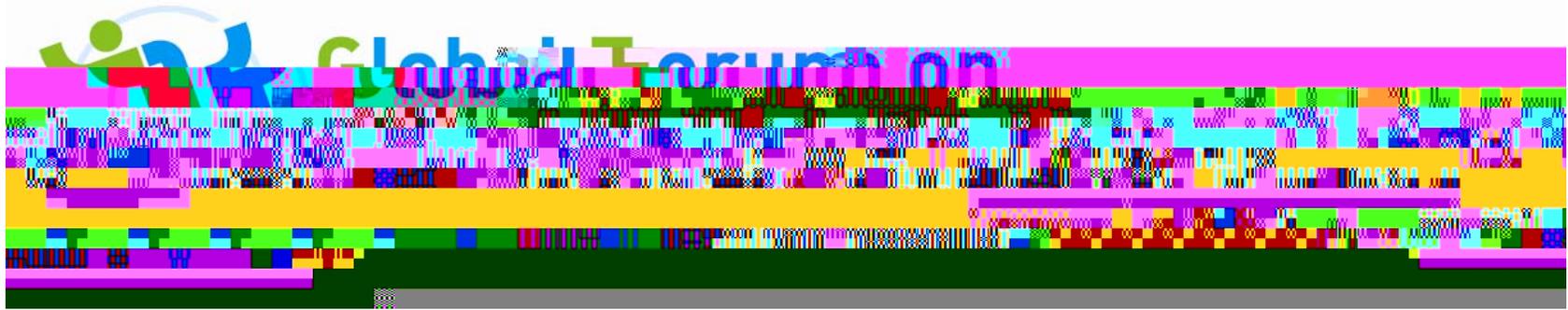
- **GFMD to continue promoting constructive and informal dialogues on Migration and Development among governments, with inputs from IOs, the UN, and civil society, and others.**
- **GFMD to take stock, consolidate, and facilitate sharing of concrete policies and programs on Migration and Development.**
- **GFMD to promote synergy of actions, policy and institutional coherence and partnerships among all Migration and Development actors.**
- **GFMD thematic priorities should address lingering and emerging issues, such as the current global financial crisis.**

CONCLUSION

Protecting the rights of migrants is not only the right thing to do, but also the smart thing to do.

Protecting the rights of migrants is a shared responsibility of governments, the civil society, and the private sector.

We're all in this together. International community needs to cooperate at all levels.



THANK YOU!

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