

Check against Delivery

Statement by

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on the

**Report of the Secretary-General on
Monitoring of Population Programmes, Focusing**

Mr. Chairman,

Distinguished Delegates,

I am pleased to introduce the Report of the Secretary-General on *Monitoring of Population Programmes, Focusing on International Migration and Development* (E/CN.9/2006/4). The document has been prepared in response to the decision 2004/1 of the Commission on Population and Development that international migration and development should be the special theme for the thirty-ninth session of the Commission.

The Report looks at international migration in the broader context of development and poverty eradication. It seeks to ascertain the extent to which migration can facilitate or otherwise impede development processes in both sending and receiving countries as well as the drive behind cross-border movements and their impact on the individual migrants themselves including female and young migrants. It puts forward policy considerations to facilitate mutually beneficial outcomes for all parties concerned including countries of origin, transit countries and countries of destination as well as the migrants and the host communities.

Mr. Chairman,

International migration has become a global

Brain drain

Much migration dialogue centers on the flight of highly educated and highly skilled segments of the population which drains developing nations of much-needed talent and hinders development efforts. The increasing demand for skilled migrants in receiving countries together with push factors in countries of origin, particularly the limited scope of economic investments and the lack of job opportunities, have driven increasing numbers of highly skilled workers abroad: first on a temporary basis, yet gradually turning into medium to long term migration projects. For instance, a number of developing countries are experiencing serious deficits in the health-care system because of the emigration of doctors, nurses and other health personnel.

By contrast, attention is being paid more recently to the positive impacts that skilled migration can have on areas of origin. Skilled migrant workers and students can potentially contribute to development in thei

