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**Statement by**

**H.E. Mr. Hans Winkler**

**State Secretary in the Ministry for Foreign Affairs**

**Austria**

**IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE DISCUSSION ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

Chairperson, Excellencies, distinguished delegates,

Austria fully subscribes to the Statement delivered by Finland on behalf of the

European Union.

At the beginning, I would like to express my gratitude to Kofi Annan, Secretary General of the United Nations, and Peter Sutherland, his Special Representative for the High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, for the priority and substantial preparatory work which they have devoted to this event together with Member States and non-governmental actors throughout the world. Austria fully supports the EU position for the preparation of the UN High Level Dialogue which you have received from the current Finnish Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

Migration issues have been at the top of the political agenda for years. Yet policies comprising both a migration and a development dimension and designed to create a positive impact on the ground are still very urgently needed. Our endeavour here at the global level has to be underpinned by concrete action at regional and sub-

An effective and fruitful dialogue starts by exploring and understanding each others' position. It is crucial to gain this mutual understanding of the causes and effects of migration, as well as of its impact in development terms. The links between migration and development are complex. But I do believe that migration, when managed

effectively, can create "win - win" situations which have the potential to deliver substantial positive impact on all parties involved, on countries of origin, transit and destination, as well as, most importantly, on the migrants themselves.

Austria shares the view expressed by many delegations that the issue of follow-up is crucial. Austria will therefore be an active participant in our common work in progress