



International Migration and Human Mobility in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

GMG Statement at the 8th Global Forum on Migration and Development
United Nations, Istanbul, Turkey, 14-16 October 2015

Chair of the Global Forum on Migration and Development Ambassador Mehmet Samsar,
Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,

Thank you for inviting the World Bank in its capacity as Chair of the Global Migration Group to address the 8th Global Forum on Migration and Development.

Advocating for the inclusion of international migrants, migration and mobility in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has been a major focus of the GMG's work over the last two years. We are very pleased that the benefits of migration and the paramount importance of protecting the human and labour rights of all migrants, regardless of their status, have been appropriately recognized in the sustainable development goals and targets adopted by the General Assembly on 25 September in New York, as well as in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda adopted at the Financing for Development Conference in July.

These are important milestones and form a strong basis for concerted action in the area of migration and development, and for mainstreaming migration into national development and sustainable development strategies, as well as sectoral policies including employment and the labour market, food security and nutrition, agricultural and rural development, education, health, and infrastructure. The 2030 Agenda has promised to 'leave no one behind', and to combat discrimination, inequality, exclusion and marginalisation of all migrants. The need to integrate migration into the development agenda was included in the UN Secretary-General's eight-point agenda for action presented at the 2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, and has also been the subject of much work in the GMFD.

The Global Migration Group stands ready to support Member States in the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in three main ways:

First, the GMG underscores the importance of elaborating sound human rights-based, age and gender-sensitive indicators to support and measure progress towards the implementation of the migration-related goals and targets. The GMG has submitted inputs and contributions to the Inter-agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goals on

possible indicators to monitor the implementation of migration related goals and targets, and has made practical suggestions for the disaggregation of all relevant targets and indicators by migratory status in the spirit of “leaving no one behind” as promised in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. We are looking forward to playing a constructive role in this process.

Second, the GMG could contribute to the review and follow-up of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It has been recognised that accountability at all levels will be crucial in achieving the SDGs, which will be achieved through a robust, effective, participatory, transparent and integrated follow-up and review framework, at country level, at regional level and at global level, as well as through global thematic reviews. Analysis of trends, root causes of migration and lessons learnt in terms of governing the migration phenomenon and harnessing its potential for areas of origin and destination, could also help accelerate progress.

Third, and crucially, the GMG reiterates its commitment to collaborate with partners to provide technical advice and support to all Member States. The GMG has supported the GFMD Chair by preparing background notes and analytical papers, contributing to thematic meetings, and organizing consultation meetings. This year, in addition, the GMG collaborated with the Turkish Chair in organizing a G-20/GFMD/GMG joint event. In this event, it was the first time that migration was included in the agenda of the Development Working Group. We are happy to continue this collaboration with the GFMD and all relevant stakeholders including the Secretary General’s Special Representative Peter Sutherland as we start implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Delegates, ladies and gentlemen:

The 2030 Agenda places an important responsibility on Member States and the international community to take all necessary measures to fulfil the goals and reach the specific targets in order to achieve a truly universal and human rights-centred development agenda. Work on agreeing on the migration-related indicators and collecting data disaggregated by migratory status, age and sex, in all relevant goals, are immediate and important elements for migration and development specialists, to which discussions and events here at the GFMD will undoubtedly contribute. Let me reiterate the GMG’s readiness to collaborate with Member States, civil society, workers’ and employers’ organizations, diaspora groups and other partners on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Thank you.