

GFMD Round table 2.2

Facilitating positive development impacts of diaspora engagement in skills transfers, investments and trade between countries of residence and origin

Thursday 15 May 2014
14h30-17h30
Venue: Nobelterrassen

Agenda

Co-chairs: Ambassador **Minelik Alemu Getahun** (Ethiopia)
Head of Division **J.L Hans Sandee**, (Netherlands)

Rapporteur: Executive Director **Marc Trouyet** (France)

14h30-14h45 **Opening statements by co-chairs**

14h45-16h00 **First working session: "Government outreach to diaspora skills and investments"**

Key note addresses

Gibril Faal, Chairman of AFFORD and Director of GK Partners
Options for positive diaspora contribution to transnational development

Laura Thompson, Deputy Director General of the International
Organisation for Migration (IOM)

Augustine Acheampong Otoo, Director of Investor Services Division
at the Ghana Investment Promotion Centre
Engaging the diaspora for development – Ghanaian Initiatives

Experiences from the floor (open discussion involving all delegations)

Guiding questions:

- *What measures need to be taken by governments of both countries of origin and residence to facilitate development impacts from diaspora skills transfers and investments?*
- *How can governments contribute to facilitating skills transfers or temporary return of diaspora entrepreneurs e.g. by supporting micro enterprises and SMEs,*

offering financial literacy and management training, micro-funding schemes and access to credits and seed capital?

- *How can government measures, such as providing information on investment conditions, offering tax breaks, adapting trade policy, or offering special nationality status or dual citizenship, work as incentives for diaspora investments and trade?*

16h00-17h15 Second working session: "Transnational entrepreneurs and trade"

Key note addresses

Victor Lutenco, Head of the Bureau for Relations with the Diaspora,
Moldova

Moldovan experiences in involving diaspora in investments; policy and practical examples of diaspora contribution to development

Experiences from the floor; open discussion involving all delegations

Guiding questions:

- *How can host country governments, the private sector and diaspora organisations cooperate efficiently on trade and investment, for example through dialogue and networking platforms or other mechanisms?*
- *How can the bicultural skills and networks of transnational entrepreneurs be harnessed when seeking investment opportunities and market access for investors from the country of origin in the country of residence of the diaspora?*
- *What are the key elements in private-public partnerships to facilitate novel investment vehicles such as diaspora bonds, diaspora investment funds or matching-funds instruments?*
- *How can networks of expatriate professionals and networks of excellence contribute to the transfer of innovations and technology?*

17h15-17h30 Summary and outcomes of discussion by the rapporteur