



In view of the ongoing discussions within the OWG on SDGs, the Meeting recognized a strong need to secure migration within the emerging framework of the Post-2015 Development Agenda. In that direction, the Meeting reached convergence on a number of possible specific targets and indicators that could be advanced within the Post-2015 global discourses. It was further agreed that the ‘Recommendations’ would also be advanced within the United Nations and also at appropriate national, regional and global platforms, including at the upcoming Seventh Meeting of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) (Stockholm, May 2014) and within the work plan of the incoming GFMD Chair (Turkey, 2015).



Guiding Questions for the Discussions

Migration and Economic Growth

- Which of the migration development links should be included within the sustainable development goals?
- How can the development community further enhance the impact of migration and remittances for development? How to ensure recruitment cost reduction?
- What could be the government policies to leverage migration and remittances for economic development?

Migration and Decent Work

- How can the costs of migration be lowered for migrant workers?
- How can adequate social security and portability of benefits be provided for migrant workers?



- How can social cohesion of communities that host migrant workers be promoted through equal wages and working conditions?
- How can international dialogue mechanisms be enhanced to promote legal avenues of labour migration as an alternative to irregular migration, and how can labour migration be integrated into macroeconomic employment policies, including encouraging transition from informal sector to formal sector employment?

Migration and Education

- What, more precisely, should be understood by equal access for immigrant children and migrant workers to schooling and educational opportunities, what special needs have to be addressed?





- What would be relevant indicators for success in relation to a target on “... focus on the most marginalized...”?
- Would it be more effective to argue for a disaggregation of migrants’ educational situation at the various levels, instead of expressing it as a target?

Migration and Health

- What are the instruments through which countries can extend social protection in health and improve social security for all migrants? (i.e. bilateral labour migration agreements)
- How can discriminatory health practices towards migrants be eliminated (such as detention and deportation of pregnant migrant women, refusal of work permit based on latent TB infection)?
- How can we ensure that all countries, even lower and middle countries, provide equal access of irregular migrants to basic health care services in a cost-effective manner, taking into account economic limitations?

Migration and Means of Implementation / Global Partnerships

- Which migration related topics could potentially be included within a Sustainable Development Goal on Means of implementation? Would only remittances be relevant?
- Which would be the main vehicles for fostering Partnerships on Migration and Mobility?
- How could progress on Partnerships for Means of Implementation be monitored?



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Recommendations

Migration remains one of the means for individuals to seek freedom of choice and opportunity. It also provides avenues to better livelihood options, overcome poverty, escape conflicts, adapt to economic and environmental challenges and strive for a more prosperous future for the migrants and their families. Migration is first and foremost about people, their dignity, well-being, human rights and fundamental freedoms, and the cumulative outcome of individual endeavours.

Globally, migrants continue to contribute to economic and social development in origin and destination countries. Migrants also contribute by sending remittances, in various forms, knowledge, technology, life experience as well as fill critical gaps in labour markets, stimulate trade and investments and provide and consume goods and services, enrich cultures and promote interactions and exchange of ideas. Evidences suggest that migration also contributed to the achievements of the MDGs – inter alia reducing poverty by increasing household incomes and investment in human capital, often leading to improved health and educational outcomes. Migration, if not governed properly, may also have adverse impacts, both for the countries and for migrants themselves: e.g. 'brain drain' and 'brain waste'; discrimination and xenophobia against migrants; physical and mental health distress; and human trafficking and abusive migrant smuggling.

There is global recognition that migration is a driver and enabler for sustainable development; and that migrants are agents of development. In order to robustly secure a future for migration within development, the following recommendations were agreed upon:

Overarching Recommendations^a:

6.a Ensure that migration is recognized as a cross-cutting enabler for sustainable development and migrants and diaspora as agents of development.

6.b Ensure that the positive contributions of migrants to societies of origin, transit and destination are acknowledged and enhanced.

6.c Ensure that migrants are considered as subjects of human development and that their human rights, particularly those of women and girls, regardless of their status, are protected, respected and fulfilled with access to justice.

6.d Strengthen migration governance to achieve a balanced, cooperative and equitable system that is safe, fair, well-governed and more beneficial for all, that is culturally responsive, that promotes the participation of all migrants in decision-making processes that concern them.

6.e Eliminate acts, manifestations and expressions of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance against migrants and their families.

6.f Assist in the inter-sectoral collaboration of policymakers and ensure they have access to up-to-date, relevant, precise information, disaggregated by sex, age, nationality and migrant status, regarding migration flows and stocks and the situation of migrants in order to ensure coherent policy development, and to assist the monitoring and evaluation of policy outcomes.



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^a Numbering as per the official recommendations paper

¹ e.g. human rights, health, education, productive employment and decent work, rural and urban development, disaster risk reduction

² particularly (national) poverty reduction strategies, United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs), National Adaptation Plans of Action and the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda

³ Ref. Declaration of the Second UN High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development (Oct. 2013)

⁴ e.g. detention or deportation based on migrants' health conditions

⁵ Ref. Declaration of the Second UN High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development (Oct. 2013)

Thematic Recommendations

7. Promote integration of migration¹ into national and sectoral development policies² of origin, transit and destination countries; and recognize well-being, dignity and safety of migrants and their families in the design and implementation of national development policies. The following sectoral policies would need to be considered:

8. Health

8.a Allow unhindered access to adequate, affordable, accessible and quality healthcare, including mental healthcare, for all migrants and members of their families³; and eliminate discriminatory practices and barriers⁴.

8.a.1 Ensure the development of national health legislations, policies, strategies and plans, to promote sustainable universal health coverage and its implementation for all, including poor and vulnerable migrants.

8.b Promote provisions for all poor and vulnerable migrants access to social security schemes, including healthcare.

9. Education

9.a Ensure equitable and unhindered access to quality primary and secondary education at all levels for all⁵, including migrant girls and boys, youth and for return migrants;

9.b Achieve recognized and measurable learning outcomes and relevant data, especially in literacy and essential life skills for all migrants.

9.c Ensure that education policies take into consideration special requirements of vulnerable groups, including migrants, like language training; and also facilitate their social and economic integration through inter alia the recognition of qualifications.

10. Employment and Decent Work for All

10.a Promote full and productive employment and decent jobs in both countries of destination

