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Towards a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration: A parliamentary perspective

Summary Report of the 2018 Parliamentary Hearing at the United Nations

Organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the Office of the President of the General Assembly, 22 and 23 February 2018

Opening Remarks

"We do not have a choice to accept or reject migration, because it's there. The only choice we have is what to do about it." – Miroslav Lajčák, President of the 72nd UN General Assembly

The hearing served as an opportunity for parliamentarians to discuss migration and contribute to the emerging Global Compact for Migration (GCM). At the time of the hearing, Member States were beginning negotiation of the agreement with a view to adopting it in early December at a conference in Morocco.

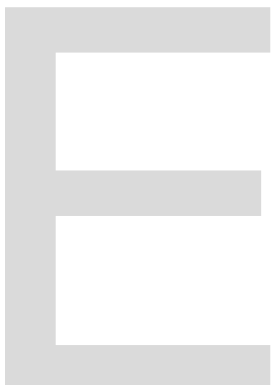
Miroslav Lajčák, president of the 72nd General Assembly, addressed the gathering, stressing that migration is a global phenomenon that requires global action. He said parliamentarians play a crucial role in bringing the perspectives of the people they represent to the United Nations and ensuring the GCM is pragmatic and effective. President Lajčák encouraged parliamentarians to use data and facts to combat misconceptions and drive evidence-based approaches. IPU and the UN's shared commitment to multilateralism is greatly needed when addressing migration, he said.

IPU President Gabriela Cuevas Barron painted a picture of international migration as a common element of human history: 258 million people live outside of their birth country, an estimated 50 million do not have regular status, and up to 10 million work abroad every year. Many migrants undertake dangerous and sometimes lethal routes in search of safety and opportunity. Even those who reach their destination often face stigmatization and human rights violations. She emphasized parliamentarians' responsibility to bolster change in their countries and promote legislation that treats migrants with dignity and respect regardless of their migration status or reason for leaving.

A Global Approach to Migration

"Migration is a global reality and managing migration is not only our collective responsibility, but one of today's most significant tests of international cooperation." – Louise Arbour, Special Representative of the Secretary General for International Migration

While migration has moved up steadily on the UN's agenda in recent years, most progress has taken place on the regional, not global level. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), while sidestepping migration as a primary goal, included specific targets on migration that acknowledged the positive role of migration for sustainable development and economic growth. Meanwhile, massive outflows of people escaping conflict and natural disasters affect many countries. The number of people forced to migrate will likely increase due to climate change and the resulting environmental conditions and natural disasters.



#IPU138

While refugees have a specific definition, framework and resources within the UN, there is no such protection for the growing number of migrants, leaving many of them exposed to discrimination, exploitation and other forms of human rights violations. These factors, coupled with the generally weak regime of global migration governance, with its patchwork of ad hoc national solutions, have paved the way for a Global Compact for Migration. This new agreement will build on the key principles and general guidance of the landmark 2016 New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants.

Migrants vs. Refugees: the need for clear definitions

The discussion highlighted the need for the GCM to better define migrants, as there is currently no clear definition of this large group as a distinct category. While many standards apply to the treatment of migrants – such as international human rights laws, labour laws, and transnational organized crime laws – they do not cover all migration issues and are not consistently applied.

In contrast, refugees, for which a separate compact is also being drawn up this year, are more clearly defined and governed by the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and the related 1967 Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees. The term refers to people who are forced to flee their countries because of a well-founded fear of persecution on the basis of race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a particular social group. As a result of this legal framework, refugees qualify for international protection, and have dedicated resources within the UN system.

The GCM should clearly define which migrants get protection, what kind, and for how long. Speakers suggested defining migrants based on their reasons for migration, including economic need, climate change, environmental degradation, food insecurity, humanitarian need, war and conflict, failed States, family reunification, gang recruitment, and child or forced marriage. Internally displaced persons may also need to be included in the GCM.

The GCM should provide a strong framework for effective global cooperation on migration so that it becomes safe, orderly and regular, ensuring that migration benefits all people and countries fairly. For example, dismantling human trafficking and smuggling networks associated with migration demands a joint response. Demographic and labour market trends – such as aging and shrinking societies in some countries and growing populations in others – will continue to drive people across borders for work. Issues such as missing migrants and unaccompanied children also typically involve multiple nations and require collaboration.

While studies have shown migration generally benefits the migrant and the host country, sending countries can face challenges, such as brain drain. The GCM will need to streamline practices connected to migration, such as remittances and recruitment. Remittances – which add up to nearly \$450 billion a year – must be better regulated, less costly and more transparent. Ethical and transparent recruitment practices are needed to protect migrants' rights, prevent illegal activities and eliminate employee-paid fees.

In sum, participants stressed the need for the GCM to address comprehensively all aspects of migration, including outflow and return to the home country. Participants further highlighted the need for a strong follow-up process and for more effective communication about migration issues, which can help with proper implementation.

Shared Responsibility

While participants repeatedly advocated for shared responsibility and burden sharing when it comes to hosting migrants and refugees, there was acknowledgment that certain countries disproportionately bear the burden of hosting, such as Greece, Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey in the case of the Syrian crisis. Some parliamentarians expressed worry over the possibility that the GCM will be non-binding; others said that regardless of its legal force the GCM will put pressure on more countries to contribute, and increase international cooperation on migration.

Some participants noted the tension between countries whose migration policies are designed to cherry-pick the most highly skilled, relatively well-off migrants, versus countries left with no choice but to admit low-skilled migrants or migrants who are harder to integrate because of cultural or other differences.

Participants noted that some countries fuel migration by intervening in their neighbors' internal affairs, supporting civil wars, promoting harsh austerity and deregulation policies (neo-liberalism), or supporting terrorist and separatist groups. A representative voiced concern that citizens from his country may not enjoy the same benefits abroad as foreigners in his country, and suggested the same rules should be applicable to all parties in the GCM.

Tackling Root Causes and Challenges Related to Migration

One of the themes that emerged from the hearing was about the need to concentrate on the root causes of migration, not just the phenomenon itself, which may be merely symptomatic of larger economic or political problems. Ultimately, migration should be a choice, not something that takes place out of necessity.

In order to stop large outflows of people, participants underscored the need to invest in developing countries, prevent war and conflict through diplomacy, improve economic conditions that drive people to leave, and work on combating climate change. A concern was raised about judging nations' generosity towards migrants by how many they take in, as some focus on attacking root causes by investing in developing countries. Member States must also foster conditions that encourage their citizens abroad to return. This includes improving the economy and health and education systems, and providing incentives for returnees.

Key messages from this discussion:

- The GCM needs to clearly define migration and migrants to avoid confusion with refugees;
- The GCM needs to provide practical guidance to respond to regular and irregular migration of all kinds, while at the same time addressing root causes, security concerns, and the possibility of repatriation in a balanced manner;
- The GCM must uphold the principle of shared responsibility in all its dimensions, such as between countries of origin and destination, and between national and global levels.
- The GCM needs to reference and reaffirm all relevant human rights treaties and migration-related conventions, including the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

Migration Policies for Economic Development, Social Cohesion and Integration

"Integration doesn't just happen automatically, it requires investment, and it requires investment not just by governments, but by employers, by schools, by community centers, by religious communities." - Michele Klein Solomon, IOM

Countries may be places of origin, transit or destination for migrants, and most are a combination of some or all of these designations. Parliamentarians spoke about the importance of bilateral and multilateral agreements and global cooperation to ensure migrants' rights are protected during every stage of migration. Migrants must be treated with dignity and respect and in accordance with human rights laws, regardless of their migration status.

For a migration programme to be successful, social cohesion and integration of migrants must be prioritized. In the end, the difficulty of integration is one of the main obstacles to the admission of large flows of migrants. A holistic approach is necessary so that migrants can be well informed and can access services such as health, housing, education, language classes, cultural orientation, and legal assistance. Integration cannot be done half-heartedly or with leftover funds, but requires time, resources and prioritization at all levels of government and civil society.

Sub-national actors should be consulted as they often carry out integration programmes locally, and can give valuable feedback to national authorities. Since most migrants move into cities, mayors and municipal leaders must be included in migration-related discussions, policymaking and budgeting.

Below are examples of migration policies, best practices for integration and social cohesion, and recent legislation pertaining to migrants, the diaspora, and returnees:

Incoming Migrants

Community Integration

In Canada, private sponsors, Rotary Clubs and churches helped integrate the recent Syrian refugees through a holistic approach that ensured children attended school and parents accessed English or French classes and other services. This created personal links and friendships that helped with cohesion and integration in their new communities.

Information and Access to Services

In Finland, new migrants can meet with someone who can address any concerns and discuss future plans; research shows those who have done this earn twice the wages of those who have not. Côte d'Ivoire has centers where migrants can benefit from services such as free legal assistance. The Republic of Korea offers information to migrants in 16 languages through online resources and a mobile app, as well as a 24-hour support hotline for migrant women.

Political participation

Integrating migrants in Finland includes ensuring they can actively engage in society. Those who have been living in a Finnish town for at least two years can vote and participate in municipal elections. Finland and other countries also spoke about the importance of recognizing dual citizenship, which encourages connections to home. A representative from the United Kingdom said the GCM should help ensure political parties are welcoming to migrants so they can engage in political life. Several participants mentioned the challenge of determining when migrants should be eligible for citizenship and voting rights, and whether this should include requirements such as familiarity with the local language, culture and history.

Health

The National Assembly of the Republic of Korea has enacted two bills to improve the treatment of foreigners and codify rules pertaining to benefits such as health insurance. Foreign workers now have 90 per cent of inpatient and surgical bills covered through insurance. Côte d'Ivoire is among the countries that said its health policy is the same for citizens and foreign nationals.

Education

Parliamentarians stressed the need to allow all children to attend school, regardless of their, their parents or their guardians' migration status. In 2005, the Ministry of Education of Thailand called on schools to enrol children regardless of documentation; by 2015, almost 76,000 children from Cambodia, Laos and Viet Nam were enrolled in Thai schools. In Turkey, which houses more than 3 million Syrian refugees, more than 508,000 Syrian children attend school, but more teachers are needed. Morocco has given scholarships to about 20,000 foreign nationals.

Employment

Promoting regular migration is essential in order to allow migrants to work legally and prevent black markets. The global economy and shifting demographics mean many countries rely on migrant labour, and migration policies should reflect these needs. One participant pointed out the problem of having a free flow of goods and services, but not people. Several spoke about the need to streamline people's credentials, so that skills and education gained in one country can be applicable elsewhere. An example of seafarers was used, as ILO sets universally recognized standards in the sector.

Diaspora

Information and Orientation

With more than 10 million Filipinos living outside their country, the Government has a comprehensive system that includes services such as pre-departure orientation, which informs future migrants about their rights, as well as the culture and laws of the destination country. In the host countries, Filipinos can access services such as financial literacy seminars, which help them save their earnings while abroad and teach them how to invest upon returning.

Political Participation

About 3 million of Senegal's 15 million citizens live abroad, and they account for a third of the country's GDP. Since the 1990s, Senegalese living abroad have been able to participate in presidential and legislative elections. Thanks to a 2016 law, members of the diaspora can now also elect their representative in Parliament.

Protection of Temporary Migrant Workers

From 60,000 to 100,000 Kenyans leave each year for low-skilled and service-based jobs in the Gulf Cooperation Council (Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates). Many of these migrant workers have been subjected to abuse, torture, slavery and even death, prompting Kenya to temporarily ban such work in 2012. This allowed the Kenyan Government to enter into bilateral agreements, which outlined requirements such as minimum wage, mode of payment and worker registration. Kenya lifted the ban on temporary workers in December 2017. A national labour market system now keeps track of Kenyans working abroad. The Kenyan Government has also sent labour attachés to Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates; they help workers settle abroad and handle any reports of mistreatment. Training is also provided, and includes information on housing as well as cultural issues, such as requirements to wear a headscarf or a hijab in certain places.

Returning Migrants

Assisting with Returns

Representatives spoke about efforts to facilitate citizens' return home. For example, Mali has worked with the IOM to encourage voluntary returns; this has led to the repatriation of more than 8,000 Malians since 2013. The Philippines provides a transportation allowance for those who want to return; the Department of Labor and Employment pays the fee for documented migrants, while the Department of Foreign Affairs handles the cost for undocumented migrants. The Government also covers immigration penalty fees for those overstaying their visas in order to help bring them home. Morocco has also repatriated thousands of citizens and paid for these costs when needed.

Economic Integration of Returnees

Some countries give returnees financial assistance upon returning home, or incentives that make it easier to start a business. Through a pilot programme, El Salvador has given 5,000 returning citizens US\$ 1,500. Filipinos who return home can get an allowance and benefit from a provision that allows them to start their own business. In order to address economic drivers of migration and create opportunities for vulnerable groups, Kenya revised its laws to reserve 33 per cent of government procurement funds for enterprises owned by women, youth and people with disabilities.

Cities and Migration

Most migrants move into cities and stay there. This can strain urban housing plans, the waste and energy sectors, and infrastructure. "Urban resilience" refers to the ability of cities and their systems to adapt, survive and thrive when faced with everything from terrorist attacks and earthquakes to a mass influx of migrants.

Migration can be an opportunity to build resilience when local leaders and mayors incorporate it into master planning. It has prompted mayors of several northern European cities to rethink public housing; some are experimenting with modular designs to accommodate not just migrants, but the elderly, students and the formerly homeless. In Athens, officials are working with UNHCR to turn vacant buildings into housing for refugees and other vulnerable groups. Cities like Paris are experimenting with "tactical urbanism," where low-cost temporary building environments are used to foster social interaction between different groups.

In order for cities to thrive, they need funding, resources and the mandate to plan and respond effectively, whether that means the ability to raise taxes, issue debt, zone effectively, build quickly, or integrate migrants into the labour force. If national governments cannot provide support or access international funds, cities should be able to do that on their own.

Cities can also take the lead on integration. In New York City, all residents, including undocumented migrants, can get government-issued identification that gives access to city buildings, can be used to interact with law enforcement, and provides membership in cultural institutions. The programme is being replicated in other cities, including Athens. One speaker said such programmes can help fight xenophobia because they do not single out migrants, but apply to entire populations. Cities can also issue guides to inform newcomers how to access resources and benefits. Special information desks can be set up in city libraries, social service organizations and hospitals, with "immigrant navigators," trained to offer individualized support and referrals to migrants.

Key messages from this discussion include:

- Ensure migration laws and policies comply with international standards, are migrant-centred, respect human rights, and are anchored in inclusivity and cooperation;
- Ensure public discourse about migration and migrants is informed, and based on facts and data;
- Strengthen coherence between national policies and local responses to migration, including by providing sufficient resources for community integration and employment creation;
- Ensure public services are available to all residents, including migrants, regardless of status;
- Partner with the private sector, business, media and civil society to share information about migrants and migration, and to ensure migrants are appropriately integrated into economic development and labour market policies;
- Use the convening power of parliament to bring together stakeholders, including migrants, trade unions and community groups, in order to have input into migration policies and more broadly promote economic and social integration;
- Introduce the voices of migrants into deliberations and encourage their political participation;
- Assess the effectiveness of national migration policies in light of the GCM and work with the IPU and the UN system to review those policies and strengthen the institutional capacities for their implementation, including through the committee system.

Migration Risks and Vulnerable Populations

"Children are children wherever they are, and they need to be treated that way," James Campbell, Save the Children

Migration can involve many risks, threats and dangerous routes. In just the first two months of this year, 630 migrants have died while trying to reach their destination. A speaker from Mali said more than 500 Malians have died in the desert and the "open skies cemetery of the Mediterranean." Irregular migration can be dangerous and should be discouraged; international cooperation is needed to ensure migration is safe, orderly and regular.

Some migrants are disproportionately at risk of exploitation, physical and sexual abuse, organ theft, smuggling and trafficking, forced labour, torture, slavery and death. Participants recommended that the GCM pay particular attention to vulnerable groups, including women and children, unaccompanied minors, and people with disabilities. They expressed concern over the growing criminalization of migrants and stressed the need to protect each person's inalienable human rights. Countries should be prepared to accept the most vulnerable migrants and not just the wealthiest and most skilled ones.

Smuggling and Human Trafficking

Each year, millions of children, women and men become victims of human trafficking, and criminals earn an estimated US\$ 32 billion annually from human and sexual exploitation. Several nations have recently strengthened anti-trafficking and smuggling laws, and parliamentarians have encouraged the use of bilateral and multilateral agreements to dismantle the criminal networks behind them. Consular assistance and cooperation can also be helpful in this area, as can aggressive investigations and prosecutions. In order to hold perpetrators accountable, some countries offer free legal assistance to those who want to prosecute their traffickers.

National Security and Terrorism

While studies have shown that foreign-born residents are less likely to commit crimes than native-born residents, participants acknowledged that migrants and refugees are disproportionately seen as threats. Parliamentarians were encouraged to use facts and data to fight these misconceptions, and to emphasize the importance of cohesion and integration as part of these efforts. Safe, orderly and regular migration can also help protect international security.

Children and Unaccompanied Minors

More than 50 million migrant children have been forcibly displaced for reasons such as violence, abuse and exploitation. Participants recommended that the GCM recognize children as a vulnerable group and commit to protecting those who are unaccompanied or separated. An example of such an effort took place in New York City; following a surge in unaccompanied minors, city officials placed

representatives from health and education departments at the courthouses, so they could meet with children as they came for their appointments. Speakers underlined the need for all children to access services such as legal assistance, health and education, so that the world does not end up with another lost generation.

Unregistered children are at particular risk of joining the estimated 3 million stateless children, so it is imperative that States register and provide identity for every child at birth. Decisions about child migrants need to safeguard their best interests, including by ending the practice of child detention and by reaffirming the principle of non-refoulement of children who might be at risk of persecution at home. Member States were invited to follow the lead of countries such as Costa Rica, Ecuador and Panama, which have ended child immigration detention.

Girls and Women

In many sessions, speakers pointed out that girls and women are among the most vulnerable migrants, and welcomed the GCM's gender-sensitive approach. Migrant girls and women are likely to have unwanted pregnancy and suffer from physical and sexual abuse. They must get access to full sexual and reproductive health services, regardless of their status or stage of migration.

People with Disabilities

Research shows that more than 30 per cent of migrants have disabilities. They are typically the most traumatized, and girls and women with disabilities are the most abused. At vetting points, people who examine them are often not trained to work with people with disabilities. Without services such as sign language interpretation, these migrants face even greater challenges in home, transit and destination countries.

Key messages from this discussion include:

Regularization of Migrants

Most of today's 258 million migrants, who represent 3.4 per cent of the world's population, have moved through legal channels. While preventing irregular migration is a key goal, some policies aiming to stop involuntary migration needlessly exacerbate human suffering.

Undocumented migrants may not be able to access employment opportunities or various services and benefits. Regularizing them can boost economic growth and increase tax revenues and social security contributions. The discussion highlighted two main approaches to regularization:

1. Programmes that offer one-off measures that respond to a particular situation and open a window for a specific group of people to become documented. Italy, Greece, Portugal and Spain have recently done this.
2. Mechanisms that are a part of broader migration policy. These are typically extended to long-time residents who can show proof of employment, or demonstrate humanitarian or other needs. Belgium, France and Germany are among the countries that have recently used this.

Some participants expressed concern that regularization of undocumented migrants may undermine existing laws while also attracting more irregular migrants. In response, parliamentarians were encouraged to think in terms not of undercutting laws, but of improving existing ones, so that they are updated to reflect current needs. The question is usually not whether to regularize, but how to design and implement migration policies that create regular pathways to migration.

Thailand offered an example of MOUs with neighbouring countries which have led to the documentation of more than 1 million workers over the last two years. Bolivia has created standards that have helped regularize more than 80,000 migrants. Morocco recently mobilized 3,000 officials to help with requests for regularization.

- The best solution to irregular migration, which in itself renders migrants more vulnerable, is to create more regular pathways to migration, such as work visas, portable social security benefits and a host of other measures that allow people to migrate or return to their home countries as needed;

- Vulnerable groups such as women, children and people with disabilities should be given special protection, in migration policies and in the law, against exploitation and abuse;
- Birth registration of all children, including migrants, needs to be enforced to ensure their rights are protected;
- Detention of irregular migrants, particularly children, should be avoided as it is counterproductive and runs against human rights norms;
- The elimination of human trafficking requires stronger bilateral and multilateral cooperation as well as stronger enforcement of existing laws;
- National security policies should not single out migrants, since they are actually less likely to pose a threat to society than native-born citizens.

Combating Racism and Xenophobia

"Global economic and social interconnection and interdependence mean that anti-migrant racism and xenophobia are toxic forces that amplify the sort of polarization that is proving to be a civic and political cancer all over the world." – Tendayi Achiume, UN Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

The challenge of combating racism and xenophobia emerged as a common thread, with speakers frequently voicing concerns about the rise of hate speech, racism, xenophobia and nationalist movements, as well as lies and misinformation about migration and the scapegoating of migrants. They stressed the need to rely on data and facts to combat this narrative. While migration may lead to short-term displacement of native workers, it is important to note that most migration, when properly managed, leads to better outcomes for migrants and citizens alike.

As opinion leaders and role models, parliamentarians have a special responsibility to avoid inflammatory language about migrants and to set a tone in public discourse about migrants that avoids stereotypes. Other steps parliamentarians can take to help tackle racism and xenophobia include:

- Systematically call out and condemn xenophobia, racism and hate speech, including discourse cloaked in the language of national security, economic and national identity concerns;
- Condemn hate speech and consider whether a new legal framework to combat racism and xenophobia is needed;
- Regularly talk to constituents to help change the negative, false or misleading narrative about migration and migrants;
- Focus on social cohesion and integration of migrants, which can help tackle stereotypes and negative information;
- Set a leadership example by embracing openness, respect for human dignity, and appreciation for diversity;
- Go beyond policy debates by making field visits, meeting with migrants and refugees in their communities, and forging relationships with parliamentarians in neighboring countries;
- Engage mayors, municipal leaders and groups and organizations that may help with integration efforts, including schools, churches, and community organizations;
- Help establish local hate crime units, managed by municipal governments, that are trained to detect hate crimes against migrants;
- Ensure existing international human rights obligations regarding equality and non-discrimination are upheld.

Parliamentary dialogue and follow up

As discussed throughout this report, parliamentarians can play a vital role in helping implement the GCM.

When devising and overseeing national migration policies, parliamentarians should consider the impact they could have regionally and globally, mediating immediate concerns with the long-term vision and commitments of the GCM.

On the national level, parliamentarians can create platforms for dialogue on migration, such as the National Parliamentary Caucus on Migration and Development in Bangladesh or the House of Commons All-Party Parliamentary Group on Migration in the United Kingdom. Parliamentarians can also meet regionally, where migration flows are often more impactful, to develop solutions across borders.

Regular dialogue on migration must be scheduled on national, regional, and global levels. The IPU, together with partners such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), can help ensure such meetings are part of the GCM's follow-up process, and that parliaments have committees and secretariats that can effectively implement migration policies. In addition to relying on committees, legislators can band together to force institutional changes that hold governments accountable for their migration policies.

Conclusion

"The only way to change the world is if we start within our communities," Gabriela Cuevas Barron, IPU

The hearing provided further evidence that a Global Compact for Migration (GCM) is needed to put to rest a number of misconceptions about migration while creating a practical framework to manage migration more effectively at national, regional and global levels. There was strong support for the idea that the GCM needs to be migrant-centered and rights-based, upholding the rights of migrants everywhere regardless of their status. At each stage of the migration process, from departure to settlement and eventual return, policies and practices must respect the dignity of migrants and provide access to essential services, such as health, housing, education, and legal services, as well as opportunities for employment and integration. The GCM should enhance global cooperation and align with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to help realize the benefits of migration for all.

Parliaments will have a key role to play in the implementation of the GCM once adopted. To this effect, they need to be prepared to hold governments accountable for their commitments. Many parliaments will need stronger institutional capacities to help design effective migration policies and oversee their implementation and budgeting.

Most importantly, the hearing underscored the human element of this debate, urging decision-makers and opinion-makers alike to speak of migrants in more positive tones: not as mere numbers, but as human beings; not as objects, but as actors; not as welfare recipients, but as purveyors of economic, social and cultural opportunity to enrich societies at any stage of development.

Appendix

List of Speakers

Moderator: Ms. Nermeen Shaikh

Day One

Opening session

Mr. Miroslav Lajčák, President of the 72nd General Assembly
Senator Gabriela Cuevas Barron, President of the IPU

Migration today: main facts, agreed principles, and gaps

Ms. Louise Arbour, Special Representative of the Secretary General for International Migration
Ms. Michele Klein Solomon, Director, Global Compact for Migration, IOM
Ambassador David Donoghue, Distinguished Fellow, Overseas Development Institute (ODI), former Irish Ambassador to the UN and Co-Facilitator for the NY Declaration for Refugees and Migrants

National policies and local responses: best practices and the need for coordination

Ms. Karina Sosa, MP, El Salvador, Foreign Relations Committee, Central American Integration and Expatriate Salvadorans
Mr. Ahmed Skim, Director of Migration Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Morocco Co-Chair, Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD)
Ms. Sarah Arriola, Undersecretary for Migrant Workers Affairs, Department of Foreign Affairs, Philippines
Ms. Vittoria Zanuso, Rockefeller 100 Resilient Cities initiative

Addressing large movements: domestic initiatives and international cooperation

Mr. Issaka Sidibé, MP, President of the National Assembly of Mali
Ms. Guoda Burokiene, MP, Chair of the Migration Commission, Lithuania
Ambassador Walton Alfonso Webson, PR of Antigua and Barbuda
Mr. Phillip Martin, University of California (Davis)
Mr. Fabien Dubuet, Representative to United Nations, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)

Social cohesion and integration of migrants

Mr. Seddik Chiheb, MP, Algeria
Ambassador Louise Blais, Deputy Permanent Representative of Canada
Ms. Tendayi Achiume, UN Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance
Ms. Bitta Mostofi, Acting Commissioner, Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs, City of New York

Day Two

Realizing the human rights of all migrants: a whole-of-government approach

Mr. Anti Avsan, MP, Sweden
Ms. Denise Pascal, MP, Chile
Ms. Jill Goldenziel, Professor of International Law, Academic Council on the UN System
Mr. James Campbell, UN Programme Officer, Save the Children

Irregular and regular status: common principles and best practices

Ms. Eve Akinyi Obara, MP, Kenya
Senator Franceso Maria Amuruso, Italy
Mr. Vinicius Carvalho Pinheiro, ILO Representative at the UN

The political and social participation of migrants in decision-making

Ms. Maria Lohela, MP, Speaker, Parliament of Finland
Mr. Elhadji Amadou Ndao, Senegal Consul General
Mr. Massimo Tommasoli, IDEA

The Global Compact for Migration (GCM) and follow-up: the role of parliamentarians

Ms. Kate Green, MP, UK, Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Migration
Mr. Israfil Alam, MP, Bangladesh, Chair, Parliamentary Caucus on Migration and Development
Mr. Charles Chauvel, UNDP

Closing Session

Senator Gabriela Cuevas Barron, President of the IPU