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IOM International Organization for Migration  
OIM Organisation Internationale pour les Migrations  
OIM Organización Internacional para las Migraciones

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON PROGRAMMES AND FINANCE**

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**INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP ON  
MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT: AN UPDATE**

## **INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP ON MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT: AN UPDATE**

1. At the first meeting of the SCPF in October 2007, considerable interest was expressed by the membership in the “International Partnership on Migration and Development” (IPMD) initiative, and an update on developments since has been requested by the membership. This document provides the requested update and is intended to serve as background for a discussion on this initiative at the forthcoming SCPF session in May 2008.

2. After endorsement in principle by the heads of agencies of the Global Migration Group (GMG) on 9 November 2007, working level representatives of the GMG revised the IPMD proposal and produced a collective GMG proposal that was finalized on 16 November 2007. That GMG version is attached as an Annex to this paper. In view of the direct relevance of the first element of the IPMD to the ongoing work of the state-led Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) – i.e. to find a mechanism for the implementation of the outcomes of the GFMD, the GMG’s IPMD proposal was sent by the GMG to the Chair in Office of the GFMD, Mr. Esteban Conejos, Under Secretary of Migrant Worker Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Philippines, on 16 November 2007, for his and the GFMD’s consideration.

3. In a letter dated 18 March 2008 from Under Secretary Conejos to the current chair of the GMG, Ms. Thoraya Ahmed Obaid, Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director, United Nations Population Fund, Mr. Conejos informed that the GFMD Troika (Chair in Office, the Philippines, plus Belgium and Greece, respectively the previous and next chair) discussed the proposal on 10 March 2008 and expressed their appreciation to GMG for the proposal, which is intended in part to “serve the needs of the GFMD organizers and supporting governments”. The Troika further expressed the view that neither the second and third goals of the IPMD would be appropriate in connection with the GFMD at this stage, nor the proposal for the establishment of a Multi-Donor Trust Fund to support the above objectives in this context. The two goals are:

- (1) to promote policy coherence between migration and development by mainstreaming migration issues into country-level development agendas and crafting development-friendly migration policies; and
- (2) to build capacity at national levels and between countries for strengthening information collection, research, policy analysis, and public sector capacity to enhance the positive development effects of migration and to engage in planned, safe and effective labour migration management that matches labour supply with demand, including through circular migration and mobility partnerships, in a manner that minimizes the adverse effects on migrants and societies of the mismatch between legal migration channels and labour migration while better protecting the rights of migrants, and safeguarding their well-being.

4. The Chair in Office further relayed the Troika's recognition of the practicality of a light support structure for the GFMD to ensure institutional memory and a smooth transition between successive hosts of the GFMD. The Chair in Office of the GFMD indicated that the GFMD Steering Group, Friends of the Forum, and GFMD in Manila in October will develop and further consider the concept of a very light support structure for the GFMD in the coming months in the context of considering the modalities of the GFMD.

5. Independent of the relationship to the GFMD, members of the GMG have indicated their commitment to, and interest in, further developing the second and third goals of the IPMD in the interest of promoting better policy coherence between migration and development and supporting necessary capacity building to that end. The means for doing so will be discussed amongst the GMG members.

6. States interested in supporting and shaping the further development of this initiative are requested to make their interest known to members of the GMG, as the proposal is intended to forge a genuine partnership on migration and development amongst interested States, the GMG agencies and other interested stakeholders, including the private sector and members of civil society more generally.

Annex**INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP ON MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT****A Multi-Stakeholder Mechanism for the Implementation of Projects and Activities  
Generated by the Global Forum on Migration and Development and Complementary  
Efforts***Global Migration Group***Draft  
16 November 2007**

With growing international attention to the linkages between migration and development has come growing recognition of the need for a mechanism to bring together partners at the operational level in migration and development. The 2005 report of the Global Commission on International Migration recommended the establishment of an Inter-Agency Global Migration Facility to support, among others, capacity building, data collection and exchange, policy analysis and evaluation. Subsequent discussions in the Global Migration Group on migration and development have further validated the need for a means to facilitate collaborative undertakings, in partnership with interested governments and other stakeholders. The UN High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development was a landmark in building international consensus on the links between migration and development, and in calling for follow up action through the convening of a Global Forum to take the debate forward.

Most immediately, the Brussels meeting of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) identified several action outcomes for follow up in the lead up to the Manila meeting in 2008 and beyond. Some of these are targeted needs for further research and analysis and others are specific pilot projects to test ideas and concepts identified as particularly promising to enhance the beneficial links between migration and development. At the present time, no mechanism exists to facilitate this follow up to the recommendations of the Global Forum at the operational level and provide the necessary funding and support. This proposal is offered to address that gap and serve the needs of the Forum organizers and supporting governments.

On 9 November 2007, the heads of agencies of the Global Migration Group endorsed the proposed partnership. It is contemplated that several of the constituent agencies would be involved individually and working together, in partnership with interested stakeholders.

## 1. Goals

The proposed International Partnership has three principal goals:

- (1) to support follow up to the recommendations and action outcomes of the Global Forum on Migration and Development so as to ensure continuity at the operational level from one meeting of the Global Forum to the next;
- (2) to promote policy coherence between migration and development by mainstreaming migration issues into country-level development agendas and crafting development-friendly migration policies; and
- (3) to build capacity at national levels and between countries for strengthening information collection, research, policy analysis, and public sector capacity to enhance the positive development effects of migration and to engage in planned, safe and effective labour migration management that matches labour supply with demand, including through circular migration and mobility partnerships, in a manner that minimises the adverse effects on migrants and societies of the mismatch between legal migration channels and labour migration while better protecting the rights of migrants, and safeguarding their well-being.

The goals are mutually reinforcing. Agencies submitting this proposal and other international, governmental and non-governmental stakeholders can contribute to and benefit from the Partnership.

## 2. Modalities

The International Partnership embraces governments and other stakeholders. Partner organizations would be responsible for the actual implementation of tasks for which they have identified expertise in areas that are to be addressed in migration and development. Partners would include members of GMG and other international organizations having the capacity and willingness to assist.

*A multi-donor trust fund (MTF) framework* is proposed to serve as a financing and coordination mechanism for key institutions working in the migration and development area. This would provide a mechanism for multi-donor partnership as well as a transparent means for funding and disbursements. By establishing an International Partnership, interested donor states, institutions and entities could contribute to a consolidated and coordinated effort to promote beneficial links between migration and development and ensure that the action outcomes from the Global Forum receive dedicated attention and support from the international community.

The governance structure would include an *Oversight Committee* which would approve the activities/projects of the trust fund and the corresponding resource allocation. The Oversight Committee would include donors and representatives of other key constituencies, including from developing countries. Implementation would be carried out by partners under contracts that specify the objectives and nature of the task and the results

expected. A *small Secretariat*, overseen by the Oversight Committee, would be responsible for administrative tasks, monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the activities of the fund.

### 3. Areas of work

The planned International Partnership will develop its proposed activities and projects in accordance with the recommendations and action outcomes of meetings of the Global Forum on Migration and Development. It could also serve to develop, finance and implement projects consistent with the policy coherence and capacity building goals of the GFMD although not specifically identified by it.

Initially, the planned International Partnership would focus on two key areas of work. The first would be strengthening information sources, research and analytical work. This area of work would include strengthening capacity for the generation of migration data and their dissemination, disaggregated by gender, ethnicity, education, or other relevant variables; and improving the analysis of policy effectiveness, including the compilation of best practices in areas highlighted by the GFMD. For example, the analysis of changing labour market, labour force characteristics and labour migration trends, including regarding female migration, could be supported through the dissemination of data and the development of appropriate databases. Similarly, centralised information sources on regional and national migration regulatory frameworks could be developed. In addition, data collection on remittances and their utilisation could be improved.

The second key area of work would focus on building capacity both to evaluate the impacts of migration and remittances and to manage migration related programmes and policies in an integrated and development-friendly fashion at national and international levels. This area would include such elements as the development and dissemination of policy and programme models, as well as assistance to governments requesting it in order to build their capacity to formulate policies on labour markets, human resource development, and labour migration, including in particular female migration, that are consistent with the protection of the rights of migrants and safeguard their well-being. Testing and evaluation of pilot projects could be undertaken.

Strategies could also be developed to monitor and evaluate the impact of international migration on development so as to enable policy-makers to integrate migration into development policy agendas, including Poverty Reduction Strategies. Examples of activities that could be undertaken through the partnership proposal could include the following. Governments would be able to request technical assistance on managed labour migration, including temporary and circular migration and/or to improve their capacity to formulate policies (at the national, bilateral, regional levels) on labour migration and related fields impacting on labour mobility, living conditions and employment (e.g. visa policies, social security, recognition of qualifications, integration, etc.). Included in this would also be capacity building to support labour mobility agreements to optimise outcomes at the bilateral, regional and multilateral levels. Emphasis could be placed on inter-state and multi-stakeholder cooperative endeavours. Private sector and other non-governmental entities could apply for resources on the basis of proposals submitted to the

Trust Fund. An integral element of this second area of work would be the support of partnerships and projects emanating from the Marketplace organized in connection with the Global Forum.

#### 4. Funding

A multi-donor trust fund could be established at the World Bank and thus benefit from the possibility of obtaining seed funding from internal resources available at the World Bank for partnerships of this sort. If a World Bank trust fund is envisioned under the Development Grant Facility (DGF), a preliminary proposal would need to be submitted in early December indicating (a) the line up of potential donors, (b) the list of partners in the DGF, and (c) the substantive rationale of the proposal. Internal WB resources can account for no more than 15% of the total funding sought. A full and formal application would need to be made to the DGF by mid-January, including a description of the proposed governance structure (steering/oversight committee, evaluation mechanisms, etc.). Review could be expected between March and May 2008.

Donor support will be sought from private sector entities and institutions, as well as from governments interested in funding migration and development activities. If the multi-donor trust fund were to be established early in 2008, the results and outcomes from the sponsored activities could be reported to the second meeting of the Global Forum in 2008.