General points about the priorities during the Swedish Chairmanship in GFMD

Introduction

- From 1 January this year Sweden assumed the role as Chair of the GFMD. Sweden will be the Chair until June 2014, and will host the 7th meeting of the GFMD in Stockholm in 14-16 May 2014.

- The coming two years marks an important period for the global debate on development and migration – with both the upcoming, second UN High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development and the work on identifying new global development goals. Sweden and Turkey will seize this opportunity to enhance and make the work of GFMD even more relevant.

Overall priorities during the Swedish chairmanship

- The overall theme for the Swedish chairmanship is “Unlocking the potential of migration for inclusive development”

Sweden has three mutually reinforcing key objectives:

- A more development-focused Forum - redouble efforts to strengthen the development perspective.
- A more dynamic Forum - reenergize the involvement and ownership by states and seek better outreach to other stakeholders such as the civil society and the private sector.
- A more durable Forum - hope that the Forum’s sustainable impact on the global debate can be achieved by more stable and predictable funding, and by ensuring that the
accumulated knowledge and good practice is shared and implemented more broadly.

A more development-focused Forum

- Sweden wants to **focus on identifying concrete synergies between development and migration** and to **attract development policymakers and stakeholders to the GFMD**.

- Sweden will use the current momentum - the High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development, the work on the post-2015 development agenda and the Chairmanship in the GFMD - to **strive towards a solid recognition of the contribution migration makes to realize the development goals**. Migration has an important place in the formulation of the future development agenda.

- Sweden, through its Minister for International Development Cooperation, Ms. Gunilla Carlsson, is actively engaged in the **UN High Level Panel**, which has been given the task to write a report on the new development goals. As a contribution to the deliberations of the panel, **the minister has taken an initiative to look closer at how migration can be integrated into this agenda**.

A more dynamic Forum

- Sweden is also **dedicated to the continuation and the improvement of the Forum as a process** and will proceed from the recommendations in the GFMD assessment report. Sweden will encourage stronger engagement and involvement of states and other stakeholders in the process.

- **The civil society, including the private sector, plays an important role in the work of the GFMD.** Sweden will strive towards vitalizing the dialogue with civil society – both on national and international levels, and also to engage the private sector as a distinct stakeholder group in the GFMD.

- **Well-coordinated initiatives among international organisations, notably the GMG, can play a more important role both in improving the evidence base and in the voluntary follow-up on recommendations generated by the Forum.**

A more durable Forum
The GFMD can only continue as consolidated and sustainable process, if we can make progress towards more stable and predictable funding.

We need to find forms to further enhance the impact of the GFMD on the global migration and development arena.

Conclusion

Sweden has put forward an ambitious agenda for GFMD 2013-2014. We look forward to working together to move the work forward to our common objective of bringing more clear development benefits to migrants and to all countries involved.