



**AD-HOC EXPERT MEETING ON CONTRIBUTION OF MIGRANTS TO DEVELOPMENT:  
TRADE, INVESTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT LINKAGES**

Palais des Nations, Geneva  
Room XII, 29th July 2009

**PROGRAMME**

Wednesday, 29 <sup>th</sup> July	
<b>10:00-10:45</b>	<p><b>Opening Session</b></p> <p>Supachai Panitchpakdi, Secretary General, UNCTAD Sha Zhukang, Under-Secretary General, UN/DESA William Swing, Director-General, IOM Marelza Oliveira, Associate Director, Governance Unit, UNITAR,</p>
<b>10:45-11.30</b>	<p><b>Session 1: Migration Trends and the Impact of the Economic Crisis</b></p> <p>Movement of persons for economic betterment has taken place historically for a range of reasons and is a continuously evolving landscape. This session will consider the main migration trends in terms of skill levels, gender, duration of stay and main countries of origin, transit and destination. Specific attention will be placed on assessing the impact of financial crisis on migration.</p> <p><i>Panelists:</i> <i>Richard Newfarmer, Special Representative of the World Bank, Geneva</i> <i>Ibrahim Awad, Director, International Migration Program, ILO</i> <i>German Palafox, Chief of Unit for Micro-regions , Ministry of Social Development , Government of Mexico</i></p> <p><b><u>Issues for discussion:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the push and pull factors and long term prospects for labour mobility?</li> <li>• What are the main characteristics of migration flows, South-South and North-South?</li> <li>• Based on previous recessions, how is the current global economic crisis likely to alter present and future migration trends including growth and development prospects in both countries of origin and destination?</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Interactive debate</b></p>

<p><b>11:30-13:00</b></p>	<p><b>Session 2: Trade, Investment and Development linkages</b></p> <p>Globalization and growing trade and investment interlinkages between countries have resulted in increased migration flows. This session will consider the development potential of migration and the importance of global supply chains, diasporas and remittances.</p> <p><i>Panelists:</i>  <i>Ravi Bangar, Deputy Permanent Representative of India to the WTO, Geneva</i>  <i>Raju Singh, Senior Economist, IMF</i>  <i>Pedro de Lima, Deputy Economic Adviser, European Investment Bank, Luxembourg</i>  <i>Phil Martin, Chair, Comparative Immigration and Integration Program, University of California</i></p> <p><u>Issues for discussion:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How have deepening trade, investment and development linkages among countries contributed to greater migration flows to what extent have trade and investment policies and agreements contributed to this process?</li> <li>• What role can established migrant associations and communities play in facilitating remittances, capital investment, bilateral relationships, building trade, business and social networks and skills and knowledge transfers to both countries of origin and destination? How are migrant's remittance-sending behaviors impacted by the financial crisis?</li> <li>• What are the development impacts of remittances and their contribution to productive sectors?</li> <li>• How can the financial and other sectors such as telecommunications as well as related policies, contribute to improving the condition of migrants including through access to financial services, job security reduction in the transaction costs of remittances: transparency in fees, exchange rates?</li> <li>• Provide an understanding of trade in products and services for diaspora communities?</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Interactive debate</b></p>
<p><b>13:00-15:00</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Break for Lunch</b></p>
<p><b>15:00-17:30</b></p>	<p><b>Session 3: Policy frameworks to enhance migrant's contributions to development</b></p> <p>Government policies and the contribution of diaspora communities can support and encourage beneficial migrant contributions to countries of origin and destination. This session will consider how policy frameworks have developed in response to migrant movement and practical issues and outcomes which will strengthen the development content of migration.</p> <p>Two areas of specific focus will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) incentives and measures for enhancing the contribution of migration and development.</li> </ul>

- (ii) the role of temporary and circular migration and good practices from trade, investment and labour co-operation agreements and policies.

*Panelists:*

*Seydou Keita, Technical Counselor, Ministry of the Malians Abroad, Mali*

*Rolph Jenny, Executive Director, Global Commission on International Migration, and Special Adviser to the Chair-in-Office (Greece), Global Forum on Migration and Development*

*Manuel Inson, Attache (ILO), Permanent Mission of Philippines to the United Nations, Geneva*

*Dawit Asgedom, President, Assistance for a Voluntary Return and. Reintegration of African Migrants, Geneva*

**Issues for discussion:**

- What are specific initiatives at the national level to enhance contribution of migration to development?
- What kind of incentives and measures are being utilized i.e Dual citizenship, Transferability of pensions, sharing of tax revenue, use of technology and mutually beneficial transfer of knowledge.
- How can migrant awareness, sustained interest and credibility in measures introduced be generated and sustained? In the context of the current financial crisis, how can governments and migrant communities' best react to reduce the impact of the crisis?
- How can data and research tools relating to migration and development be strengthened and utilized to build greater awareness of migrant's contribution?
- How can temporary/circular labour migration provide a mutually acceptable solution? What could be the successful elements of temporary and circular migration? How do/can trade agreements fit into this process in particular in the Mode 3 and Mode 4 context?
- How can policies of trade, investment labour, development and other social policies impacting the movement of persons at the bilateral, regional and global level be reconciled?

**Interactive debate**

**17:30-18:00**

**Concluding Session: Looking forward**