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Globalization and interdependence: international migration and development

Bolivia (Plurinational State of):* draft resolution

International migration and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/208 of 23 December 2003, 59/241 of 22 December 2004, 60/227 of 23 December 2005, 61/208 of 20 December 2006, 63/225 of 19 December 2008, 65/170 of 20 December 2010 and 67/219 of 21 December 2012 on international migration and development, as well as its resolution 68/4 of 3 October 2013 on the Declaration of the High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, its resolution 60/206 of 22 December 2005 on the facilitation and reduction of the cost of transfer of migrant remittances, its resolutions 62/156 of 18 December 2007, 64/166 of 18 December 2009, 66/172 of 19 December 2011 and 68/179 of 18 December 2013 on the protection of migrants, and its resolution 62/270 of 20 June 2008 on the Global Forum on Migration and Development, and recalling also Commission on Population and Development resolutions 2006/2 of 10 May 2006,¹ 2008/1 of 11 April 2008,² 2013/1 of 26 April 2013³ and 2014/1 of 11 April 2014,⁴

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,⁵ its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals, and recalling further the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals held from 20 to

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the G77 and China.

¹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2006, Supplement No. 5 (E/2006/25)*, chap. I, sect. B.

² Ibid., 2008, *Supplement No. 5 (E/2008/25)*, chap. I, sect. B.

³ Ibid., 2013, *Supplement No. 5 (E/2013/25)*, chap. I, sect. B.

⁴ Ibid., 2014, *Supplement No. 5 (E/2014/25)*, chap. I, sect. B.

⁵ Resolution 60/1.



22 September 2010 and its outcome document,⁶ and the special event to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals, convened by the President of the General Assembly on 25 September 2013, and its outcome document,⁷

Recalling further the second High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, held in New York on 3 and 4 October 2013, which provided a useful opportunity to address constructively the issue of international migration and development and explore means to address key migration challenges, including the protection of the human rights of migrants, as well as the summaries of its four round tables,

Recalling the regional events organized in 2013 in Santiago on 10 and 11 July, Cairo on 4 and 5 June, Bangkok from 29 to 31 May and Addis Ababa on 3 and 4 July, during the preparatory process for the second High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, as well as the preparatory events on international migration and development organized by the President of the General Assembly,

Recalling also its resolution 68/3309 of 10 September 2014, in which it welcomed the report of the Open Working Group of the General Assembly on Sustainable Development Goals,⁸ and decided that the report would be the main basis for integrating sustainable development goals into the post-2015 development agenda,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,⁹ and recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,¹⁰ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,¹⁰ the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,¹¹ the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women¹² and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,¹³

Recalling the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,¹⁴ and reiterating the call to Member States that have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Convention, as a matter of priority, and the request that the Secretary-General continue his efforts to promote and raise awareness of the Convention,

Recalling also the importance of the Decent Work Agenda of the International Labour Organization, including for migrant workers, the eight fundamental Conventions of that Organization and the Global Jobs Pact adopted by the International Labour Conference at its ninety-eighth session, as a general framework within which each country can formulate policy packages specific to its situation

⁶ Resolution 65/1.

⁷ Resolution 68/6.

⁸ [A/68/970](#).

⁹ Resolution 217 A (III).

¹⁰ See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

¹¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

¹² Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

¹³ Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

¹⁴ Ibid., vol. 596, No. 8638.

and national priorities in order to promote a job-intensive recovery and sustainable development,

Taking note of the Secretary-General's eight-point agenda for action,¹⁵ which expresses the common vision of the United Nations system and the International Organization for Migration, in line with the Declaration of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development and the priorities set out by civil society,

Recognizing the contribution of the Global Forum on Migration and Development to addressing the multidimensional nature of international migration and promoting balanced and comprehensive approaches,

Acknowledging the important and complex interrelationship between international migration and development and the need to deal with the challenges and opportunities that migration presents to countries of origin, transit and destination, recognizing that migration brings benefits and challenges to the global community, and confirming the importance of including the matter in relevant debates and discussions held at the international level, including at the United Nations, in relation to development,

Bearing in mind that remittances cannot be considered a substitute for foreign direct investment, official development assistance, debt relief or other public sources of financing for development,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;¹⁶
2. *Recognizes* that international migration is a multidimensional reality of major relevance for the development of countries of origin, transit and destination, and in this regard recognizes that international migration is a cross-cutting phenomenon that should be addressed in a coherent, comprehensive and balanced manner, integrating development with due regard for social, economic and environmental dimensions and respecting human rights;
3. *Recognizes* the need to strengthen synergies between international migration and development at the global, regional and national levels;
4. *Acknowledges* the complexity of migratory flows and that international migration movements also occur within the same geographical regions, and in this context calls for a better understanding of migration patterns across and within regions;
5. *Reaffirms* the need to promote and protect effectively the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, regardless of their migration status, especially those of women and children, and to address international migration through international, regional or bilateral cooperation and dialogue and through a comprehensive and balanced approach, recognizing the roles and responsibilities of countries of origin, transit and destination in promoting and protecting the human rights of all migrants, and avoiding approaches that might aggravate their vulnerability;
6. *Expresses* concern about legislation adopted by some States that results in measures and practices that may restrict the human rights and fundamental

¹⁵ See A/68/190.

¹⁶ A/69/207.

freedoms of migrants, and reaffirms that, when exercising their sovereign right to enact and implement migratory and border security measures, States have the duty to comply with their obligations under international law, including international human rights law, in order to ensure full respect for the human rights of migrants;

7. *Recognizes* the need for international cooperation to address, in a holistic and comprehensive manner, the challenges of irregular migration to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration, with full respect for human rights;

8. *Expresses* concern about the large and growing number of migrants, especially women and children, including those unaccompanied or separated from their parents, who place themselves in a vulnerable situation by attempting to cross international borders without the required travel documents, and recognizes the obligation of States to respect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants and their families, especially those of women and children, regardless of their migration status;

9. *Emphasizes* the need to respect and promote international labour standards as appropriate, and respect the rights of migrants in their workplaces, including appropriate measures for the protection of women migrant workers in all sectors, including those involved in domestic work;

10. *Encourages* States to consider the ratification of most international instruments concerned with international migrants and migration, taking into account the contribution of applicable international conventions, including the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families,¹⁴ to the international system for the protection of migrants;

11. *Recognizes* the necessity to consider how the migration of highly skilled persons, especially in the health, social and engineering sectors, affects the development efforts of developing countries, and emphasizes the need to consider circular migration in this regard;

12. *Also recognizes* the importance of enhancing the capacities of low-skilled migrants in order to increase their access to employment opportunities in countries of destination;

13. *Underlines* the important role that migrants play as partners in the development of origin, transit and destination countries and the need to enhance the protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms of migrant workers and their families, and encourages Member States to consider reducing the costs related to migration, such as the fees paid to recruiters, enhancing the portability of social security entitlements and other acquired rights and promoting the mutual recognition of the educational and professional qualifications and competencies of migrants;

14. *Recognizes* that remittances constitute an important source of private capital, and reaffirms the need to promote conditions for cheaper, faster and safer transfers of remittances in both source and recipient countries, and in this regard underscores the importance of reducing by less than 3 per cent the transaction costs of migrant remittances and of eliminating remittance corridors with costs higher than 5 per cent;

15. *Also recognizes* that women and girls account for almost half of all international migrants at the global level, and further recognizes the need to address the special situation and vulnerability of migrant women and girls by, inter alia, incorporating a gender perspective into policies and strengthening national laws, institutions and programmes to combat gender-based violence, including trafficking in persons and discrimination against women and girls;

16. *Reiterates* its commitment to prevent and combat trafficking in persons, protect victims of trafficking, prevent and combat migrant smuggling and protect migrants from exploitation and other abuses, stresses the need to establish or upgrade, as appropriate, national and regional anti-human trafficking policies and to reinforce cooperation on prevention, the prosecution of traffickers and the protection of victims of trafficking, and encourages Member States to ratify, accede to and implement relevant international instruments on preventing and combating trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants;

17. *Recognizes* that the implementation at the national level of the 2000 Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children,¹⁷ and the 2000 Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air¹⁸ remains a challenge, and therefore stresses that it is important for States parties thereto to continue their efforts in this regard;

18. *Encourages* Member States to cooperate on mobility programmes that facilitate safe, orderly and regular migration, including through labour mobility, as well as programmes that allow migrants to integrate fully into society and that facilitate family reunification in accordance with the laws and specific criteria of each Member State;

19. *Recognizes* the need to consider the role that environmental factors may play in migration and to address the cross-border displacement resulting from natural disasters and climate change;

20. *Also recognizes* the need to improve public perceptions of migrants and migration, and in this regard welcomes the efforts undertaken to create greater public awareness of their contributions, in particular the first mayoral forum on mobility, migration and development held in Barcelona, Spain, on 19 and 20 June 2014 and the second mayoral forum to be held in Quito in 2015;

21. *Strongly condemns* the acts, manifestations and expressions of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance against migrants and the stereotypes often applied to them, including on the basis of religion or belief, and urges States to apply and, where needed, reinforce the existing laws when xenophobic or intolerant acts, manifestations or expressions against migrants occur, in order to eradicate impunity for those who commit those acts;

22. *Acknowledges* the important contribution of migration in realizing the Millennium Development Goals, and recognizes that human mobility is a key factor for sustainable development which should be adequately considered in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda;

23. *Recognizes* the importance of coordinated efforts of the international community to assist and support migrants stranded in vulnerable situations and

¹⁷ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2237, No. 39574.

¹⁸ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2241, No. 39574.

facilitate, and cooperate on when appropriate, their voluntary return to their country of origin, and calls for practical and action-oriented initiatives aimed at identifying and closing protection gaps;

24. *Requests* the 18 members of the Global Migration Group to continue to take steps to strengthen their cooperation, enhance their engagement with Member States and civil society and engage jointly in work at the country level that is in the service of migrants and their families in societies of origin, transit and destination;

25. *Emphasizes* the need for reliable, accurate, disaggregated, nationally relevant and internationally comparable statistical data and indicators on international migration, including, when possible, on the contributions of migrants to development in both countries of origin and countries of destination in order to facilitate the design of evidence-based policymaking and decision-making in all relevant aspects of sustainable development, and in this regard calls upon the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations and multilateral institutions to assist Member States in their capacity-building efforts in this matter;

26. *Calls upon* all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, other relevant intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on International Migration and Development, within their respective mandates, to strengthen their collaboration and cooperation to better and fully address the issue of international migration and development, in order to adopt a coherent, comprehensive and coordinated approach, and to consider migration issues in their contributions to the preparatory process that will establish the post-2015 development agenda;

27. *Recognizes* the efforts made by the international community in addressing relevant aspects of international migration and development, through different initiatives, both within the United Nations system and in other processes, particularly the Global Forum on Migration and Development and regional processes, as well as in drawing on the expertise of the International Organization for Migration and other member agencies of the Global Migration Group;

28. *Requests* the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on International Migration and Development to continue to facilitate the linkages between the United Nations and the Global Forum on Migration and Development, and to continue to advocate for the commitments made at the second High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development;

29. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council to consider holding an annual debate on international migration and development in order to allow the office of the Special Representative on International Migration and Development, the Global Forum on Migration and Development, the Global Migration Group and representatives of other relevant stakeholders to discuss with Member States the opportunities and challenges presented by migration and mobility with respect to development;

30. *Decides* to hold high-level dialogues on international migration and development at regular intervals of three years at United Nations Headquarters in New York, aimed at reviewing the status of implementation of the commitments made at previous high-level dialogues and advancing the discussion on the multidimensional aspects of international migration;

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to hold annual coordination meetings on international migration and to assess, in close cooperation with the Global Migration Group, interested agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and civil society, the progress made in implementing the Secretary-General's eight-point agenda¹⁵ and the commitments made at the second High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development;

32. *Decides* to work towards an effective and inclusive global agenda on international migration that integrates development and respects human rights, and in this regard decides to explore the possibility of a legally binding convention on migration and development to improve the governance of international migration and to protect and promote the human rights of migrants and their contribution to development, regardless of their migratory status;

33. *Invites* the regional commissions, in collaboration with other relevant entities of the United Nations system and the International Organization for Migration, and in accordance with their respective mandates, to continue to examine the regional aspects of international migration and development, taking into account, in particular, the processes and deliberations leading to the post-2015 development agenda, and to provide inputs to the report of the Secretary-General on this issue;

34. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session a comprehensive report on the integration of the migration perspective at the national, regional and international levels that provides information on best practices and recommendations to address the difficulties that migrants face and reinforce their contribution to development;

35. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-first session, under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence", the sub-item entitled "International migration and development";

36. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.