

# Second High Level Workshop on Development Assistance March 29-30th, 2005

## Migration and development

Hotel Lutetia,  
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75006 Paris

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Although migration issues are taking on a particular dimension this year, culminating in the importance the United Nations will grant them next September, they currently play a far too limited role in international debates: the demographic imbalances between developed and developing countries will continue to grow in the years to come, and migration pressure is expected to mount with the continuation of differences in standards of living. At the same time, despite the inadequacy of information available, the positive and negative effects of migration on the well-being and development of the countries of origin and destination are being more and more clearly identified. Despite the fact that today there are still a great many obstacles to the mobility of persons between developed and developing countries, it is important to ensure that the benefits arising from existing migration are as significant and as equitable as possible, and that the negative effects are minimized, for both countries of origin and countries of destination. However, the migration policies of developed countries are currently defined independently of the issue of their impact on developing economies, and those of the countries of origin – which are generally inadequate or even inexistent – do not fulfill this role. Official development assistance could consequently become one of the possible tools for increasing the positive impact of migration on their development and limiting its negative effects. In Europe, the direct result of defining general EU principles on the structuring of Member States' migration policies must lead to greater organization and coordination of aid policies. Moreover, ensuring coherence between aid policies and migration policies is already showing itself to be essential.

### Wednesday, March 29th

**6.30 p.m – 7.00 p.m      Registration**

**7.00 p.m – 8.30 p.m      Introduction to the workshop**

Introduction by the European Union Presidency and presentation of her schedule on migration and development issues. Presentation of the workshop.

Chairman:        *Irene Freudenschuss-Reichl*, General Director, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Vienna

Speakers:        *Philippe Etienne*, General Director, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Paris  
*Laurence Tubiana*, Director, Institute for sustainable development and international relations (IDDRI), Paris

**8.30 p.m. – 10.30 p.m.      Dinner**

Hosted by:        *Brigitte Girardin*, Minister of Cooperation, Development and Francophony, Paris

Speaker:         *Ndioro Ndiaye*, Deputy General Director, International Organization for Migration, Geneva

### Thursday, March 30th

**8.30 a.m. – 9.00 a.m.      Coffee**

**9.00 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.      The migration of elites: What are the risks/opportunities for development?**

Poor employment prospects in developing countries and the implementation of increasingly selective migration policies in developed countries lead many qualified workers to leave their country of origin. These departures are considered as being a net loss for the country that trained them. Is this still the case? Is it possible to share the benefits between receiving countries and countries of origin? How can the contribution of the country of origin be recognized? Can this

brain-drain be transformed into a brain-flow? Demographic prospects indicate that the demand of developed countries will increase dramatically over the next few years, leading to greater competition to attract qualified migrants. There will consequently be more incentives for people to leave. What role could aid policies play in anticipating these changes and making this future migration of qualified persons equally beneficial for the countries of origin?

Chairman: *Milagros Hernando Echevarria*, General Director, State Secretariat for international cooperation, Madrid

Speaker: *Hillel Rapoport*, Department of economics, Bar-Ilan University, Ramat Gan

Discussant: *Jean-Baptiste Meyer*, Development Research Institute (IRD), Montpellier

#### **10.30 a.m. – 11.00 a.m. Coffee Break**

#### **11.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m. Co-development: A promising tool?**

Under what conditions can migrants be actors in the development of their countries? The importance of stable migrant communities in developed countries, along with the extent of remittances sent by migrants to their countries of origin, make them key players in development. Co-development, which includes many different practices, must allow true benefit-sharing between countries of emigration and immigration. Consequently, can co-development be considered a promising tool? Is it possible to use it on a larger scale, and if so under what conditions? What would be the advantages and disadvantages of its intensive use by European donors?

Chairman: *Philippe de Fontaine Vive*, Vice-President, European Investment Bank, Luxembourg

Speaker: *Jacques Ould Aoudia*, President, Migrations et développement, Paris

Discussant: *Laurence Tubiana*, Director, Institute for sustainable development and international relations (IDDRI), Paris

#### **12:30 p.m. – 2.30 p.m. Lunch**

#### **2.30 p.m. – 4.00 p.m. Ensuring greater attention to development issues in debates on migration**

Migrant communities represent significant but specific political challenges for the countries of origin, transit and destination. These issues are generally treated as matters of foreign policy. Likewise, migration policies are treated as matters of domestic policy without taking into account their impact on the development of the countries of origin. This compartmentalization makes it impossible to find long-term solutions, the only means of creating positive situations for both countries of origin and countries of destination. How can greater attention be given to development issues in debates on migration? How can the question of development be included in migration and foreign policies? How can development agencies play a greater role in this process?

- Chairman: *Michael Hofmann*, General Director, Ministry for Economic cooperation and Development, Bonn
- Speaker: *Catherine de Wenden*, Centre for international relations studies (CERI), Science Po, Paris
- Discussant: *James Mackie*, European Center for Development Policy Management (ECPDM), Maastricht

**4.00 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.      Coffee break**

**4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.      Prospects for European donors**

Summing up of presentations, debates, and conclusions. Prospects and next steps.

- Chairman: *Brigitte Girardin*, Minister of Cooperation, Development and Francophony
- Rapporteur: *Laurence Tubiana*, Director, Institute for sustainable development and international relations (Iddri), Paris