

Global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration

Second Informal Thematic Session:

“Addressing drivers of migration, including adverse effects of climate change, natural disasters and human-made crisis, through protection and assistance, sustainable development, poverty eradication, conflict prevention and resolution”

New York, 22-23 May 2017

United Nations Headquarters, ECOSOC chamber

PANEL 1 - Sustainable development and poverty eradication Intervention (3 min.)

Ladies and gentlemen,

Germany welcomes the topic of this session on drivers of migration and „sustainable development and poverty eradication“ more specifically.

We strongly support the important positive contributions of migrants for inclusive economic growth and poverty eradication in countries of origin. Hence, we would like to underline the significance of SDGs 10.7 and 10.c. to promote safe, regular and responsible migration and to reduce remittances costs.

Remittances are a direct contribution to poverty reduction for millions of families in the developing world. Due to remittances, access to health care is possible, children can go to school and small businesses are being created. This is why Germany strongly supports initiatives to make remittances transfers cheaper, more transparent and safer.

We recognize the role poverty plays in migration decisions. German development cooperation promotes sustainable development in all partner countries and thus contributes to poverty eradication. We strongly support human rights, gender equality and inclusive growth that strengthens rural as well as urban areas. Our support of partner countries to achieve inclusive and sustainable development contributes to making migration a choice and not a necessity.

Drivers of migration are multi-faceted and defined by multi-causality. Poverty is one of the factors; however, the poorest ones are mostly not those who are able to migrate. Migration needs resources, capital, networks, which means that often the young, high-skilled and entrepreneurial ones are those who leave. German development cooperation promotes “brain gain” to ensure that migration is beneficial for everyone involved: countries of origin, destination and migrants themselves (triple win). We support the return and professional reintegration of high-skilled migrants, as well as start-ups from the diaspora in countries of origin. We promote dialogue between countries of origin and their diasporas.

We acknowledge the commitments of the New York Declaration, especially the shared responsibility and close cooperation among countries of origin, transit and destination. This also means that we must strive to involve more stakeholders: not only national

governments, but also regional and local levels as well as the civil society, diaspora groups and the private sector.

The future Global Compact on safe and regular migration will further strengthen our work on drivers of migration and will help make migration a choice instead of a necessity.

Thank you.