



Partners in Population and Development (PPD)

**An Inter-Governmental Organization
Promoting South-South Cooperation**

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Statement by

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Mr. Chairman

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen

Thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to make a brief statement on behalf of Partners in Population and Development (PPD) at this Forty Sixth session of the Commission. The Partners in Population and Development (PPD), as most of you know, is an intergovernmental organization of 25 developing countries, accounting over 57 % of world population. It was established in line with the recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Programme of Action (PoA), as a southern-led, southern-run Inter-governmental Organization in 1994. Since then, PPD has been relentless in its advocacy efforts in enhancing political will and commitment for Family Planning and Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights and other demographic issues of its member countries, underpinned by its prime mandate of promoting South South Cooperation. PPD's mandate is also to train and deploy global leaders as "Voices of the South", identify and share best practices, broker commodities and reduce regulatory barriers to improve Reproductive Health commodity security, and develop the next generation of population and Reproductive Health leaders from the global south.

I would like to briefly mention here that PPD is fully committed to support the follow-up to ICPD PoA. In support of this commitment, PPD in partnership with the Government of Bangladesh organized an International Inter-Ministerial Conference in November 2012 with the theme "Evidence for Action: South-South collaboration for ICPD beyond 2014" which was attended by over 130 high-level policy-makers from its 25-member countries. The Conference outcome entitled as the Dhaka Declaration, adopted by the PPD member countries represents key commitments and recommendations for a re-invigorated implementation of the ICPD PoA beyond 2014 and post 2015 development agenda. As a follow-up to the Dhaka Conference, PPD would hold the next consultative meeting in the third week of October 2013 to be hosted by the Government of China

Mr. Chairman,

The special theme of this commission on 'international migration' is particularly relevant and timely as it brings into forefront a global phenomenon that confronts most countries of the world. The magnitude of the

phenomenon of international migration is becoming more complex with expanding scope and diverse impact. Global statistics reflect that the number of international migrants has grown from an estimated 155 million in 1990 to 214 million in 2010, an increase by 40% and is expected to continue to rise, which would have significant consequences for both at the countries of origin and host countries. Overtime, migration patterns are also becoming increasingly diverse and most countries are now at the same time countries of origin, destination and transit. Also, International migrants are moving over greater distances than in the past. However, in Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean, a majority of resident migrants continue to originate from within the same region, where PPD's member countries are from. Changing global economic, political, demographic and social conditions affect migratory patterns, composition and size of immigrant population. The combined effect of expanded global mobility, dynamics of migratory patterns and the multi-faceted impact pushed international migration as an issue of policy concern at the national and international fora.

PPD recalls that migration phenomenon was recognized as an important issue in the ICPD PoA which states that "... migrations are an important part of the economic transformations occurring around the world, and they present serious new challenges. Therefore, these issues must be addressed with more emphasis within population and development policies." International migration was gradually integrated as part of UN development agenda at various international conferences and summits culminating in 2006 High Level Dialogue at the General Assembly followed by an informal thematic debate in 2011. These events brought out further evidence that international migration could significantly contribute to poverty reduction provided that global communities work in a spirit of partnership and enhance efforts to protect the rights and strengthen capacities of migrant population . A recent UN report, *Realizing the Future We Want for All*, identified migration as an important demographic trend that will impact the implementation of the post-2015 sustainable development agenda.

PPD would also like to underline with concern that vulnerable groups of migrants, such as migrant women, children, adolescents and youth, undocumented migrants, domestic workers, and temporary and low-skilled migrant workers are widely under-protected, especially with respect to their labor rights, social security, social protection, right to mobility, right to family life, access to justice, health care and other public services.

Mr. Chairman,

PPD urges for migrant responsive policies and wants to reiterate the following major policy options;

- a. Ensure that migrants are considered as agents for sustainable development
- b. Ensure human rights and non-discrimination toward migrants, especially to women and vulnerable groups, and promote social cohesion of communities through equal wages, working conditions, social benefits and protections
- c. Ensure that migration is safe and that adequate protection and assistance are extended to all migrants, in particular to migrants caught in crises
- d. Promote the preservation and portability of social security entitlements, recognition of educational qualifications and development of skills to better match labor supply and demand within and between countries through comprehensive bilateral, regional and multilateral mechanisms
- e. Ensure that migration, which affects many areas of development (e.g. human rights, health, education, rural and urban development, financing for development and disaster risk reduction), is integrated into national and sectoral development policies, strategies and programmes
- f. Strengthen policy adherence at all levels through local, national, regional and global cooperation, including fostering cooperation among origin, transit and destination countries
- g. Establish global partnerships including South-South Cooperation in the post-2015 framework to ensure that migration contributes to equitable and sustainable development.

In closing, PPD wants to express its satisfaction and happy to note that in the process of defining the post-2015 development agenda, a broad consultation on the important linkages between migration and development has already begun. PPD urges to integrate migration fully into this new agenda, with special attention for the most vulnerable population and considering the important contributions of migrants to sustainable development goals.

I thank you for your attention.