

The Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) and the Global Compact on Migration 2017-2018

Third Meeting of the Friends of the Forum

9 October 2017, 14h30-17h30, Salle XVII, Palais des Nations, Geneva

Statement delivered by Vibhu Garg, Counsellor, Partners in Population and Development (PPD)

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Moderator and the Chair
Thank you for giving me the floor.

Partners in Population and Development (PPD), an intergovernmental organization mandated to promote South-South Cooperation welcomes the inclusion of a roundtable on South-South Mobility (South-South Cooperation for South-South Mobility) in response to several calls for inclusion of South-South Cooperation at the 10th GFMD Summit in Berlin.

The 26 member countries of PPD from the Global South represent 60% of the world's population, and the burden of South-South migration far outpaces the impact of South-North migration. Many countries of the Global South are present in the room, and South-South partnerships are key in addressing the implications of migration. There are established mechanisms for promoting South-South Cooperation which are also applicable to addressing the issues of South-South Migration.

The Ministers of Health, Population, and Development of the 26 countries that comprise the PPD Board have outlined *Social cohesion of Migrants* as one of the strategic priorities for PPD's work.

We appreciate that, in principle, it is acknowledged that governments in affected countries must take the lead in planning and response. It is the responsibility of developing countries to define what shape South-South Cooperation should take, and to identify priorities and set the areas of greatest urgency. For example, Yemen mentioned the issue of remittances, while other countries of the Global South identified visa clearance, health, labour and other issues.

We would like to raise the following points for consideration:

- The discussion on South-South Cooperation should not be postponed until December 2018.
- GFMD asked: 'How can GFMD help in consensus building or implementation of the compact?' One way for GFMD to help countries is to take stock of concrete actions implemented between countries (bilateral and multilateral) in priority areas, such as outlined above.
- A common understanding of South-South Cooperation among the developing countries will help take the discussion forward in a coherent and sustainable manner on the stock taking activities in December 2017, and the development of the zero draft in early 2018.

Thank you.