

September 2006, New York)

Madame President,

Distinguished guests,

Dear friends,

For Moldova, migration is indeed a serious source of development and here we come to prove the clear connection between migration and development. That is in fact the title of our dialogue - one of the main conclusions of the Secretary — General Report. We fully share the conclusions of this report and consider the idea to have this High-Level. Dialogue on International. Migration and Development to be an extremely timely one.

In order to get an idea on how strong Moldova is affected by the migration process, it is sufficient to learn. that Moldova's dependence on remittances is the second highest ⁱⁿ the world — at 27 percent of its GDP. Over 80 percent of Moldova's migrants remit funds and. more than 70 percent of these constitute half . of their earnings. According to our official statistics, in 2005 almost *400 thousands* were declared as gone abroad for work, or job seeking, which constitutes 26,6 percent of the total, of our active population.

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