



THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

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Statement H.E. Ambassador Mr. CHOI Young-jin
FORUM UN High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development TOPIC
Migration and Development

DATE 15 September 2006
New York

<Check against Delivery>

Madam President,

It is a great pleasure for me to speak today before the High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development. I would first like to congratulate you, Madam President, on assuming the chairmanship of this important meeting. I would also like to acknowledge with thanks the Secretary-General and Peter Sutherland, the Special Representative on Migration and Development, for their work on this topic.

Madam President,

Migration echoes many of the aspects of globalization. It is indeed, a multi-dimensional, global phenomenon. With almost 200 million international emigrants in the world, it has the potential to reshape the basic structure of societies and to inject the countries of origin and destination with new ideas, input, and energy. A by-product of our interdependence, migration is a testament to our diversity.

As the Secretary-General's report states, the goals

Madam President,

I believe that we cannot maximize the contributions of migrants to societies without enlisting the help of the business community. The business community must recognize the economic potential of migrants, not only in terms of their labour but also as contributors to the expansion of trade and tourism. Therefore, the business community should be actively involved in discussions on the development potential of immigration. Furthermore, various methods to facilitate real partnerships between governments, international organizations, and the private sector have to be considered. In this regard, the case of the Global Compact provides a worthy model of a successful international business partnership.

International cooperation on the issue of migration is also crucial. The recently established Global Migration Group (GMG) should serve to enhance coordination, cooperation and coherence between international organizations working in the field of migration and development. At the same time, we must also embrace regional efforts such as the Bali Process, among others.

Thank you.