Commission on the Status of Women Fiftieth session 27 February-10 March 2006 Agenda item 3 (b): Emerging issues, trends and new approaches to issues affecting the situation of women or equality between women and men

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## **Gender Dimensions of International Migration**

## Note by the Secretariat

## I. Background

1. In his report on the strengthening of the United Nations to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session,<sup>i</sup> the Secretary-General highlighted the importance of focusing more comprehensively on migration, to better understand the causes of international flows of people and their complex interrelationship with development. In its resolution 58/208, on international migration and development, adopted at its fifty-eighth session, the Assembly called upon the United Nations system to continue to address migration issues, including a gender perspective and cultural diversity, within the broader context of the implementation of agreed economic and social development goals and respect for all human rights.

2. At its fifty-eighth session in 2003, the General Assembly decided to devote a high-level dialogue to international migration and development<sup>ii</sup>. The Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session on the organizational details of the high-level dialogue, bearing in mind that, inter alia, the purpose of the high-level dialogue is to discuss the multidimensional aspects of international migration and development in order to identify appropriate ways and means to maximize its development benefits and minimize its negative impacts. The Dialogue should have a strong focus on seventh session, ii , thotimes ve4s

II. Attention to the gender dimensions of international migration

ß Identification of areas where research is needed on the causes of migration of women, impact of migration and ways to enhance the empowering effect of migration, including for women left behind when men migrate as well as for women who migrate.

<sup>v</sup> General Assembly resolution 60/227, paragraph 5, International migration and development

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>i</sup> (A/57/387)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>ii</sup> General Assembly resolution 58/208, International development and migration

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>iii</sup> General Assembly resolution 58/208, paragraph 10 (a) and (b), International migration and development <sup>iv</sup> See report of the Secretary-General "International migration and development, including the question of convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development to address migration issues (A/56/167)

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm vi}$  General Assembly resolution 60/227, paragraph 18, International migration and development  $^{\rm vii}$  Be//