

5 Points for a strong civil society contribution in the 2013 UN High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development

November 15, 2012

As we representatives of Civil Society prepare, in November, for both the Civil Society Days of the Global Forum on Migration and Development in Mauritius involving some 150 civil society networks and organizations, and a World Social Forum on Migration in the Philippines with close to 1000 people from migrant rights organizations, and

As critical stakeholders and partners with governments and international organizations in both global policy-making arenas and programmes on the ground,

Civil Society, in its broadest representation, expects to have a central and integral role in the UN High Level Dialogue in 2013 beyond the limited format of the 2006 HLD. The modalities for Civil Society participation should consist of:

1. **Meaningful participation of civil society in the HLD itself, including:**

1.1 **Credentials** for NGOs, migrant and workers' rights organizations through a roster status, whether or not they currently have UN credentials or have participated in previous UN or GFMD events, and without vetting by governments.

1.2 **Full and active civil society participation** in HLD plenary sessions, with opportunities for civil society to speak in plenary, and with non-governmental participants comprising at least 10% of participants in each roundtable.

2. **Substantive preparatory activities as input to the HLD**

2.1 **Regional civil society preparatory meetings** in the first half of 2013 parallel to regional government preparatory meetings, with support by member states and the UN System.

2.1 A one-day **informal interactive hearing** in 2013 with representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, migrant and worker rights' organizations, to be presided over by the President of the General Assembly.

3. **Appropriate Civil Society coordination and resources**

3.1 A broad **NGO Steering Committee** should be established to coordinate this Civil Society engagement, involving the GFMD Civil Society Coordinating Office, the Global Coalition on Migration, Global Unions, the NGO Committee on Migration and local NY migrant organizations among others. Civil Society, not member states or the UN system, must make decisions regarding their representation through a democratic and transparent process that engages participation from all regions of the world and across sectoral, racial/ethnic, class and gender lines.

3.2 A **trust fund** with contributions from member states, managed by the UN Non-Governmental Liaison Service and/or the NGO Steering Committee, is key to enabling civil society participation—

particularly grassroots migrant and workers' rights organizations and organizations from the global South. This fund would support regional and global preparatory meetings and HLD participation.

Regarding other modality issues currently under debate:

4. We urge a **succinct negotiated outcome document** that can address critical issues of global migration governance and concrete actions for strong HLD outcomes.
5. We urge that the **roundtables** address:
 - Measures to promote and protect the **human rights of all migrants**, including migrants in distress; irregular migrants; and the rights of migrant children
 - **Labour migration** and decent work, including immediate possibilities to address abuses within the recruitment field
 - **Gender and migration**
 - **Migration and development**, including the post-2015 development agenda

We commit to working with governments and the UN System throughout the HLD process and beyond, for effective outcomes that affirms the rights of all migrants and address critical development goals. We will be contributing more on substantive issues at a future date.

International Organizations

Association for Women's Rights in Development, AWID
Building and Woodworkers' International, BWI
Education International
Feminist Task Force of the Global Call Against Poverty
Franciscans International
Global Coalition on Migration, GCM
Global Migration Policy Associates, GMPA
International Catholic Migration Commission, ICMC
International Coordination of Young Christian Workers, ICYCW
International Council of Psychologists
International Federation of Business and Professional Women
International Federation of Social Workers
International Institute Maria Ausiliatrice, IMA
International Network on Migration & Development
International Trade Union Confederation, ITUC
Migrants Rights International, MRI
Research Network for Domestic Workers' Rights
Platform on International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants, PICUM
Poverty Elimination and Community Education/ PEACE Foundation
Public Services International
Solar Cookers International
UNI Global Union
Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund
Women & Global Migration Working Group
World Christian Life Community
World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations
World Organization for Early Childhood Education/ Organisation Mondiale pour l'Education Prescolaire, OMEP

Regional Organizations

Espacio Sin Fronteras – UNASUR Union of South American Nations region
Migrant Forum in Asia, MFA, Asian region
Pan African Network in Defense of Migrants Rights, PANiDMR, African region

National and Local

AME, Association Malienne des Expulsés, Mali
American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations, AFL-CIO, US
BBVA Bancomer Foundation, Mexico
Black Alliance for Just Immigration, BAJI, US
Border Angels, US
BRAC, Bangladesh
Canadian Labour Congress, CLC, Canada
Caritas Sweden
Catholic Migrant Farmworker Network, US
Center for Migrant Advocacy, CMA-Phils, Philippines
Congregation of the Mission, US
Dominican Leadership Conference, US
DRUM- Desis Rising Up & Moving, US
The Episcopal Church, US
Filipino Advocates for Justice, FAJ, US
Franciscan Action Network, US
Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters, USA
Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights, CLUE-CA, US
KISA – Action for Equality, Support, Antiracism, Cyprus
Leadership Conference of Women Religious, US
Loretto Community, US
Migrants Rights Network, UK
National Alliance of Latin and Caribbean Communities, NALACC, US
National Network for Immigrant & Refugee Rights, NNIRR, US
Philippine Women's Network, Babaylan, Denmark
Priority Africa Network, PAN, US
Progressive Women in Europe for Development and Empowerment, PWEDE
Rehabilitation and Development Organization for Landless, RADOL
SHEBA U.S.A.
Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, US
Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, US
Sisters of the Most Precious Blood Gospel Justice Committee, US
Society of Catholic Medical Missionaries, US
Transient Workers Count Too, TWC2, Singapore
Unitarian Universalist Association, US
United Methodist Women, US
VAMOS Unidos, US
Warbe Development Foundation, Bangladesh
WIMLER Foundation, Hong Kong