

DSG (w encl.)



June 26, 2013

Honorable Jan Eliasson
Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations
2 United Nations Plaza
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Eliasson:

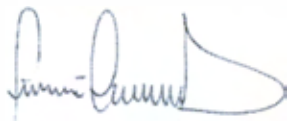
(Rev. related coslog 13-03698)

Allow me to thank you and The United Nations, both personally and on behalf of the Scalabrini International Migration Network (SIMN) for your meaningful contribution at the IV International Forum on Migration and Peace held in New York City on June 20 and 21, 2013. Your participation during the Opening Remarks had a significant impact on the success of the Forum.

In these brief but intense two days, we continued the debates initiated by the Forum in Antigua (Guatemala), Bogotá (Colombia), and Mexico City (Mexico) exploring new perspectives that allow Migration to be seen as a phenomenon inherent to human history and that requires an ethical commitment from governments and civil society organizations, resulting in the definition and implementation of comprehensive policies and concrete programs to ensure the dignity and rights of migrants and their families. The depth of the discussions and the sincere and courageous commitment that participants have shown in finding and defining solutions as well as concrete actions to promote the ethical commitment of governments and civil society actors at the local, national and international levels, allows SIMN and the International Forum on Migration and Peace to formulate a fraternal bond that, day by day, takes on a greater force: the making for consciousness of the need for collaboration with joint and indivisible responsibility between states, regional and international organizations, civil society actors, migrants and each and every one of the members of this ever-growing family that embraces the International Forum on Migration and Peace. Only together, working in coordination and conscious of our individual and collective responsibility, will we be able to build a truly civil society in which harmonious and peaceful coexistence integrates everyone, including migrants, the different, the "other", and ensures full visibility and dignity to every human being.

SIMN reiterates its gratitude for your participation and commitment to working toward the promotion and effective establishment of human security, human development and the international governance on migration.

Sincerely yours,



Fr. Leonir Chiarello
Executive Director
Scalabrini International Migration Network (SIMN)

PS: Please find attached the Final Declaration of New York.



GR/11/004

**DECLARATION FROM THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON
MIGRATION AND PEACE (IN NEW YORK CITY)**

**Human Security, Human Development and International Governance of Migration:
A Statement by Participating Governments and Civil Society Organizations at the
Local, National and International Levels**

The participants in the Fourth International Forum on Migration and Peace, held in New York City on June 20 and 21, 2013; its sponsor and convenor, the Scalabrini International Migration Network; its co-organizer, the Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations; its consultant, the Mayor's Office on Immigration Affairs of New York; in collaboration with the Center for Migration Studies of New York (CMS), the New York Law School, the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, the Humanity-Without-Borders Foundation, Western Union, the Marin Media Group, the Scalabrini Communication Center; the Missionaries of Saint Charles, Scalabrinians; Government institutions, foundations and civil society organizations that collaborated in organizing the Forum; as well as other participating institutions and individuals that participated in this event;

In continuation of the process that began in 2009 in Antigua, Guatemala, where we considered the theme, *Borders, Walls or Bridges?*, continuing in 2010 in Bogotá, Colombia, where we discussed, *New Perspectives on Citizenship and Democracy* and in 2011 in Mexico City, where we took up *Safe International Migration*;

In recognition of the potential of migration to contribute to human security and human development, and to promote the common good and peaceful coexistence of all people;

Considering that:

1. The inherent dignity and rights of every human being – regardless of their immigration status – should be promoted and respected by all governments, civil society organizations and international organizations;
2. Human insecurity and lack of development, along with social instability, inequality, economic disparities, natural disasters, armed conflicts, and institutional and political weaknesses, are the main causes of forced international migration;

3. Notwithstanding, the significant contribution of migrants to the development of sending and receiving countries, negative and misguided perceptions of migration are being used to justify and implement restrictive policies and legal barriers to international migration;
4. Despite comprehensive legal frameworks and extensive institutional responses, most migrants are at risk of abuse, exploitation, violence and discrimination;
5. The different initiatives promoted by the international community to address relevant aspects of international migration and development, such as the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD), regional processes and other cooperation initiatives, reflect the progressive acknowledgement of the limits of a strictly national approach to migration governance and the importance of international cooperation between governments and of collaboration with civil society representatives in order to foster coherent, comprehensive and rights-based governance of migration at national, bilateral and international levels;
6. Migrants are actively involved in generating conditions for human and sustainable development and are key actors in promoting international peaceful coexistence, by becoming bridges of communication and intercultural exchange, as well as contributors to the economic, political, social and cultural development of both host and origin communities;

We commit ourselves to:

7. Promoting a shift in the perception of international migration from a threat to an opportunity.
8. Developing a coherent and comprehensive approach to international migration which honors human security and development and which affords migration a prominent role in the United Nations post-2015 development agenda;
9. Directing our joint efforts to tackle the root causes of forced migration, including eradication of poverty, creation of decent jobs, and promotion of human security and human development;
10. Promoting concrete actions –by a joint effort and with a sense of shared responsibility among political and social actors– to help eradicate all forms of violence that cause migration and violence against migrants, as well as all forms of

racism, xenophobia, discrimination, and abuse in societies of migrant origin, transit, and destination;

11. Contributing with governments, international organizations and civil society organizations to create synergies between migration policies and development processes, in order to maximize the development benefits of international migration both in the sending and receiving countries;
12. Promoting the respect of human, political, economic, social and cultural rights of migrants and their families, regardless of their migration status;
13. Urging governments at local, national and international levels to commit themselves to defining and implementing public policies and programs on migration that will protect the dignity and rights of migrants and their families and to ensure the safety of migrants;
14. Highlighting the opportunity presented by the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (HLD) to give political guidance to the United Nations System in addressing international migration through a comprehensive, coherent and balanced approach with a person-centered focus;
15. Ensuring a substantive and meaningful result from the HLD that demonstrates the commitment of the UN Member States to integrate the issue of international migration into the post-2015 development agenda.



Fw: Thank you for your participation in the Opening Remarks of the IV Forum on Migration and Peace

SGCentral to: Margaret King

Sent by: Jill Annitto

26/06/2013 10:00 AM

----- Forwarded by Pim Valdre/NY/UNO on 26/06/2013 09:58 AM -----

From: Leonir Mario Chiarello <leonirchiarello@gmail.com>
To: valdrep@un.org,
Cc: montiell@un.org
Date: 26/06/2013 09:49 AM
Subject: Thank you for your participation in the Opening Remarks of the IV Forum on Migration and Peace

Dear Dear Mr. Eliasson:

I would like to thank you and The United Nations, both personally and on behalf of the Scalabrini International Migration Network (SIMN) for your meaningful contribution at the IV International Forum on Migration and Peace held in New York City on June 20 and 21, 2013.

Your participation during the Opening Remarks had a significant impact on the success of the Forum.

Please find attached the thank you letter as well as the Final Declaration of the IV International Forum on Migration and Peace.

Sincerely

Leonir Chiarello
Executive Director
Scalabrini International Migration Network
10014 New York, NY
Tel. 212-675-3993
Email: advocacy@simn-cs.net
www.scalabrinimigration.org



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