



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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from :	General Secretariat of the Council
to:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject :	Policy Coherence for Development: draft Council Conclusions on Migration for Development

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1. The Presidency submitted the above draft Conclusions on Migration for Development, in relation with the issue of the Policy Coherence for Development. The objective of the draft Conclusions is to identify a number of challenges relating to Policy Coherence for Development (PCD), to be addressed by the Commission and the Member States. The Conclusions constitute an input to the PCD work programme where "Making Migration work for Development" is one of the five priorities, and also aim at reinforce the implementation of the Global Approach in this area.

The draft Council Conclusions were considered by the High Level Group on Asylum and Migration at its meeting on 26-27 October. The Group reached agreement on the text as set out in the Annex to this Note.

2. The Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to confirm the agreement reached on the draft Conclusions, in view of submitting them to the Council (Justice and Home Affairs) for approval and to the GAERC for adoption.

**Policy Coherence for Development**  
**Draft Council Conclusions on Migration for Development**

1. The Council recalls the Commission's Communication on Policy Coherence for Development (PCD) of April 2005, the subsequent Council Conclusions of May 2005, the European Consensus on Development of December 2005, the Council Conclusions on Coherence between EU Migration and Development Policies of November 2007, as well as the Council Conclusions of May 2008 focusing on climate change, energy, biofuels, migration and research.
2. The Council welcomes the submission of the second report on Policy Coherence for Development building upon the findings and recommendations of the first biennial report in 2007, as well as the work underway to prepare for a new PCD work programme aiming for a more focused, operational and results-oriented approach to PCD in the EU.
3. The Conclusions below focus specifically on policy coherence with regard to migration for development and are based in part on the outstanding issues identified in the aforementioned second report on Policy Coherence for Development. These conclusions constitute an input to the PCD work programme where 'Making Migration Work for Development' is one of five priorities.
4. The Council underlines that migration and mobility, if managed well, can benefit countries of origin and transit and the migrants themselves, help reduce poverty in developing countries and contribute directly or indirectly to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.
5. The Council notes with satisfaction the progress that has been made within the framework of the EU's Global Approach to Migration in reinforcing dialogue with third countries on migration and development issues and in strengthening the management of migration flows in a spirit of genuine partnership and shared responsibility, while further integrating mutual migration concerns and challenges in cooperation and partnerships with these countries. The Council underlines the importance of a balanced implementation of the Global Approach.

In light of the above, and with a view toward building on the progress made so far, the Commission and the Member States commit themselves to address the following challenges in terms of PCD in the area of migration:

6. to continue to strengthen the implementation of the migration and development agenda of the Global Approach to Migration, such as promoting the positive synergies between migration and development within the frameworks of the Mobility Partnership and Cooperation Platform instruments.
7. to organise legal immigration and mobility options for nationals of developing countries who seek learning opportunities and legal employment in the EU, while taking into account the priorities, labour market situations and reception capacities of Member States, respecting Member States' national competences and the principle of Community preference.
8. to further examine issues which may have the potential to facilitate circular migration and voluntary return, such as portability of social rights, migrants' opportunities to return to their countries of origin for longer periods of time without losing their right to residence in countries of destination as well as the promotion of viable livelihood options in countries of origin.
9. to strengthen dialogue and cooperation with Diaspora groups and migrant organisations, encourage contacts between migrants and their countries of origin, and to support migrant networks at the European level.
10. to promote transparent, cheaper, faster and more secure flows of remittances to migrants' countries of origin, and to ensure that relevant legislation does not contain provisions hampering the effective use of legal remittances channels.

11. to combat “brain drain” by applying relevant codes of conduct on ethical recruitment, by assisting developing countries with the development of human resource strategies and the promotion of a safe and attractive work environment, by facilitating the temporary and permanent return of migrants as well as their reintegration and by supporting cooperation in areas such as local employment, education and vocational training.
12. to seek to make further progress in the definition and implementation of a common approach to migrants’ rights, so as to strengthen coherence of European migration policy with employment, integration, development, social, human rights and other policies that influence the development outcome of migration.
13. to promote gender balance in EU migration policies and programmes.

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