

To:

Co-Facilitators for the Ministerial Declaration of the 2021 High Level Political Forum (HLPF)
Amb. Jukka Salovaara, Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations
Amb. Mohammed Hussein Bahr Aluloom, Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations

President of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)
Amb. Munir Akram, Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations

23 June 2021

Due Recognition for Migrants and Migration in the 2021 HLPF Ministerial Declaration

Dear Excellencies,

As a global civil society platform engaged in migration governance and policy, our members around the world unequivocally advocate for the critical importance of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Accordingly, we thank you for your continued work in co-facilitating the drafting of the Ministerial Declaration of the high-level segment of the 2021 session of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the high-level political forum on sustainable development (HLPF).

We have observed the ongoing informal consultations on the current draft Declaration, and appreciate the efforts and challenges inherent in the negotiations of such a document. However, upon review of the [third draft Declaration](#) dated 15 June 2021, we regrettably note a minimal reference to migration and migrants in the draft Declaration. While we welcome the new text in para. 17 on the contributions of migrants and the inclusion of migrants in COVID-19 recovery, these are inadequate given that SDG 10 (reduce inequality within and among countries) is under review, which includes Target 10.7 “**facilitate orderly, safe and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies.**” Failure to adequately recognize migrants in the Declaration, excludes the [281 million people who live outside their countries of origin](#).

For the due recognition of migrants and migration according to Target 10.7 as well as the many other migration-related goals and targets, **we call for a distinct paragraph on migrants**, similar to para. 29 on refugees. Such a paragraph should recognize **the critical role that migration plays towards the sustainable development of countries of origin, transit, and destination, call upon all Member States to institute and implement policy measures to achieve Target 10.7 in a cooperative and comprehensive manner, and uphold the human rights of migrants, in a gender-responsive manner and regardless of migration status.**

Accordingly, we refer to the text proposed by the delegation of Mexico in the last round of informal consultations, as an example of such a paragraph:

“We reaffirm the importance to cooperate internationally to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration, recognizing the positive contributions of migrants to inclusive growth and sustainable development in their countries of origin, transit and destination, and to the response and recovery to the crisis caused by COVID-19. In this regard, we recall that the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration, provides a cooperative framework that is rooted in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and builds upon the recognition that migration is a multidimensional reality of major relevance for the sustainable development of countries of origin, transit and destination, which requires coherent and comprehensive responses. We welcome the reports of Member States that have instituted a comprehensive set of policy measures to facilitate safe, orderly and regular migration and mobility of people, and invite those who have not done so to institute them, while ensuring full respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, regardless of their migration status, and supporting countries of origin, transit and destination in the spirit of international cooperation.”

(Based on PP11, A/RES/75/226), A2030 10.7, Paragraph 16 GCM & para 122, SDG Progress Report and OP3 of A/RES/75/226)

Excellencies, we appeal for your utmost efforts to include these or other similar proposed texts that give due recognition of migrants and migration in the final draft Declaration, and we urge you to take into consideration the views of the vast majority of Member States towards this in the spirit of achieving an ambitious outcome of the 2021 ECOSOC session and the 2021 HLPF. We look forward to any further cooperation and support we can provide towards those efforts.

Thank you.

The Civil Society Action Committee
www.CSactioncommittee.org

