

## FACTSHEET

# Global Forum on Migration and Development Business Mechanism *at a glance*

The **Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD)** is the key international forum to address migration and development interconnections, with a focus on action. It is an informal, non-binding, voluntary and government-led process that reflects the progressive acknowledgement of the value of multilateral approaches to migration and development. Bangladesh chairs the 2016 GFMD.

From the outset, GFMD has incorporated civil society; however there has been no systematic incorporation of business, despite its growing role and relevance for migration and development. The **GFMD Business Mechanism**, endorsed at the 2015 GFMD Summit in Istanbul, brings the voice of business to the forum. There is clearly a mutual interest between governments, the private sector, and civil society, to promote more transparent, effective and humane migration policies, taking into accounts labour market needs. The International Organisation of Employers (IOE) and the World Economic Forum Global Agenda Council on Migration (WEF GACM) coordinate the work of the GFMD Business mechanism. Together they form the Business Advisory Group. A GFMD Business Secretariat is housed at the IOE.

“Migration fuels economic growth, making a social and economic contribution to the host countries.”

Linda Kromjong, Secretary-General,  
International Organisation of Employers (IOE)



“All stakeholders could benefit from including the private sector in the discussion on migration.”

Khalid Koser, Chairman, WEF Global Agenda Council on  
Migration (WEF GACM)

## **FIVE MIGRATION POLICY ISSUES of relevance to the private sector:**

- Need for workforce mobility
  - Matching skills to labour market needs
    - Fair recruitment and decent work
      - Integration and social welfare
        - Public discourse, perception and attitude

## **SIX OBJECTIVES of the GFMD Business Mechanism:**

- I. Mobilising business federations from around the world to engage on migration issues
- II. Raising the awareness of business federations on the work of the GFMD
- III. Carrying out surveys and studies on best practices on business and migration issues
- IV. Organising a mid-year GFMD Thematic business meeting
- V. Participating and actively contributing to the GFMD Summit meeting, common space and civil society days
- VI. Advocating for business and migration positions in order to promote sound migration policies that take into account economic perspectives

## **ONE OVERARCHING GOAL driving our engagement:**

A regulatory environment where labour migration policies support businesses by creation and development, building competitiveness and resilience, and hence playing the key role in society by creating decent jobs and wealth.

## **How to get involved?**

The GFMD Business Mechanism is open to all IOE member federations. Companies are encouraged to participate and provide input to the discussions by actively engaging with the Business Advisory Group.



“Businesses seek migration policies that are transparent, coherent and predictable, based on objective standards.”

Austin Fragomen, Chairman, Business Advisory Group