

Nauru Intervention (For Interpreter purpose only)

Thank you Madam Chair for this opportunity to share with this august forum some observations made thus far. I also congratulate you on your ascension to the chair. As a member of the Pacific Region, Nauru and our other Pacific brothers and sisters know all too well the importance of regional cooperation and an inclusive and consultative governance system with regards to migration.

As the Asia Pacific region, we share the universal migration issues that we have heard throughout discussion however there remains the requirement for further insight into more specific areas of concerns. As Pacific islanders, climate change is only one major facet of the migration discussion, and as diverse as every region is, the Pacific is no exception.

Nauru would like to contribute to this discussion by ensuring that going forward matters of cooperation and governance is consultative and focused on not only durable solutions but sustainable solutions. Sustainability is a vital element of any arrangement. Not only must solutions endure, they must add value to the lives of the effected individuals and the community in which they are being implemented for it to be successful and this can only be done through an inclusive and consultative process. If we are tasked with the important responsibility of bettering the experience of migrants, refugees or asylum seekers, we must open ourselves to hear their story, to know their concerns, and to acknowledge their experience in decisions we make.

We cannot only talk to matters of economic development, we must avail ourselves to the other perspectives of those who have a different experience in the space. Without their contribution, the final outcome would not be holistic. For example, Nauru with a population of approximately 9000 has processed, protected and settled over 900 refugees and over 140 asylum seekers from over 20 countries in the World. Nauru as a temporary settlement country continues to look for pathways with the global community for resettlement options, with Nauru even exploring alternative resettlement solutions through a labour based resettlement platform. Through our participation in the Bali Process, we have raised these efforts to both governmental and non-governmental agencies.

It is clear that particularly for the Pacific region there is a request for more information about the issues that affect us along the lines of migration. Madam Chair, these very questions represent the foundation for an opportunity for more consultative efforts and Pacific centric support so as to ensure that the Pacific is not left behind in the overall objective of this program.

Thank you.