



*Parliamentarians for Global Action
Acción Mundial de Parlamentarios
Action Mondiale des Parlementaires*



**PGA 29th Annual Forum
in Collaboration with the Senate of Nigeria**

Poverty & Unemployment: The Root Causes of Migration

Abuja, Nigeria

12-13 November 2007

ECOWAS Parliament

With Kind Support from:

*Senate of Nigeria, Department of Foreign Affairs of Ireland, Islamic Development Bank (IDB),
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), United Nations Population Fund
(UNFPA), UNAIDS-Pakistan and Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations**

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Forum Agenda

November 12, 2007

MORNING

10:00AM National Anthem of Nigeria

Welcome Address by Chair of PGA International Council and Acting President, Mr. Ross Robertson, MP (New Zealand)

Keynote Address by President of the Nigerian Senate, Senator David Mark

A Brief Address and Formal Opening of the Forum by His Excellency, H.E. Umaru Musa Yar'Adua, GCFR, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

Vote of Thanks by Chairman of PGA Nigerian National Group, Senator Bassey Ewa-Henshaw

11:15AM WORKING SESSION

Opening Remarks by Chair of PGA Nigeria National Group, Senator Bassey Ewa-Henshaw

Opening Remarks by Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Finance on behalf of Minister of Finance, Dr. Shamsuddeen Usman

11:30AM Panel I - Identifying Root Causes of Migration and Immigration - General Context

Chair: Hon. Ross Robertson, MP (New Zealand), Chair of PGA International Council

- Current Trends of International Migration
- Economic Refugees - Extreme Poverty and Migration
- Labour Migrants - Factors in the Choice to Migrate
- Vicious Cycle: Brain Drain, Poor Services and Migration
- The International Legal Order - Overview of Relevant Regional and International Treaties/Conventions

Panelists

Mr. Ibrahim Sorie, MP (Sierra Leone), PGA Executive Committee Member

Ms. Riffat Javaid Kahlon, MP (Pakistan)

Senator Victor Ndoma Egba (Nigeria)

Senator (Ms.) Iyabo Obasanjo Bello (Nigeria)

Discussion Session

12:45PM Panel II - Migration and Sustainable Development - Elements for Mutual Benefit

Chair: Hon. Hashim Abdul Halim, MP (India), Speaker, West Bengal Legislative Assembly and Chairman of the Executive Committee (Commonwealth Parliamentary Association)

- Migration, International Labor Markets and Growth
- Regional Perspectives and Experiences of Migration and Development
- Promoting a Virtuous Cycle: Skills, Education and Employment

Panelists

Ms. Minou Tavárez Mirabal, MP (Dominican Republic), PGA Executive Committee Member

Ms. Fatima Nagdee-Hajaig, MP (South Africa), PGA International Council Member

Ms. Ermelinda Meksi, MP (Albania), PGA International Council Member

Mr. Pashupati Rana, MP (Nepal)

Discussion Session

2:00PM LUNCH

AFTERNOON

**3:00PM Panel III - A. Transnational Governance for Migration - Strategies for Partnership
B. The Impact and Utility of Remittances**

Chair: Senator Raynell Andreychuk (Canada), PGA Executive Committee Member

- Alliances with Diaspora Groups, NGOs, IFIs and International Organizations
- Building on the Foundations of Home Associations
- Learning Lessons from Programs Such as TOKTEN, MIDA and NEPAD
- Remittances at the Micro-and Macro-Levels: Formal and Informal Methods of Sending

Panelists

Mr. Richard Adams (World Bank)

Ms. Patricia Dvoracek, Sr. Adviser- Migratory Issues (Embassy of Switzerland to Nigeria)

Ms. Katrina Liswani, Head of Labor Employment and Migration (African Union)

Mr. Edward Ofori-Kuragu, MP (Ghana)

Dr. Dwaine Plaza (Oregon State University)

Mr. Manuel de Araujo, MP (Mozambique)

Discussion Session

**5:00PM Panel IV – A. Origin Country Strategies - Policies and Program for Employment
B. Host Country Strategies – Policies and Programs for Labour Markets**

Chair: Mr. David Oppon-Kusi, MP (Ghana)

- Education and Public Services
- Promoting Equitable Growth
- Employment Case Studies: India's NREGA and the US New Deal
- Employee Recruitment Programs (Role of Government and Private Sector)
- Refining and Enforcing Labour Laws and Labour Organizations

Panelists

*Senator Bassey Ewa-Henshaw (Nigeria), PGA Executive Committee Member
Mr. MJ Nolan, MP (Ireland), PGA Executive Committee Member
Hon. Harry Duynhoven, MP (New Zealand), Secretary of PGA Stichting
Mr. Remo Gysin (Switzerland), PGA International Council Member
Mr. Naveed Qamar, MP (Pakistan), PGA Executive Committee Member
Mr. K.S. Rao, MP (India)*

Discussion Session

8:00PM: PGA Defender of Democracy Awards Dinner

November 13, 2007

MORNING

9:15AM Panel V – Migration and HIV/AIDS

Chair: Dr. Javid Hussain, MP (Pakistan), Chairman of National Forum for HIV/AIDS

- AIDS Prevention Programme for Migrant Workers Going Abroad
- Labor Policy for Destination Country Employers
- Access to Reproductive Health Facilities for Female Migrants & PPTCT
- Access to Services For Returning HIV+ Migrant Workers

Panelists

*Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga, (Sri Lanka) Provincial Health Minister – Western Province
Mrs. Angèle Tabu Makusi, MP (Democratic Republic of Congo)
Mr. Jesudas Seelam, MP (India)
Dr. Salah Abdulrahman, MP (Bahrain)
Dr. Akudo Ikpazu, Relationship Manager, National AIDS Control Programme (Nigeria)*

Discussion Session

10:15AM Coffee Break

10:30AM Panel VI - Migration & Human Rights

Chair: Ms. Marie Norden, MP (Sweden), PGA International Council Member

- What Human Rights are Migrant Rights? A Survey of Existing International Treaties
- The General Agreement in Trade and Services (GATS) & ILO Conventions - protecting Migrant Worker rights
- Forced Migration – Eliminating the scourge of Human Trafficking

Panelists

Hon. (Dr.) Bhofal Chambers, MP (Liberia)

Dr. Ruth Wijdenbosch, MP (Suriname), PGA Executive Committee Member

Ms. Nursyahbani Katjasungkana, MP (Indonesia)

Senator Maria Perceval (Argentina), PGA Executive Committee Member

Prof. Kofo Makinwa Adebusoye, Expert, African Union

Dr. Temiebi Agary, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Labour-Nigeria

1:15PM LUNCH

AFTERNOON

2:15PM Panel VII – Abuja Parliamentary Plan of Action Drafting Session and Adoption

Chair: Mr. M.J. Nolan, MP (Ireland), PGA Executive Committee Member and Rapporteur: Mr. Peter Barcroft, Senior Programme Officer, PGA

4:00PM Closing Remarks

Senator Bassey Ewa-Henshaw (Nigeria), PGA Executive Committee Member

4:30PM Press Conference

7:00-8:00PM Reception hosted by President of the Nigerian Senate, Senator David Mark