International Seminar: Migration and Communication: Re-balancing information flows and dialogue

Helsinki, 13 October 2011

Programme

Venue: Great Hall of the Old Student House (Vanha), Mannerheimintie 3 b

Organisers: the Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the global news agency IPS-Inter Press Service

9:00 Opening Statements:

- Heidi Hautala, Minister for International Development, Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs
- William Lacy Swing, Director General, IOM
- Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, President of the United Nations General Assembly
- Federico Mayor, Chair of the Board of Directors, IPS

9:45 First panel and debate: "Migration and environment: best practices communicating about water and population pressures"

Moderator: Alexis Kouros, Editor-in-chief, Helsinki Times

- Rene Castro, Minister of Environment, Energy and Telecommunications, Costa Rica
- Christiane Kuptsch, Senior Specialist in Migration Policy, ILO
- Vikram Kolmannskog, Climate Change Consultant, Norwegian Refugee Council

10:45 Coffee break

11:15 Second panel and debate: “Public perceptions of migrants and migration: how to communicate better”

Moderator: Katri Merikallio, Journalist, Suomen Kuvalehti- Magazine

- Gervais Appave, Special Policy Adviser to the Director General, Editor, World Migration report 2011; IOM Geneva
- Laila Al Shaikhli, Journalist, Al Jazeera
- Kristina Stenman, Director, Integration Unit, Department of Immigration, Ministry of Interior of Finland.
- Marc Scheuer, Director, UN Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC)
- Clement Daniels, Media Ombudsman of Namibia.

12:45 Conclusions

- Peter Schatzer, Chief of Staff, IOM
- Mario Lubetkin, Director General, IPS

13:00 End of seminar