

PRESS RELEASE

G-15 emphasizes need to address international migration in a holistic and comprehensive manner

Sri Lanka's Permanent Representative to the UN in Geneva and the Chairman of the Personal Representatives of the Group of Fifteen (G-15), Ambassador Ravinatha Aryasinha told the IOM Council that “it is important that international migration be a part of the global economic discourse and development paradigm” as it is a “cross-cutting issue that involves all areas of human rights, labour, health, economy and education, among others”. The Ambassador said that “the multi-disciplinary nature of migration should lead to the establishment of a world-wide strategy to look into innovative multilateral cooperation with a view to achieving sustainable solutions.”

Ambassador Aryasinha made these observations when he delivered a joint statement at the 103rd Session of the Council of the International Organization for Migration in Geneva on 28 November 2013, on behalf of G-15, a Summit Level Group of Developing Countries comprising 17 Member States - Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran, Jamaica, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Venezuela and Zimbabwe.

Migration and Development is one of the four new thematic areas of focus for the Group decided by the Foreign Ministers of G-15 in their 36th Annual Meeting in New York on 27 September 2013 along with Intellectual Property, Renewable Energy and Information Communication Technology for Development. This was G-15's first-ever Joint Statement at IOM following its first joint statement made at WIPO on 22 November 2013.