

DECLARATION OF THE THIRD DIASPORA DEVELOPMENT DIALOGUE (DDD 3)

At the Third Diaspora Development Dialogue (DDD 3) organised by ADEPT, VIDC and RadioAfrika TV on 30 September 2015 in Venna, Austria, the 200 delegates representing African Diaspora Development Organisations (ADDOs), European and African civil society organisations, international development agencies and governments agreed to:

1. REAFFIRM our conviction that there is a positive nexus between migration and socioeconomic development for migrants, as well as host, transit and origin countries; and re-state our commitment to pursuing progressive, strategic and innovative ways to maximise the benefits of migration. Our strategic and positive approach to migration and development shall continue irrespective of the occurrence of refugee and migration related crises;
2. REAFFIRM our commitment to the collective obligations and responsibilities expressed in international agreements and conventions relating to human rights, refugee protection, migration and development; and resolve that occasional and ongoing refugee and migration related crises will not cause us to be distracted or detracted from our strategic commitments and obligations, or to reverse our progressive actions, programmes and initiatives in the field of migration and development;
3. CONDEMN all forms of media and public vilification of refugees and migrants and the criminalisation of irregular migrants through legislative actions; and we consider such acts of vilification and criminalisation as retrogressive and repugnant to the maintenance of human rights and dignity;
4. CONDEMN discrimination against migrants and refugees based on religion and ethnicity; oppose the acts and processes which play one set of migrants and refugees against another; and resolve to promote peace-building and intercultural exchange and friendship;
5. URGE governments, municipal authorities and public institutions to be purposeful and diligent in building and maintaining strategic capacity to effectively manage sudden, involuntary and urgent movements of large numbers of people due civil disorder, conflict and/or natural disasters; and resolve to support resilience planning through the creation of appropriate early warning systems, capabilities, capacities, structures and organisational processes to manage migration related crises at local, national, regional and international levels;
6. URGE governments and international development agencies to provide financial, technical and other relevant support to migrant, diaspora and civil society organisations, to expand and enhance their medium and longer term development interventions which tackle the root causes of migration related crises in Africa and other parts of the developing world;
7. URGE the European Union, the African Union, governments, international organisations and other development stakeholders to engage and involve ADEPT in formal processes, negotiations, deliberations, meetings and summits relating directly or indirectly to migration, diasporas and development.

This Declaration was made on 30 September 2015 in Vienna, Austria.