

Dear Ambassador,

I would like to invite representatives from the parliamentary/legislative branch of your government to participate in an **OECD High-level Parliamentary Seminar on International Migration** which will take place at the OECD headquarters in Paris on 22 February from 9.30 to 17.30 pm.

This seminar will be an opportunity for the OECD Secretariat to have an exchange of views with parliamentary/legislative representatives on various aspects of international migration, notably, recent developments, economic impact, managing migration, integration of immigrants and a developing country perspective. The presentations will draw on recent OECD reports such as the *International Migration Outlook 2006*, *Where Labour Immigrant Students Succeed (PISA)*, *From Immigration to Integration*, *Effects of Migration on Sending Countries*, and other work.

Close to three million long-term migrants enter OECD countries legally every year, not including unauthorised movements. The number of temporary seasonal and contract workers has been increasing over the past ten years as OECD countries continue to recruit temporary foreign workers.

More workers are likely to be needed in the future due to ageing populations and falling interest in certain occupations in OECD countries such as sciences and building trades. This will only be possible if past and current immigrants are seen to be integrating without difficulty in the host country. Immigrant performance on the labour market, however, for both past and recent arrivals in many countries and even for their offspring is not as favourable as in the past.

Governments are faced with the task of achieving a balance between openness to international migration with the hope of attracting the required skills to satisfy domestic needs, firmness in managing migration inflows to demonstrate to public opinion and to potential migrants that unauthorised movements are not tolerated, and the implementation of effective policies to ensure immigrant integration. To do this requires getting the right mix of selected and non-selected migrants, of temporary and permanent migrants, of high-skilled and low-skilled, and more generally of openness and control.

I would be very grateful if you could inform Meggan Dissly, Manager, Parliamentary Relations [meggan.dissly@oecd.org; Tel: 33 1 45 24 80 94] or Theodora Kotsira [<mailto:theodora.kotsira@oecd.org>; Tel 33 1 45 24 96 57] of those parliamentary/legislative representatives from your country who would like to participate in this seminar.

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OECD

OECD HIGH-LEVEL PARLIAMENTARY SEMINAR

International Migration - challenges and prospects

22 February, 2007

DRRAFT PROGRAMME

- 9.00 – 9.30 Welcome coffee
- 9.30 – 10.00 Opening remarks
- 10.00 – 11.00 Overview of recent developments in migration movements and policies
Economic impact of migration in OECD countries
- 11.00 – 12.30 Managing migration – systems in place, main challenges and future prospects
- 12.30 – 14.00 Lunch
- 14.00 – 15.30 Integration of immigrants – education and labour market outcomes
- 15.30 – 17.00 International migration – a developing country perspective
- 17.00 – 17.30 Closing remarks