



**GROUP OF FIFTEEN**  
The Summit Level Group of Developing Countries

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **The Group of Fifteen urges for a further political and public recognition of the positive contribution of migration to development.**

On 26 November 2014, during the 105<sup>th</sup> Session of the Council of the International Organization for Migration in Geneva, Ms. Samantha Jayasuriya, Chargé d’Affaires of the Sri Lanka Mission in Geneva delivered the Group of Fifteen’s (G-15) Joint Statement on behalf of Ambassador Ravinatha Aryasinha, Sri Lanka's Permanent Representative to the UN in Geneva and Chairman of the Personal Representatives of the G-15. In the statement, she drew attention to the positive impact of international migration flows in the development of countries of origin, transit and destination. In addition, she highlighted international migration should be incorporated to the global economic discourse and development paradigm, given its cross-cutting and multidimensional reality involving all areas of human rights, labor, health, economy and education.

Ms. Samantha Jayasuriya said “international migration should be approached in a holistic and comprehensive manner, with the participation of relevant stakeholders, based simultaneously on the defense of the human rights of migrants and on the developmental paradigm of migration that is sensitive to the national circumstances of countries of origin, transit and destination, and one that seeks to maximize the mutually beneficial nature of international migration.” She added: “the multi-disciplinary nature of migration should lead to the establishment of a worldwide strategy to look into innovative multilateral cooperation with a view to achieving sustainable solutions.”

Established as a Summit Level group of developing countries in 1989, following the conclusion of the Ninth Non-Aligned Summit gathering in Belgrade, the G-15 comprises 17 developing countries from Asia, Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean<sup>1</sup>. The aims and objectives of the Group are to harness the latent potential of the member states for mutually beneficial cooperation, besides serving as a forum for the conduct of regular consultations in pursuance of their common agenda.

This was G-15’s second Joint Statement at the Council of the International Organization for Migration. This year G-15 delivered a total of six Joint Statements, which included Joint Statements at the 67<sup>th</sup> World Health Assembly; 13<sup>th</sup> Session of WIPO’s Committee on

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<sup>1</sup> Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran, Jamaica, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Venezuela and Zimbabwe.

Development and Intellectual Property; the High-Level Segment of WSIS+10; the 103<sup>rd</sup> International Labour Conference in Geneva; and the 61<sup>st</sup> Session of UNCTAD's Trade and Development Board.

**The Secretariat of Group Fifteen:  
Geneva: .....2014**