UN AoC Third Annual Forum, Rio

May 27, 2010

11.30 Session

Info note

AoC/IOM Online Community on Migration and Integration

The UNAoC aims at improving integration prospects of migrants worldwide, from the perspective of improving understanding and cooperation among peoples of different cultures and countering extremism. As the leading international organization for migration, IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits both migrants and society. The two organizations are working in partnership on the establishment of an Online Community on Migration and Integration, which will profile positive experiences of integration of migrants around the world and highlight good practices implemented by a variety of stakeholders.

We invite you to contribute in building the content of the Online Community and to promote integration practices across the world. We offer you to become a part of a growing network of partners who are supporting this initiative.

We invite Integration Practitioners to submit good practices in integration

Online Submission form:

http://www.unaoc.org/forms/migration-integration-forms/

Along with faster flows of goods and information, increases in migration of diverse peoples across the globe have led to an enriching of the makeup of various societies. But migration, too often, is perceived as a threat to prosperity and identity and has been linked to security concerns, which in turn lead to suspicions and hostility between groups. Reinforcing efforts to harmonize the coexistence between newcomers and host communities is critical in improving social cohesion and intercultural relations, and in shifting popular perceptions of migration – from threat to opportunity. This may eventually help national migration policies evolve, so that they are not based on misconceptions of the role of migration. In partnership with the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Alliance is currently building an interactive online community on the web.
The Online Community on Migration and Integration, is a resource that will:

- highlight successful models of integration of migrants to counter polarizing speech and stereotypes;

- encourage the replication of these models in other contexts, while promoting further involvement of a wide range of stakeholders.

Through proactive outreach to policy makers and opinion leaders within its network of partners, the UNAoC/IOM Online Community will promote a sense of ownership among users, become a hub for sharing replicable practices, and eventually trigger effective change. For this purpose, the Alliance and the IOM plan to facilitate workshops convening a wide range of stakeholders in a process of mutual exchange and cooperation, thereby engaging governments, civil society and newcomers in jointly building societies of inclusion and participation.

Session Information

The Online Community will be launched during the course of the Rio Forum. The session on May 27th will serve to provide more detailed information on the Online Community on Migration and Integration to interested stakeholders and potential partners. The session will include a preview of the new website showcasing several best practices already posted on it as well as a range of its interactive features. It will also explain how to partner in various ways together with AoC and IOM in this innovative initiative.

The session will be moderated by Florence Laufer (AoC) and Christine Aghazarm (IOM).