

**Statement by  
H.E. Dr. Iftakhar Ahmed Chowdhury,  
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the UN  
at the thirty-ninth session of the Commission on Population and Development**

**New York, April 3, 2006**

Mr. Chairman,

May I begin by congratulating you and your bureau upon your elections. It is our conviction that under your able stewardship, this session will see fruition. Secretariat owes our warm felicitations for presenting valuable inputs. Bangladesh aligns itself with the statement of South Africa on behalf of the G77 and China. In addition, we would like to highlight the following points:

Migrants are being considered more and more as agents of development. They can

Short-term movement can also mitigate as much as possible the negative effects of "brain drain" through encouraging the return of qualified nationals resulting in "brain gain".

Since the entry into force of the GATS in 1995, progress towards greater liberalization of temporary migration is inconsequential. Regrettably, the reports at hand do not address adequately the issues relating to this category of migration. In current rounds of

negotiations, it is critically important to have full flexibilities under mode 4.

Migrant workers bear high economic, social, and political costs in their migration. They are