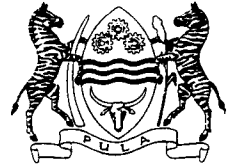


REPUBLIC OF
BOTSWANA

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF
BOTSWANA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

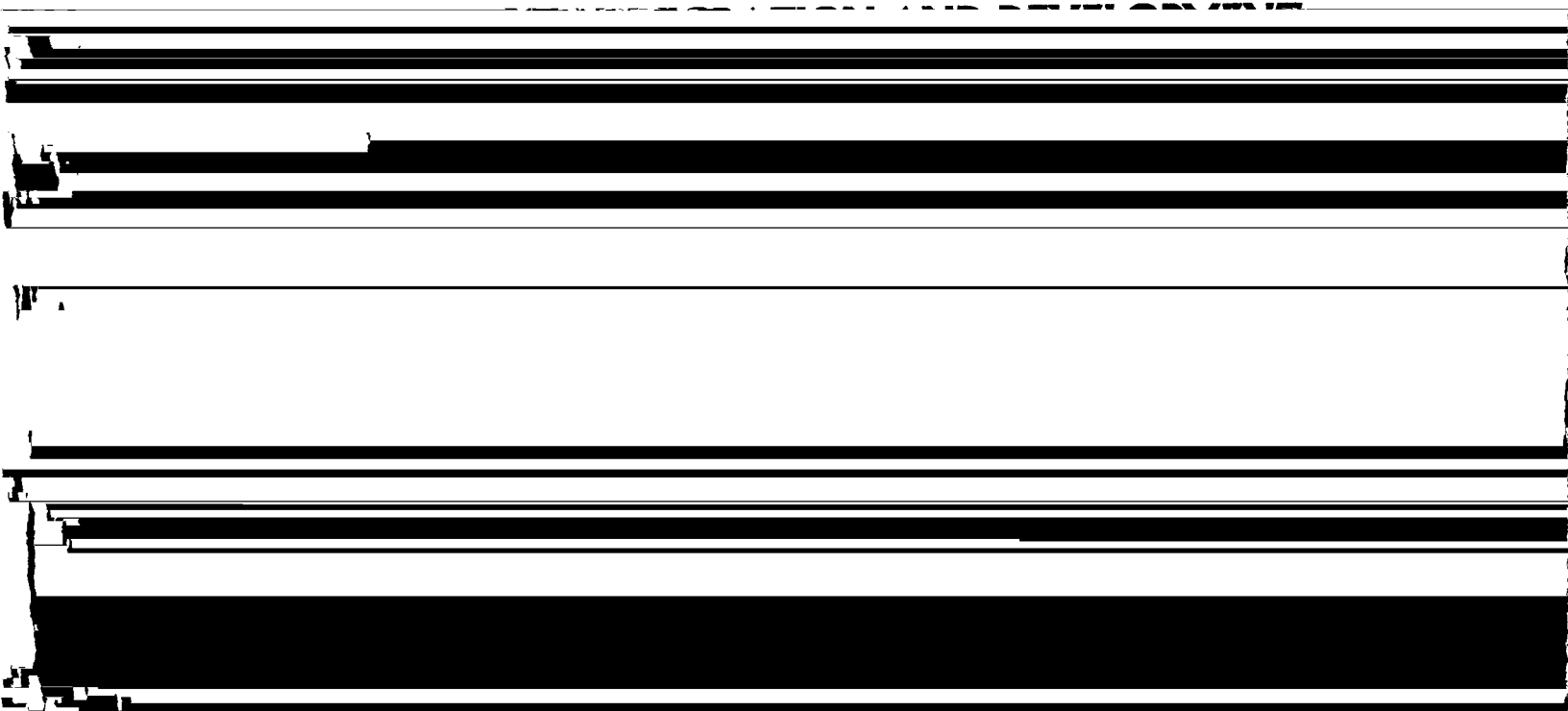
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STATEMENT BY

**HIS EXCELLENCY MR. SAMUEL O. OUTLULE
AMBASSADOR AND PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE**

ON



1. Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to join those who have spoken before me in congratulating you on your deserved election to the onerous task of presiding over the deliberations of this important session. We associate ourselves with the statement by the Group of 77 and China.

2. My delegation is also grateful to the Secretary General for his illuminating reports. The reports eloquently highlight the immense challenges as well as the opportunities needed in migration to our collective development efforts.

3. The compendium of recommendations is an important reminder that our ongoing efforts should be mindful of the commitments that already exist. In some cases, therefore, we would not necessarily have to reinvent the wheel, but ensure effective implementation of agreed commitments.

4. We also recognize the good work that has been done by the Global Commission on International Migration. The Commission's report gives us helpful insight into an issue that is increasingly becoming vital to global policy dialogue.

5. Migration and development is one of the

the Americas and Africa. They include man and women of reputable professions such as doctors, teachers, engineers, nurses etc. Botswana also provides refuge to a number of asylum seekers. We are host to both "documented" and "undocumented" migrants.

9. The migrants in Botswana have over the years contributed, and indeed continue to contribute tremendously to our national developments efforts. In the medical field they are with us in the frontline in our battle against the virulent HIV/AIDS. In the area of education Botswana, which at independence in 1966 had ~~only a few~~ ~~undocumented migrant teachers to fight ignorance~~ improve

education standards and achieve the high literacy rate we have today. They have provided technical expertise in various areas including planning, policy formulation and implementation. They have come as investors creating much needed employment opportunities that contributed to the social welfare of our people. In a word, the story of Botswana's success would be incomplete if it did not include a chapter on the contribution of people from other parts of the world. We continue to value this fruitful partnership.

10. Mr. Chairman, for many years we have had and continue to have some of our citizens going abroad to look for greener pastures and education or training opportunities. According to the 2001 population census 1.7 per cent of population was living outside the country. Most of these were in South Africa, mainly working in the mines. We currently have about ten thousand students

recruit and train more personnel if we are to sustain the momentum of the fight

greater sense of urgency and unity of purpose. If it is allowed to continue, many