



**Statement by Mr. Shahzado Shaikh, Secretary, Ministry of Population**

**Welfare, in the Thirty-ninth Session of the Commission on Population**

**Development (CPD) (4<sup>th</sup> April 2006)**

**Mr Chairman, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,**

Let me at the outset congratulate you and the other members of the Bureau on your election and assure you of our full support.

6. The comprehensive report presented by the Global Commission on International Migration has undertaken a comprehensive analysis of the important contributions that international migration and migrants make to the development of both the sending and receiving states.

7. Importantly, the Commission has recognized the close linkage between international trade and migration and has called for a closer

**Mr. Chairman,**

9. The economic disparities and inequities in the international system compel people to leave their homes and thus contribute to the global migration patterns. We need to address the factors that trigger migration.

migration programmes as a means of addressing the economic needs of sending and receiving countries and to curb illegal migration. We feel that exploring and facilitating channels for regular migration will help maximize the developmental impact of migration both in the receiving and sending

12. The efficient remittance of migrant earnings to their families back

**Mr. Chairman,**

16. We appreciate the fact that the ICPD recommendations introduced a paradigm shift that has heralded an era of global population and

development initiatives. During the 1990s, the United Nations

sectors such as Education, Health, Women Development, Domestic and International Migration, etc.

**Mr. Chairman,**

21. Despite our financial constraints, Pakistan pledges not only to maintain the momentum of its progress but also to accelerate it. There are reasons to be hopeful. Now, both the government and civil society have a clearer grasp of the tasks ahead and a stronger will to address these. Further reduction in maternal mortality, infant and child mortality accompanied with declining fertility remains our highest priority.

22. Another challenge is to enable the nation's youth in making the transition to adulthood better equipped. This will be achieved through improved education and employment opportunities. Efforts to empower