

**United Nations**

**Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)**

**Karima El Korri**  
**Chief, Population and Social Development Section**  
**Social Development Division**

**To**

**The Commission on Population and Development**  
**Forty-sixth Session, 22-26 April 2013**

Mr/Mme. Chair, Distinguished Delegates and Colleagues,

On behalf of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), I thank you for giving me the opportunity to address this distinguished audience. Given the situation of the Arab region, which is one of the most migration-intense regions in the world, ESCWA welcomes the theme of the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Population and Development of "Migration and Demographic Aspects."

and strengthened links between countries of origin and destination. The possibility of emigration has helped to reduce labour market pressures in countries facing a youth bulge. However, too often migration is still a result of social and economic development of the

countries of origin, such

Mr/Mme. Chair,

Looking forward to the second High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and beyond, ESCWA foresees the importance of working both with our member countries to ensure that the specificities of migration are highlighted and addressed in the Dialogue, and with other actors of the United Nations system to ensure that their complementary capacity building and knowledge production efforts are coordinated at the regional level.

Secretary-General Arab Expatriates

