MEMO TO THE UNHCR: BORDER COUNTRY MIGRATION MITIGATION STRATEGIES

To: High Commissioner Filippo Grandi  
From: Erik Pronk, Prime Minister of Urmm  
Date: February 23, 2019

PURPOSE:  
To explain the nation of Urmm’s decisions in the 2018-24 Kyapera Migrant Crisis, the outcomes of these decisions, and policy recommendations for future policymakers encountering a migration situation.

POLICY OVERVIEW:  
During the 2018-24 Kyapera crisis, Urmm developed the following policy portfolio that ensured human rights to all migrants seeking asylum in Urmm and other nations. Urmm is a signatory member of international human rights standards and dedicated to fulfilling its obligations. Urmm is committed to building both national and regional prosperity in Attripa.

Investment in the employability of migrants  
We decided to immediately commit to investments in integration of migrants in the labor force to increase employment rates, improve favorability and acceptance of migrants in the population, which reached a favorability of 60% in 2026. This required an investment that was initially over budget, but proved to be an excellent investment in the (already growing) economy of Urmm, reaching an GDP increase of 0.64% over the baseline scenario (in absence of migration).
Humane treatment of migrants

Due to the high influx and high retention rate of migrants, it was nearly impossible to keep up our high standard for the Human Rights Index. Naturally, we have aimed to treat migrants in the most humane way possible by providing high quality housing, improving employability, investing in language training and education of migrant children. However, as migrant numbers increased, this standard was impossible to uphold, even with financial aid of neighbouring countries. This did motivate migrants to move on to other countries in the region, capping the number of migrants in Urmn, allowing us to provide high-standard care again.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Negotiate a fair and humane way to distribute migrants among ATG countries
- In the current situation, the most effective way to motivate migrants to move from one country to another is by decreasing the Human Rights Index relative to neighbouring countries. However, it is highly undesirable to sacrifice humane treatment for something that should be negotiated multilaterally.

Minimize asylum processing time across the region.
- Reduces unnecessary accumulation of asylum seekers in transit.
- Reduces uncertainty for migrants, policymakers, and citizens.

Create an independent data authority.
- Accessibility to verifiable and trustworthy data is critical to high level strategic decision-making.
- It is difficult for countries to adequately communicate their national circumstances.
RATIONALE:
- Early investment pays off in the end when documented migrants become naturalized or find permanent residence.
- Debt in the beginning is inevitable as the influx of migrants is highest early on, so it is important to use extra budget on integration in these early stages.
- Urm is a growing economy despite its low GDP. Increasing the workforce allows for more sustained economic growth.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS:
- Dynamic policy: high investment in housing, education, and employment-based subsidies are unsustainable, so budget friendly policies are important later on.
- Urm is closely involved in the migration process because of their geographic location.
- Capalla and Durrit have about one tenth of the population of Urm (and Ottania), and migrants should be allocated accordingly, as a relatively disproportionate migrant population is undesirable.
- Ottania is located far from the crisis area, so migrant flow to Ottania is naturally limited, although their GDP allows them to create favourable conditions for migrants.

ATTACHMENTS: