



International mobility, dual careers and work permits for spouses and partners

A 'round table' discussion
between international employers and country representatives

Wednesday 14 March 2007
The Foreign and Commonwealth Office, London

Programme – facilitated by Gill Gordon, Director Executive Compensation,
Schlumberger Limited, Board Member Permits Foundation.

11.45 **Registration and light buffet lunch**

13.00 **Welcome**

David Warren, CMG

Director, Human Resources, Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Tina Attwood, Chair Diplomatic Service Families Association, FCO.

13.10 **Open work permits for partners
- the case for change worldwide**

A "triple win" for countries, families and employers.

Jan Schaapsmeeders, Director Human Resources, Shell Nederland and

Chairman Permits Foundation;

Kathleen van der Wilk-Carlton, Board Member Permits Foundation.

13.30 **The UK's approach to managed migration of highly skilled workers and their family members**

Paula Higson, Senior Director Managed Migration, Immigration and Nationality Directorate, UK Home Office.

13.45 **Comparative approaches on spouse/partner work authorisation**

Canada - Bob Orr, Minister Immigration, Canadian High Commission, London.

The Netherlands - Jan Verboom, Senior Policy Adviser, Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment, The Hague.

USA - Marie Damour, Chief of Visa Services, US Embassy, London

European Commission - Sandra Pratt, Deputy Head of Immigration, DG Justice, Freedom and Security, Brussels.

14.45 **Refreshments**

15.00 **International migration, trade and investment perspectives**

Jan de Wilde, Director, International Organisation for Migration, London.

15.15 **Open discussion** – facilitated by Kees van der Waaij,
Chairman Unilever Nederland Holdings, Board Member Permits Foundation

International employers and country representatives.

How do other countries view this topic? What are the prospects for change? What factors help or hinder change? Time horizons – What is realistic and achievable? Sharing best practices, building networks, promoting change.

16.15 **Conclusions and the way forward** – Jan Schaapsmeeders.

16.30 **Drinks reception**

17.30 **Departure**