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Geneva, 27 August 2020

Excellency, *Dear Antonio*
Director General,
Coordinator of the United Nations Network on Migration,

Following your invitation to convene an Informal consultation on the role of champion countries in the implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM), I am delighted to inform you that Morocco, as a Champion of GCM implementation will actively participate and substantially contribute to this important initiative.

The Kingdom of Morocco will spare no effort to support the UN Network on Migration in order to provide effective, rapid and coordinated support to Member States, which will enable them to achieve the 23 objectives set out in the "Marrakesh Compact".

Furthermore, my country is willing to share its experience in the implementation of the Global Compact on Migration at the national level, which will allow identifying key information, essential lessons, and positive practices to be exchanged with other Member States at the level of the UN Migration Network. For this reason, I attached to this letter our reflections on the role of GCM champion countries and possible actions to be taken collectively, which I will present in the upcoming informal consultation.

In this regard, we suggest the creation of a Contact group of champion countries in the implementation of the GCM - in Geneva- in order to test ideas and identify joint actions.

Please accept, Excellency, Director General, Coordinator of the UN Network on Migration, the assurances of my highest consideration.



The Ambassador, Permanent Representative

Omar Zniber

His Excellency Mr. Antonio Vitorino
Director General of the International
Organization for Migration (IOM),
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Informal consultation on the role of champion countries in the implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

Geneva, 3 September 2020

The **Global Compact on Migration (GCM)** is based on a set of transversal principles that focus on human rights, sustainable development and the rule of law. **The GCM objectives can be grouped into 4 themes: 1) access to knowledge and information on migration; 2) border management; 3) reducing vulnerabilities; and 4) migrants integration and their contribution to development.**

1) Access to knowledge and information on migration:

- Provide and disseminate accurate and timely information to migrants and refugees.
- Promote issues of immigration, cultural diversity and living together.
- Raise awareness of the media to report on migration, mainly “success stories”. For example:

The Economist 16/11/2019: « Migrants or their offspring founded 45% of America’s *Fortune* 500 companies, including Apple, Google or Levi’s. Two-fifths of America’s Noble science prize-winners have been migrants since 2000. Globally, migrants are three times likelier to file patents than non-migrants. Abundant foreign nannies and cleaners make it more likely that college-educated native-born women will go out to work full time. Remittance flows are three times greater than foreign aid, and tend to go directly to their recipients rather than being embezzled. They are more reliable than foreign investment. When a crisis erupts, foreign investors flee. But migrants feel doubly compelled to help their relatives back home. »

Experience of Morocco which can be shared: a) Creation of a website for Moroccans abroad and migrants residing in Morocco in order to provide comprehensive information on migration issues. b) The work and mission of the new African Observatory for Migration in Rabat.

2) Border management:

- Increase cooperation in identifying and dismantling networks of human trafficking and smuggling, including with international specialized organisations and agencies (UNODC, Interpol).
- Strengthen an integrated border management for the protection of vulnerable migrants, including unaccompanied children, victims of trafficking and smuggling.
- Support civil society associations and NGOs involved in human rights of migrants and assisting victims of human trafficking.
- Ensure that countries have immigration and asylum laws in place, so that migrants can enjoy their rights at the national and local level.

Experience of Morocco which can be shared: a) the National Coordination Commission for Preventing and Combating Human Trafficking, and setting up a national referral mechanism for victims of trafficking in person. b) Outcomes of the visit of the *Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance* to Morocco. c) Programme of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights concerning the strengthening of capacities of law enforcement officers and custom agents on human rights issues in Morocco.

3) Reducing vulnerabilities:

- Strengthen social and humanitarian assistance schemes for vulnerable migrants and refugees.
- Increase international support and development opportunities for communities of origins (Sahel).

Experience of Morocco which can be shared: a) In the context of COVID-19, the partnership agreement signed between UNHCR and the Moroccan National Council of Doctors, to facilitate free access of refugees and asylum seekers to medicine, mental health support, and specialized care. b) Several social and development projects financed by IOM Development Fund and implemented by

its Moroccan partners. c) Project "FORAS" aiming to sustain reintegration of returning migrants in their countries of origin (sub-Saharan Africa).

4) Migrants integration and their contribution to development:

- Continue to sensitize the private sector of recruiting migrants and refugees in the labour market.
- Strengthen opportunities for the creation of formal businesses for migrants (entrepreneurship skills).
- Further facilitate the mutual recognition of skills, qualifications and competencies.
- Support thematic and geographic networks of migrant talents and build a database or a comprehensive mapping of skills.
- Provision of pre- and post-departure orientations for migrant workers on their rights and obligations, relevant laws, and how to access to support services.
- Consider regularization operations for irregular migrants and programmes for their integration.

Experience of Morocco which can be shared: a) ANAPEC (*Agence nationale de promotion des emplois et des competences*) programmes for professional training, self-employment, and access to labour market for migrants and refugees living in Morocco.

In conclusion:

- As a country of origin, transit and destination, Morocco believes that the GCM sets out a common understanding of migration, shared responsibilities and a common goal of raising together, in a win-win spirit, the challenges of migration and exploiting its opportunities.
- In the international governance of migration, the GCM provides a platform to reinforce international cooperation on issues related to migration and development, including South-South cooperation.
- Promoting and encouraging scientific research as well as engaging in partnerships with the academic sphere are important in the implementation of GCM and the achievement of its 23 objectives.
- We invite champion countries in the implementation of the "Marrakech Compact" to work together as a contact group to test ideas and identify joint actions.
- To convene meetings of national GCM focal points and leading on GCM implementation at the national level will also provide a useful space for practice sharing and peer-learning in order to foster exchange of good practices.