

Intervention for Ambassador Rae at High Level Launch of the Secretary General's Report on the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM)

December 1 (13:30-15:00 ET)

Introduction

- Let me begin by thanking Secretary General Guterres and Director General António Vitorino for convening this event, and for their ongoing leadership to advance the Global Compact for Migration.
- I would like to commend the UN Network on Migration for their tireless work to support the implementation of the Global Compact. Canada was very pleased to participate recently in a successful first regional review of the Compact.
- Je félicite également le secrétaire général de nous avoir fait part de son rapport, qui représente une importante occasion de prouver que le cadre ne constituait pas une promesse vide et que les pays qui ont adopté le Pacte sont déterminés à la mise en œuvre de ses objectifs.

Canada's Submission and GCM Champion Role

- Canada was pleased to contribute to the Secretary General's report, not only as a participating Member State, but also as a GCM Champion country.
- Les cinq priorités du Canada à titre de champion sont à l'image des leçons que nous avons tirées. Elles incluent les priorités suivantes :
 - Favoriser la mise en place de voies sûres, ordonnées et régulières;
 - Mettre en valeur un discours sur l'immigration équilibré et fondé sur des données probantes;
 - Faciliter la mise en place d'une démarche de gestion de la migration qui est adaptée selon le genre;
 - Communiquer les pratiques exemplaires visant l'intégration et la cohésion sociale;
 - Favoriser la coopération internationale visant le retour et la réintégration.
- Selon l'expérience canadienne, il existe de nombreuses raisons voulant que le Canada et les autres pays **créent un plus grand nombre de voies régulières** pour faciliter tant la migration permanente que la migration temporaire. Les voies de migration régulières créent des possibilités plus sûres, transparentes et prévisibles pour les migrants, tout en permettant aux états de répondre aux besoins particuliers de leur économie et de leur marché du travail.
- While the international community remains rightly focused on the COVID-19 pandemic, it is important that we continue to focus on the Compact's commitment to create regular pathways, which can help facilitate immigration as a driver of economic recovery and growth, during and post-pandemic.

- This is why Canada has re-committed to welcoming migrants, recently announcing our plans to welcome migrants at a rate of about 1% of the population over the coming three-year period, totalling approximately 1.2 million new permanent residents.
- Among Canada's priorities is our commitment to promoting **balanced and evidence-based narratives** on migration, an area which the Secretary General's report identifies as needing particular attention.
- In the face of misinformation about migration, we must promote authoritative and factual communication about the benefits of migration in order to help increase support for migration, as well as to lay the groundwork for the meaningful inclusion and integration of migrants in their host communities.
- On December 18, an ambitious, multi-stakeholder global communications campaign through the Global Forum on Migration and Development will be launched to help shift the narrative and showcase the positive impacts of migration. Canada is a proud contributor to this campaign.
- Another of Canada's priority areas as a GCM champion country is encouraging a **gender-responsive approach** to migration management.
- At the heart of our efforts are Canada's Feminist Foreign Policy and Feminist International Assistance Policy. They focus on actions that are feminist, human rights-based, inclusive and intersectional, considering the needs of the most vulnerable and marginalized, and contributing to global efforts to "leave no one behind".
- A concrete example of how Canada's feminist policies are implemented on the ground can be found in Canada's support to address trafficking in persons through its Anti-Crime Capacity Building Program (ACCBP).
- For example, in collaboration with the International Bureau for Children's Rights, we are working to build the professional capacities of key actors involved in the prosecution, protection and prevention of human trafficking, particularly of women and girls in Honduras.
- Canada also applies the GCM's "whole-of-society" approach internationally by working with a diversity of partners to deliver gender-responsive humanitarian and development programming. For instance, we are providing programming through a Canadian civil society organization to create safe spaces for girls and improve education in the Colombian-Venezuelan border region to help address barriers to education faced by Venezuelan migrant and Colombian internally displaced people.
- Canada remains aware of the vulnerability of other marginalized groups to similar challenges throughout the migration continuum. Through our work, Canada applies a gender-based-plus approach to programming that recognizes that there are other groups that require support, including members of the LGBTI community, and that their unique needs must be considered and accounted for as part of promoting safer migration globally.

Conclusion

- Je vous remercie encore de m'avoir accordé la possibilité de m'exprimer aujourd'hui. Le rapport du secrétaire général est une occasion importante d'améliorer nos politiques et d'apprendre des autres pays pendant que nous collaborons à la mise en œuvre du Pacte et que nous continuons de bâtir d'autres voies de migration régulières. Le Canada se réjouit de poursuivre son engagement et son dialogue, notamment à titre de pays champion pour le Pacte.