



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS, GENEVA

LT-EPG-106-2020

18 August 2020

Excellency,

This has reference to your letter dated 22 June 2020 inviting the Philippines to become one of the pilot or "champion" country of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM).

The Government of the Republic of the Philippines is honored to be recognized by the IOM in this regard and warmly accepts this invitation to be one of the champion countries of the GCM.

The Philippines has consistently supported mechanisms to improve migration governance across the globe. For the Philippines, the adoption of the GCM did not signal the end, but rather, a new beginning of joint work toward making migration governance seamless and meaningful for the 272 million migrants around the world. As part of the whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach, the Philippine implementation of the GCM has been incorporated in the Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022 Midterm update of a new chapter, *Chapter 21: Ensuring Safe, Orderly and regular Migration*. The chapter provides coherence to the ongoing initiatives and programs on migration. As a member of the Steering Committee of the Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF), and a pilot country for the first tier of MPTF projects, the Philippines hopes to demonstrate that implementing the objectives of the GCM is the right way forward. We are honored to take the opportunity to continue this advocacy as a Champion country, and to fully engage with the IOM and other champion countries in this regard.

For the informal expert-level consultations scheduled from 3pm to 4pm on 03 September 2020, the Mission will be represented by Minister and Consul Maria Elena Cristina D. Maningat. The Philippine delegation will calibrate representation for formal consultations and activities as needed.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Very truly yours,

EVAN P. GARCIA
Permanent Representative

MR. ANTONIO VITORINO

Director-General

International Organization for Migration

Coordinator, UN Network on Migration

17 route des Morillons C.P. 17

CH 1211 Geneva 19