



PERMANENT MISSION OF PORTUGAL
GENEVA

OIM - 71/2020

The Permanent Mission of Portugal to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the International Organization for Migration and has the honour to send herewith a letter addressed to H.E. Mr. António Vitorino by H.E. Mr. Augusto Santos Silva, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Portugal.

The Permanent Mission of Portugal avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the International Organization for Migration the assurances of its highest consideration.



Geneva, 05 March 2020

International Organization for Migration
17 Route des Morillons
1218 Grand-Saconnex
odg@iom.int
blelis@iom.int

Ministério dos Negócios Estrangeiros
O Ministro

Lisbon, 28th February 2020

Your Excellency, *Caro António,*

Thank you for your letter dated February 5th concerning the request for Portugal to become a "pilot" or "champion" of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly or Regular Migration, GCM. I believe your assessment on the three inter-locking priorities for 2020 is an accurate one and I am extremely pleased to convey my Government's support to your plan.

I am very happy to accept the proposed role to become a "champion" of the GCM. As you are aware, migrations have consistently been topping Portuguese Government's agenda and the implementation of the GCM is one of our priorities. In this regard, we have adopted in August 2019 into national law the GCM Plan of Implementation, becoming one of the first, if not the very first country, to do so. We stand ready to help others, if they so want, to develop their own national plans. This process can, if properly addressed, help foster the GCM and make sure words are matched by deeds.

I am also more than willing to discuss with you other areas where IOM believes Portugal can support the GCM implementation, either through the development of programmes, peer exchange, share of best practices or the development of positive narratives regarding international collaboration on migration.

We are indeed on a pivotal moment when traction is needed to achieve GCM's full potential. Portugal stands ready to play its part.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration,

E um abraço de

Augusto Santos Silva

Augusto Santos Silva
Minister for Foreign Affairs

H. E.
Mr. Antonio Vitorino
Director General
International Organization for Migration