



PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN  
ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE DE LA MEDITERRANEE  
برلمان البحر الأبيض المتوسط

**International Migration Review Forum  
Informal Interactive Multi-Stakeholder Hearing**

Monday, 16 May 2022, 10:30 - 13:00 (EST)  
Conference Room 4, United Nations Headquarters

**Thematic discussion I: Assessing the progress, gaps, and challenges in the implementation of the  
Global Compact on Migration**

**Amb. Qazi Shaukat Fareed, Permanent Observer to the UN,  
Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM)**

On behalf of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM), it is my pleasure to share some thoughts on the implementation of Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. The review process is an important opportunity to strengthen the Compact and accelerate its adherence, so I thank the organizers for this dialogue.

- PAM, an intergovernmental organization of thirty Parliaments of the Euro Mediterranean region, is strongly committed to the GCM, a corner stone for regional cooperation on migration.
- This uniqueness of this region lies in the fact that it is at **migratory crossroads** linking Africa, the Middle East and Europe, it is a space for transit, as also an originator and recipient of migrants and asylum seekers. Given the spectrum and diversity of interests and concerns of its Membership, it is a testing ground for the implementation of the Compact.
- The region is, alas, also the deadliest migratory route in the world. Close to 24,000 migrants have lost their lives or have been reported missing since 2014 in the Mediterranean Sea. And despite efforts, almost 650 have perished so far this year. Parliamentarians are all the more committed to preventing this senseless loss of lives of migrants seeking political asylum or better living conditions.
- And now the humanitarian and refugee crisis in the region has dramatically worsened due to the Russian aggression of Ukraine where the millions of civilians, mostly women and children, are fleeing their homes to save their lives.
- Migrants come from areas where there is war or political instability, abuse of human rights, or disastrous economic conditions including famine and draught because of dramatically changing environmental conditions.
- **Objective 8 of the GCM “Save lives and establish coordinated international efforts on missing migrants” remains a top priority for PAM which strongly believes in the principle**

of “**No migrant left behind**”, for which it believes in the absolute necessity of working together to ensure protection of the rights of all categories of migrants, regardless of their status.

- Given the nature of the Euro-Mediterranean region, it is particularly vulnerable to **migratory crises**. PAM membership is therefor doubly committed to the GCM.

To this end our parliamentarians are:

- Engaging their governments directly to draw policies for safe, regular and orderly migration. Strengthening the will and commitment of the countries in the region to work together through enhanced cooperation, pooling human and financial resources for the realization of the Global Compact on Migration.
- using Parliamentary diplomacy to promote better understanding and develop a united and common vision on how to address migration related issues
- sharing lessons learned on legislative actions and best practices among its membership so these actions can be replicated.

On **the issue of environment and migration**, PAM calls on the international community to agree on an appropriate and comprehensive definition of “**environmental refugee**” that could be incorporated into international law. PAM also calls on their governments and all governments to respect the Paris agreements.

- PAM was present in Glasgow for COP 26 and will be in Sharm el-Sheikh for COP 27 for its membership is deeply concerned about the environmental crisis and the need for all to adhere to their commitments.
- As it did in Glasgow at COP 26, PAM will continue to advocate for the creation of a **regional coalition on carbon neutrality** and for the widespread adoption of a carbon tax to limit the effects of climate change.
- PAM has also called for migrants to be given access to basic social services and to an education while on the move or in their country of destination.

Finally, let me reiterate once again the importance of parliamentary diplomacy as a crucial tool to move forward, together, on the issue of migration: Perhaps an initiative in which the Parliaments of the world could come together and push for faster progress in implementing the GCM. We look forward to these next few days, the discussions with all stakeholders to learn more about the initiatives that have brought positive changes and to see how we can further support policies and legislations towards safe, regular and orderly migration.

Thank you.

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