



**Republic of North Macedonia  
Ministry of Interior  
EU and International Cooperation Department**

**Addressing speech of  
Assistant Minister at the EU and International Cooperation Department  
Mr. Muamet Rexhepi**

**at the  
Second Regional Review  
of the Global Compact for Safe, Regular and Orderly Migration**

**11 March 2024, Geneva, Switzerland**

Distinguished audience,

Allow me, at the beginning, on my personal behalf and on the behalf of the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of North Macedonia to thank you for the opportunity to speak today at the second Regional Review of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.

Within the Ministry of Interior, the objectives of the Global Compact of Migration are implemented by the Department of Border Affairs and Migration. The competences of this Department, as can be seen from its name, are the border affairs and migration. In the past period, the Border Affairs and Migration Department worked on transformation, promotion and capacity building in line with the Schengen standards and exchange of the best European practices. The European Commission, through its own projects and with expert assistance, has significantly supported and helped the policies for investment and development of our capacities.

Of particular importance for the work of the border police are the adopted Resolution on the migration policy in the Republic of North Macedonia 2021-2025, the Migration Profile in the Republic of North Macedonia from 2021, drafted and published by the IOM, as well as the National Strategy for Integrated Border Management adopted in November 2022.

The Resolution on the Migration Policy 2021-2025 in its content reflects the principles of GCM, and especially in strategic area 3: Management of Legal migration - Strategic goals, it devotes a significant place to the Policy for the immigration of foreigners and the creation of an appropriate visa policy to facilitate admission of a shortage of labor in the Republic of North Macedonia; Advancement of policies for the residence of foreigners and the readmission of

foreigners, the visa regime and visa policy, as well as the opportunities for inclusion and social cohesion of foreigners (objective 16 of the GCM), as well as the improvement of the established asylum system and increasing its efficiency and effectiveness (which directly correlates to objective 15 of the GCM).

In addition to the framework provided by the new Resolution on the Migration Policy, I would like to mention the Standard Operating Procedures, as truly important documents for the work of the border police, but also for other institutions working in the field of migration. They contain the instructions for dealing with unaccompanied children – foreigners; and the Standard Operating Procedures for dealing with vulnerable categories of persons, foreigners, a document that is still in a working version and is yet to be adopted. Substantial progress in the work is represented by the SOPs for identification of migrants, SOPs for dealing with unaccompanied children - foreigners, SOPs for dealing with a vulnerable category of persons - foreigners, SOPs for victims of human trafficking. We consider these documents to be an essential progress in the work of the Border Police.

Distinguished audience,

The Republic of North Macedonia has been continuously developing both bilateral and international cooperation in the field of migration, and remains committed to building new partnerships. As a signatory to the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, the Republic of North Macedonia strives to intensify international cooperation with the aim of mutual assistance and support in the process of implementing the Compact.

It is important to note that the Republic of North Macedonia has established partnerships with the United Nations and other regional and international organisations in the implementation of the objectives of the Global Compact for Migration. We are continuously supported in the implementation of the Compact through the increase of international and regional cooperation, as well as in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The project "Regional support for migration management aimed at protecting the rights of migrants in the Western Balkans and in Turkey", funded through the IPA 2 program, and implemented in partnership with the IOM, Frontex, EASO and UNHCR, is the best example for regional cooperation aimed at achieving safe, orderly and regular migration. The project, through the foreseen activities, contributes to the achievement of several objectives of the GCM.

It is not by accident that I mention all of these partnerships and cooperation. Indeed, it was these partnerships that helped us in our efforts for implementation of some of the objectives of the GCM. The Republic of North Macedonia and especially the Ministry of Interior remains committed to the objectives of the GCM, but also to improvement of many of the procedures within our competence aimed at providing safe, orderly and regular migration.

Thank you for your attention.