

11 May 2018

Mr. H.E. Mr. Juan José Gómez Camacho
Ambassador and Permanent Representative
of Mexico to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Jürg Lauber
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of
Switzerland to the United Nations

Ms. Louise Arbour
Special Representative of the UN Secretary
General for International Migration

Excellencies,

In view of the current negotiations of the Global Compact for Migration (GCM), we, as German and Moroccan GFMD Co-Chairs, wish to share with you our initial reflections on the role of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) in the implementation and follow-up/review of the GCM.

Pursuant to the 2016 GA New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants¹, and GA Resolution 71/280 on the Modalities for the intergovernmental negotiations of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM), GFMD contributed to the GCM negotiation process. Inter alia, GFMD on November 24th, 2017 submitted to you a document entitled “Thematic Recollection”² that reflects the diversity of questions discussed in GFMD between 2007 and 2017.

We strongly appreciate that in the latest GCM draft of March 26th, 2018, GFMD contributions are acknowledged³. Moreover, GFMD is invited to serve as a “platform to exchange experiences on the implementation of the Global Compact, share good policies on practices and cooperation, promote innovative approaches, and foster multi-stakeholder partnerships around specific policy issues”⁴. Alongside other for a and processes, the Forum further is invited to “contribute to the International Migration Review Forum by providing data, evidence, best practices, innovative approaches and recommendations as they relate to the implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, orderly and Regular Migration”⁵.

As Co-Chairs we welcome these invitations and wish to share our initial reflections on how the GFMD could respond to them. These reflections do not anticipate the decision of the States participating in GFMD on the forum’s future role, which is expected to be taken at the 2018 GFMD Summit in Marrakesh, Morocco, scheduled for December 5th to 7th, 2018. They consider the concept note on a capacity-building mechanism (CBM) that was transmitted to Permanent and Observer Missions to the UN in New York on May 7th.

¹ GA Resolution A/RES/71/1 Annex II, subpara. 13

² <https://www.gfmd.org/en-gfmd-thematic-recollection-2007-2017-contribution-gcm>

³ GCM Draft Rev1 of March 26th, 2018, subpara. 3

⁴ Ibid. subpara. 44

⁵ Ibid. subpara 48

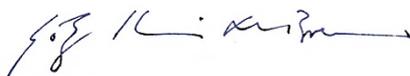
GFMD is a state-led informal global dialogue platform open to all UN Member States and relevant international organizations and other stakeholders as observers for exchanges on migration and development policies and practices. As such it has become the place of dialogue between States, Civil Society and Private Businesses. Building on these unique features, GFMD could contribute to the GCM implementation and follow-up/review processes in a twofold manner:

Implementation: GFMD could align the sharing of good policies and practices to the GCM's objectives and commitments, by adapting its Platform for Partnerships (PfP) database, and by making it available to the CBM. In support of the CBM, GFMD could become the state-led multi-stakeholder marketplace aiming at the formation of project partnerships, in order to pursue particular objectives as enshrined in the GCM, and aiming at developing innovative and solution-oriented approaches targeting the GCM's objectives. Finally, GFMD could provide a space for in-depth workshop style discussions on clearly defined migration and development related topics that are not necessarily limited to the GCM objectives. GFMD thus could contribute to consensus building and migration policy design. As a case in point, the GFMD recently convened two multi-stakeholder thematic workshops – on Migration and 2030 Agenda (Skhirat, 18-19 April) and Labour Migration and Skills (Geneva, 3 May) – which yielded new policy ideas and innovative solutions.

Follow-up/Review: Project partners could jointly report to GFMD on the progress made in their project partnerships outlined above. In addition they could inform subregional, regional, cross-regional and global processes, platforms and organizations. Furthermore, GFMD could provide the space to establish and support peer-to-peer review mechanisms among States, on a voluntary basis, on some or the entirety of the objectives and commitments included in the GCM, and report the findings to these processes, platforms and organizations. Finally, GFMD could report good policies and practices as collected in the PfP database, innovative approaches and recommendations to the International Migration Review Forum.

We hope that you give due consideration to the German-Moroccan GFMD Co-Chairs' reflections on the GFMD's potential role in the implementation, follow up and review of the GCM. Our Governments remain steadfast in our support for the continuity of the Global Forum and its closer interaction with the broader UN system, in order to ensure the GFMD's successful accomplishment of the proposed activities.

Please accept, Excellencies, the assurance of our highest consideration.



Mr. Götz Schmidt-Bremme
Ambassador for the 2017-2018 GFMD
Co-Chairmanship
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Mr. El Habib Nadir
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