

## **Workshop on Climate Change and Human Mobility**

### **International Conference Center Mohammed VI**

**Skhirate / Rabat, 24 May 2017**

### **Synthesis of the opening session**

**Rapporteur: Mrs Aurélie Sgro, Project Officer, ICMPD**

Moderator: Mr. El Habib Nadir, Secretary General of the Delegate Ministry Responsible for Moroccans Residing Abroad and Migration Affairs, and Co-Chair of the GFMD 2017-2018.

Speakers:

- Mr. Abdelkrim Benoutiq, Minister Delegate in charge of Moroccans Living Abroad and Migration Affairs.
- Mrs. Louise Arbor, Special Representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations in charge of migration (Video message).
- Mr. Md. Toufiq-ur-Rahman, Permanent Mission of Bangladesh to New York. Presidency of the GFMD 2016.

Introductory presentations:

- Mr Omar Hilale, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Morocco to the United Nations.
- Mr. Gervais Appave, Special Adviser to the Director General of IOM

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

- Allow me first of all to extend my warmest thanks to the Government of Morocco for the invitation, hospitality and honor which I have had to present this short synthesis. I renew the ICMPD's commitment to support the work of the German-Moroccan co-presidency of the MMD Forum.
- The Opening Session was extremely rich and a vehicle for recommendations that converged. The session included perspectives from leading governments, Morocco and Bangladesh, key international players, and even the New York perspective.
- The presentations provided a clear and stimulating framework, with messages of hope for this workshop, which will undoubtedly fuel the work leading to the Global Compact.

- I have extracted 8 common framework messages that lay the foundations for a roadmap:

1. After almost 25 years of debate and work, the question of the impact of the CC on human mobility is now generally recognized and even overexposed. Various international frameworks adopted in recent years in the areas of climate, development, humanitarian action, disaster risk reduction and migration through the GFMD and the NY Declaration of last September recognize the importance of Of these phenomena. This is a fundamental achievement, which highlights the transversality of the challenges posed.

2. There is a collective will to move forward. The work of several countries was decisive, as Morocco played a pioneering role in advancing discussions on the issue, in the wake of COP22 and its migration policy. Also emphasized was the advocacy work of international organizations and civil society and the remarkable increase in research.

3. The Global Compact is an historic opportunity to adopt concrete measures and to anchor the issue of climate change and human mobility in the future UN reference tool on migration, which will be the first in this field.

4. There is a common responsibility to act because "we are all migrants". We need universal responses and multi-stakeholder and multilevel partnerships, including with the private sector, as was pointed out by the Minister.

5. Building on existing initiatives, such as the Platform for Displacement-Related Displacement, the MICIC (Migrants in Crisis Countries) Initiative and the future principles for the protection of migrants in vulnerable situations is essential.

6. These migratory phenomena linked to climate change are eminently complex. These issues affect different categories of people, including: 1 / those wishing to migrate or resettle in order to adapt, 2 / those forced to travel (sometimes in the emergency), 3 / those who can not or will not Not move. 4 / The needs of the most vulnerable, including women and children, need special attention. So there can not be a single common answer. Contextual and flexible measures are needed to grasp all these facets, with the protection of human rights as a cornerstone. The importance of the regional dimension of solutions was also emphasized.

7. Stakeholders called for further research, including multidisciplinary research, and forging links between researchers and policy makers.

8. Finally, and this is the most important message. Now is the time for action and operational implementation of existing instruments! Action is certainly the key word of this meeting. Many good practices that can be inspired are tested. There is no excuse for inaction.

Thank you for your kind attention.

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