

**Joint Civil Society Message to the Member States at the Intergovernmental Conference to adopt the
Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration**

Marrakesh, Morocco

December 10, 2018

Thank you for giving us the floor, moderator.

This is a civil society collective message. We are connected and have organized in this process and throughout Migration Week: we are unified in our diversity to ensure the Global Compact fosters real change for migrants and their families.

The adoption of the Compact is a historic achievement, as it represents a comprehensive framework for multilateral cooperation on international migration. It has the real potential to make a positive impact on the lives of millions of our fellow human beings who move in search of a life of dignity and security for themselves and their families.

We would like to commend the overwhelming number of member states that commit to the adoption of the Compact. The Compact will not meet its potential—or make a difference on the ground—unless member states also commit to its implementation and acknowledge the positive contribution of migrants to society. We stand ready to partner with you in this endeavor and respectfully urge you to develop national action plans with full participation of other actors including civil society and migrants of today and tomorrow.

We are disappointed that some member states have chosen to withdraw from the Compact: multilateral cooperation is the best approach for humanely managing international migration in today's world.

As made clear in its preamble, the Compact does not in any way weaken international legal standards, which govern migration. We also view the Compact as not condoning deterrence policies, which can limit due process protections and can violate the principle of non-refoulement. We will monitor the actions of member states accordingly.

However, as we expressed in a joint civil society statement at the end of the negotiations in July, we have concerns with some of the language contained in the Compact. We therefore encourage member states to interpret the spirit and substance of the Compact as a floor, not a ceiling, as you implement its provisions.

That said, in our collective view, the Compact recommends, among others, the following policy goals, which we encourage you to robustly implement:

- Protect migrants in vulnerable situations consistent with international human rights law;
- Increase regular avenues for migration which ensure labor rights and family unity and create regularization programs for vulnerable populations;
- Facilitate safe access to services to all migrants;

- Work to end child detention; develop and expand community-based alternatives to detention and end the use of detention as a deterrence tactic;
- Uphold the principle of the best interest of the child at all times
- Invest in sustainable development so that no one has to migrate out of desperation.
- Tackle the drivers of forced migration, including climate change and environmental degradation.
- Apply due process, individual assessment, and effective remedy at borders and in return procedures and implement reintegration programs that are sustainable for returnees, families and their communities;
- Guarantee the core labour rights for all migrant workers regardless of status, with special attention on freedom of association and collective bargaining
- Ensure gender responsive policies; and promote the empowerment of women to realize their full potential;

In conclusion, as actors who work directly with migrants on the ground, we look forward to working with member states and other stakeholders to implement the Compact in a manner that guarantees the human rights of all migrants and upholds the rule of law.

We again congratulate you on this achievement and stand in solidarity with those that commit to make migration work for all.

Thank you.

Signatories (13th December 2018)

1. 11.11.11
2. ACT Alliance
3. Action for Equality, Support & Antiracism(KISA)
4. Action Secours Ambulance (ASA)
5. African-European Development Agency
6. Africa Foundation for Development (AFFORD)
7. AFVMC Assistance to Families and Victims of Clandestine Migrations
8. Agisra e.V. Information and Counselling Centre for female Migrants and Refugees
9. Agricultural Missions, Inc
10. Aid Organization
11. Alianza Americas
12. Asabe Shehu Yar'Adua Foundation
13. Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN)
14. Asociación Salud Y Familia (ASF)
15. Association EnZO
16. Association interculturelle kirikou
17. Association Nigérienne des Scouts de l'Environnement (ANSEN)
18. Association Tous pour l'Intégration des Migrants au Maroc , ATIMA
19. Association tunisienne de droit du développement
20. Associazione Impresa Etnica
21. Banlieue Action Solidarite Finances - Basif
22. Bischöfliches Hilfswerk MISEREOR e.V.
23. Bread for the World Germany
24. Campaign for Government of International Unity in Africa
25. Caritas Internationalis
26. Casa Generalizia della Societa del Sacro Cuore
27. Casa Monarca. Humanitarian Aid for Migrants
28. Center for Migrant Advocacy Philippines (CMA)
29. Centre for Youths Integrated Development (CYID)
30. Child And Youth Protection Foundation (CYPF)
31. Coalition of the Flemish North South Movement
32. Collectif des communautés subsaharienne au Maroc (CCSM)
33. Comisión Argentina para Refugiados y Migrantes – (CAREF)
34. Community Development Services (CDS)
35. Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd
36. Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes
37. Construisons Ensemble Le Monde
38. Cross Regional Center for Refugees and Migrants (CCRM)
39. Development Action for Women Network (DAWN)
40. DIADEM
41. Domus Nostra
42. European Network Against Racism (ENAR)
43. FAIRWORK Belgium
44. Federacion Zacatecana A.C.
45. Federatie van Somalian Association in NetherlandsFédération Euro-Africaine de Solidarité
46. Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas (FAWCO)
47. Federazione organismi cristiani volontariato internazionale (FOCSIV)
48. FORIM
49. Friends of the Earth Sierra Leone
50. Fundacja Instytut na rzecz Państwa Prawa
51. German-Moroccan Network of Competencie (DMK)
52. Gewerkschaft UNIA, Switzerland
53. Global Coalition on Migration
54. Global Peace and Development Organization
55. Greek Forum of Migrants (GFM)
56. Grupo de mujeres de la argentina - foro de VIH Mujeres y familia
57. Government Servants Association (GSA)
58. HEKS/EPER Swiss Church Aid
59. Hope Border Institute/Instituto Fronterizo Esperanza
60. Humanitarian organisation "Icumbi"
61. International Forum for the Rights of Black People (I.F.R.B.P.)
62. International Migrant Alliance (IMA) Research Foundation
63. Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary -Loreto Generalate
64. International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC)
65. International Commission of Jurists (ICJ)

66. International Council of Psychologists
67. International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA)
68. International Detention Coalition (IDC)
69. International Institute for Human Rights, Environment and Development (INHURED)
70. International Presentation Association
71. Joint Committee with Migrants in Korea (JCMK)
72. Jesuit Refugee Service Australia
73. LIDE Foundation
74. Lutheran World Federation (LWF)
75. MAP (Migrant Assistance Program) Foundation
76. Maryknoll Sisters of St. Dominic, Inc./Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns
77. Mennonite Central Committee
78. Mercy International Association
79. Migrant Forum in Asia (MFA)
80. Migrant Voice UK
81. Migration Heute (MH) e.V
82. Mixed Migration Centre (MMC)
83. Mouvement d'Action pour le Renouveau Social (MARS)
84. National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP)
85. National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (NNIRR)
86. NGO Committee on Migration
87. Nijmegen Centre for Border Research
88. OCASI-Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants
89. One Third
90. ONG Un Monde Avenir, 1MA
91. Our Journey, Malaysia
92. Outreach Social Care Project- OSCAR
93. Pan African Network in the Defense of Migrants' Rights (PANiDMR)
94. Pakistan Rural Workers Social Welfare Organization
95. Partnere per Femijet
96. People Forum for Human Rights
97. Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM)
98. Plateforme des Organisations Nationales et Territoriales de la Societe Civile Haitienne (PONT-SCH)
99. Poverty Elimination and Community Education (PEACE) Foundation
100. Recherches et Documentation Juridiques Africaines asbl
101. Refugees International
102. Regional Center for Internstional Development Cooperation (RCIDC)
103. Save The Climat
104. Scalabrini International Migration Network (SIMN)
105. South Texas Human Rights Center
106. Streevani
107. Terre des Hommes International Federation
108. The Danish Refugee Council (DRC)
109. UN Major Group for Children and Youth
110. UNANIMA International
111. United Methodist Church-General Board of Church and Society (UMC-GBCS)
112. Verité
113. VIVAT International
114. Women in Migration Network (WIMN)
115. World Organization for Early Childhood Education