

**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 (1st January 2019)

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. Diaspora and Development (BASUG)
23. Bischöfliches Hilfswerk MISEREOR e.V.
24. Bread for the World Germany
25. Campaign for Government of International Unity in Africa
26. Caritas Internationalis
27. Casa Generalizia della Societa del Sacro Cuore
28. Casa Monarca. Humanitarian Aid for Migrants
29. Center for Migrant Advocacy Philippines (CMA)
30. Centre for Youths Integrated Development (CYID)
31. Child And Youth Protection Foundation (CYPF)
32. Coalition of the Flemish North South Movement
33. Collectif des communautés subsaharienne au Maroc (CCSM)
34. Comisión Argentina para Refugiados y Migrantes – (CAREF)
35. Community Development Services (CDS)
36. Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd
37. Congregation of the Mission
38. Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes
39. Construisons Ensemble Le Monde
40. Cross Regional Center for Refugees and Migrants (CCRM)
41. Development Action for Women Network (DAWN)
42. DIADEM
43. Domus Nostra
44. European Network Against Racism (ENAR)
45. FAIRWORK Belgium
46. Federacion Zacatecana A.C.
47. Federatie van Somalian Association in NetherlandsFédération Euro-Africaine de Solidarité
48. Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas (FAWCO)
49. Federazione organismi cristiani volontariato internazionale (FOCSIV)
50. FORIM
51. Friends of the Earth Sierra Leone
52. Fundacja Instytut na rzecz Państwa Prawa
53. German-Moroccan Network of Competencie (DMK)
54. Gewerkschaft UNIA, Switzerland
55. Global Coalition on Migration
56. Global Peace and Development Organization
57. Greek Forum of Migrants (GFM)
58. Grupo de mujeres de la argentina - foro de VIH Mujeres y familia
59. Government Servants Association (GSA)
60. HEKS/EPER Swiss Church Aid
61. Hope Border Institute/Instituto Fronterizo Esperanza
62. Humanitarian organisation "Icumbi"
63. International Forum for the Rights of Black People (I.F.R.B.P.)
64. International Migrant Alliance (IMA) Research Foundation
65. Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary -Loreto Generalate
66. International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC)
67. International Commission of Jurists (ICJ)

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