

Dear GFMD Friends of the Forum,

On behalf of the Governments of Germany and Morocco, Co-Chairs-in-Office of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) for 2017-2018, we are delighted to bring you the latest news in the last three months, highlighting key GFMD 2017-2018 activities.

We held the Third Meeting of the Friends of the Forum (FOF) on 9 October 2017 in Geneva. It was the first FOF meeting after the highly successful 10th GFMD Summit in Berlin, and also the first occasion to present the [agenda and thematic priorities](#) for the 2nd year of the GFMD Co-Chairmanship. Co-Chair Morocco will lead the preparatory process of the GFMD in 2018, which will culminate in the 11th GFMD Summit in Marrakesh on 5 to 7 December 2018.

Another main focus of the Third FOF meeting was the GFMD's draft contribution to the Global Compact for Migration (GCM), which is now being finalized under the lead of the GFMD ad hoc WG on the 2030 Agenda and the GCM. The full report will be disseminated to all Friends of the Forum before the next GFMD preparatory meetings to be held on 22 November 2017 in Geneva. After which, the report will be handed over to the GCM co-facilitators and the UN SRSG Ms. Louise Arbour ahead of the stocktaking conference in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico in December 2017.

The GFMD's substantive inputs to the GCM benefit from the outcomes of the [thematic workshop](#) that was held in Vienna on 6 September. This workshop, "*GFMD's Contribution to the Global Compact on Migration (GCM)*" highlighted a number of political and practical recommendations (*see right*) that will feed into the GFMD's contribution. It built on three previous GFMD dialogues on the GCM held in New York (November 2016) and Geneva (February and April 2017). All these GCM-focused events saw the participation of around 140 policymakers and practitioners in the field of international migration, representing UN Member States, international organizations, civil society and the private sector.

Furthermore, as the biggest multi-stakeholder process on migration and development, the GFMD Co-Chairs participated in the first two GCM Multi-Stakeholders Hearings held in New York on 26 July and in Geneva on 11 October 2017. The Co-Chairs also made a joint presentation at the 7th Global Meeting of the Regional Consultative Processes (RCPs) hosted by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) on 10 October 2017.

On 12 July, at the margins of the 2017 High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) in New York, we hosted a [side event](#) to bring the migration perspective into the 2017 HLPF topic of "*Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world.*" The side event presented the GFMD's substantive inputs on the topic, drawing from the rich expertise on development-oriented migration policies that it has accumulated since its foundation in 2007. With a view to SDG target 10.7, the need to align with international processes in order to create synergies when it comes to facilitating safe, orderly and regular migration was stressed.

As we all prepare for the next phase of the GCM process, we hope that you will join us in our forthcoming FOF Meeting on 22 November in Geneva. An invitation will be sent out via the Support Unit in due course.

The GFMD Co-Chairs trust on your continued support for the GFMD process for the rest of the 2017-2018 Co-Chairmanship and beyond.

Götz Schmidt-Bremme
Ambassador for the 2017-2018
GFMD Co-Chairmanship

El Habib Nadir
Secretary General, Ministry Delegate to
Minister of Foreign Affairs and International
Cooperation in charge of Moroccans living
abroad and migration affairs

GCM Thematic Workshop Practical Recommendations:

Cluster 1: Human rights of all migrants

- Establish a mechanism for the follow up, review and progress tracking of GCM
- Develop new strategies for integration and inclusion
- Build firewalls between agencies to enable migrants to access public services

Cluster 2: Irregular migration and regular pathways

- Promote info-sharing at the regional level
- Build joint alliances and standards between states
- Enhance capacity-building of countries of origin for mutual skills recognition

Cluster 3: International cooperation and governance of migration

- Mainstream migration in socio-economic policies of countries of destination
- Establish knowledge frameworks to generate and synthesize data

Cluster 4: Contributions of migrants and diaspora

- Balance the economic, social and financial contributions of migrants
- Focus on women and youth
- Call for globally accepted terminologies

Cluster 5: Addressing drivers of migration

- Multi-stakeholder and multi-level cooperation to address key drivers of migration
- Whole of migration cycle approach to address different phases of crisis

Cluster 6: Smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons and contemporary forms of slavery

- Training front liners in anti-smuggling and trafficking (e.g. police)
- Identification of victims and perpetrators throughout the migratory process
- Improve state cooperation on sharing of data and best practices