



# **TOWARDS HONOURING INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS TO UNLOCK THE POTENTIAL OF ALL MIGRANTS FOR DEVELOPMENT**

**11<sup>th</sup> GFMD Summit  
5-7 December – Marrakesh**



# *11<sup>th</sup> GFMD Summit: Day 1*

## *Opening plenary session:*

- The Inaugural Session of 11h GFMD Summit gathered over **2,000** participants from **135** UN Member States, **45** international organizations, civil society, private sector, academia, and other migration stakeholders.
- More than **40** high-level government representatives, comprised of ministers and vice ministers, as well as senior officials of various international organizations also graced the inaugural session.

## *Opening remarks by the Moroccan and German co-Chairs*

**Mr. El Habib Nadir and Ambassador Götz Schmidt-Bremme:**  
introduced the achievements made in the framework of the first ever two-year GFMD Co-Chairmanship.

- It was an example of successful **North-South cooperation**, based in respect and mutual understanding.
- The Global Forum made a substantial contribution to the review of the **implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**, and more importantly, in the **elaboration of the GCM**.

# *Official speeches*



**Mr. Abdelkrim Benoutiq**, Minister  
Delegate in charge of Moroccan Living  
Abroad and Migration Affairs

- Human mobility is the **responsibility of all states** which necessitates a participatory and scientific approach.
- The GCM is a historical step towards recognising the **role of countries** of destination, transit, and origin and thinking about **sustainable solutions** at the local, national, regional, and international levels.

# *Official speeches*

- The adoption of the **Global Compact** signifies that migration is recognised as a cross-border phenomenon and placed at the **centre of the global agenda** - thanks to the atmosphere of trust and political will that the GFMD.
- The GCM leaves ample room for the Forum to decide how best to include discussions on **GCM implementation, follow-up, and review** in its agenda.



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

# *Official speeches*



**Mr. Antonio Vitorino**, Director General  
of the International Organisation for  
Migration

- The task today of states and international organisations is not just about managing the challenges of migration but also **developing processes to harness and optimise** the benefits of migration.
- The **Mayoral Mechanism** will provide tools to implement the compact at all levels, especially at the local level.

# GFMD Common Space

Focused on the theme “***From Global Commitments to Multi-Stakeholder Action,***” this year’s Common Space took place wherein civil society, national and local government and private sector speakers articulated their institutional perspectives on **how the global commitments in the GCM can be amplified**, in cooperation with the **UN Migration Network**, through their already existing initiatives on the ground.

**Four parallel thematic sessions ensued to deliberate on how to ensure:**

1) Migrants’ and diaspora contribution to sustainable development

2) Inclusion of migrants

3) Safe, dignified and rights-based transit, entry, reception and return

4) Decent work, labour rights and fair recruitment

# *Session 1: key points*

- There is a need to support **migrants at all stages of the migratory cycle**, from the country of origin, while in transit and in the host country.
- The **country of origin** should provide the necessary documentation before departure and assist migrants through consular support in the destination country.
- The **host country** should deploy efforts to assist migrants in settling by providing them with a welcoming environment and appropriate resources and services.
- It is important to keep migrants' **cultural and social identity** alive and build **trust and confidence** between the diaspora and governments in the home countries.

## *Session 2: key points*

- A **holistic approach based on evidence and research** should be adopted, involving partnerships with different ministries and agencies in the field of housing, employment, health, education, and justice.
- The **voices of children and young migrants** should be heard. They constitute key actors to partner with in the implementation of policies that will benefit them.
- Working at the **local level and adopting an intercultural approach** can contribute to the successful integration of migrants. Migrants should be part of the development and implementation of strategies; this can create a new **sense of belonging and acceptance** within the host community.

## *Session 3: Key points*

- Governments need to reject the **criminalisation and demonization** of undocumented migrants.
- **Detention means deprivation of liberty** and this can be harmful for the migrant and for society. CSOs should be allowed to **conduct monitoring missions** to ensure that the fundamental rights of migrants are respected.
- Participants identified the following **capacity building needs**:
  - Finding **regular pathways** for migration,
  - **Lowering the requirements** of visa procedures,
  - Launching international schemes on **monitoring** and programs for the **identification of missing migrants**.
  - Focusing on the **return of children and vulnerable populations**

## *Session 4: Key points*

- **Triple win project** is a bilateral agreement for skills partnership between Germany and the Philippines that seeks to **ensure decent work** for Pilipino nurses. Implemented through a multi-stakeholder approach, this project gathers **employers, CSOs and trade unions**, and focuses on equality of treatment, access to labour rights, as well as inclusion through labour.
- It includes **skills and language training courses** before departure, a transparent selection process, a dispute settlement mechanism, and monitoring guidelines for further implementation.

***Gold standard*** = *Balancing the interests of the country of origin, the country of destination and the migrants themselves.*

# *Common Space closing remarks:*

Ambassador Götz Schmidt-Bremme identified the following **key recommendations** to move forward:

-We need to demonstrate that **multilateralism** can deliver positive results and put an end to all the suffering caused by forced migrations.

We need to reject the **criminalisation** and **demonization** of those who are in a critical situation

We need to make it a win-win situation by defending **the positive impact** of migrations without denying its **side effects** and negative impacts

We need to recognise that there is **not one solution** that fits everyone

Migration is here to stay, and we need to **change the public perception and the politicization of** the issue. This can be done by working together with the media, CSOs, and policy-makers



# *11<sup>th</sup> GFMD Summit: Day 2*

# *Government-led Roundtable Sessions*

- The second day was dedicated to the **six government-led and interactive roundtable** (RT) sessions prepared by government-led teams after a series of consultations in Geneva.
- They systematically mainstream human rights, gender perspectives and whole-of-society and whole-of-government approaches.
- Participants from diverse backgrounds offered their **multi-stakeholder perspectives** on migrants' vulnerability and resilience, regional mobility, transferable learning and policy coherence, good migration governance for sustainable development, etc.

# *Government-led Roundtable Sessions*

## **Roundtable 1 - From vulnerability to resilience: recognising migrants as agents of development**

- RT Session 1.1. Harnessing the capital of migrants to realise their potential
- RT Session 1.2. Migrants' engagement with public services: from basic access to co-production

## **Roundtable 2 - Regional mobility to promote transferable learning and policy coherence**

- RT Session 2.1. South-South mobility: trends, patterns and transferable learning
- RT Session 2.2. Regional mobility and policy coherence to support development

## **Roundtable 3 - Good migration governance for sustainable development**

- RT Session 3.1. Aligning governance with contemporary drivers of migration
- RT Session 3.2. Beyond Remittances: leveraging the development impact and promoting the transnational engagement of diaspora and migrants

RT 1.1:	RT 1.2:	RT 2.1:	RT 2.2:	RT 3.1:	RT 3.2:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Harnessing various forms of <b>migrants’ capital</b>—human, economic, social and cultural—is a responsibility of all states in order to optimize the development potential of migration.</li> <li>- <b>Integration</b> is key and can be achieved through language courses to get a better understanding of the host country and foster social inclusion.</li> <li>- Collecting real and <b>concrete example</b> of how migrants contribute to host communities can counter toxic discourse and widespread populism.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Access to <b>public services</b> must both have a short and long-term perspective to ensure its sustainability.</li> <li>- Migrants should be seen more positively to <b>overcome xenophobia</b> and the politicization—they need to be seen as a productive asset of society.</li> <li>- There is a need to look for <b>alternatives to detention</b> or criminalization of irregular migrants.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There are <b>lessons</b> that can be learnt by comparing and contrasting the scale and nature of human mobility between regions.</li> <li>- <b>South-South mobility</b> (SSM) is a growing phenomenon and emerges a new paradigm given the increasing contribution of the Global South in the world GDP.</li> <li>- The <b>usual migration patterns</b> of countries of origin, transit and destinations are rapidly changing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Migration remains to be a <b>predominantly regional</b> issue—over 50% of people move regionally.</li> <li>- Regional mobility cooperation has its <b>own pros</b> (common history, language, proximity) and <b>cons</b> (migration outside the region is not taken into account, overlapping membership, poor implementation)</li> <li>- As most migration is <b>circular</b>, there is a need to institutionalize new pathways for circular migration.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The general understanding on the <b>drivers of migration</b> has been predominantly negative.</li> <li>- Looking at the drivers of migration merely from a “sending country” perspective does not allow for an understanding of the <b>positive factors</b> that drive of migration.</li> <li>- <b>Demographic transition</b> needs to be considered as a driver of migration given the ageing population in some countries and the dramatic increase of unemployed youth.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Migrant transnational economic engagement is both a <b>consequence</b> and a <b>factor</b> of economic growth and development.</li> <li>- <b>Remittances</b> are the most visible act of migrants’ contribution to the development of their home countries.</li> <li>- <b>Migrants transfer skills and capacities</b>, disseminate national culture and heritage, and participate in political debates.</li> </ul>

# *Business Mechanism*

**Implementation of the GCM:  
how business will judge  
success in the 21st century  
world of work**



# *Business Mechanism*

- The 2018 GFMD Business Meeting saw the **broadest and most diverse representation** of the private sector in the GFMD history.
- **Three sets** of panel discussions took place to elaborate the business perspective on how to implement the GCM.

***1- Story-telling: businesses and governments share their stories***

***2- Reactions to the stories from stakeholders. What solutions are offered to fill the skills gaps through regulatory frameworks enabling safe, orderly and regular migration?***

***3- Technology as a solution? Leveraging technology to respond to the 21st century labour market needs and to support cooperation in migration***

# *Business Mechanism*

## Conclusion and way forward

- Participants emphasised the need:
  - For businesses to **come out of the closet**, to be more vocal and visible in promoting transparent, fair and ethical recruitment for all levels of employment
  - To **strengthen public-private partnerships** on migration issues beyond
  - To develop a **positive narrative** on the impact of international migration.

## *GFMD Side Events*

- **Thirteen side events** took place on the margins of the Eleventh GFMD Summit on 6 to 7 December, complementing the thematic focus of the six roundtable sessions and the objectives of the Global Compact.
- While most of the side events were organised by international organisations, some were organised in cooperation with governments. Also, some of the events were co-hosted with the **Government of Morocco**.
- The events highlighted the **cross-cutting aspects of migration** and development and put forth **innovative policy tools** and practices adopted by governments and non-state stakeholders.



# *11<sup>th</sup> GFMD Summit: Day 3*



*Platform for  
Partnerships*

# *The “GFMD Marketplace” – a means to leverage partnerships for implementing the GCM?*

Five state-of-the-art state-led and multi-stakeholder initiatives on migration and development were presented:

- 1. Migration and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: an interactive tool** (ODI and Switzerland )
- 2. People on the Move in the Context of Disasters and Climate Change: Addressing their Assistance and Protection Needs in the Global Compact for Migration** (*PDD, IOM, UNHCR, Bangladesh*)
- 3. Towards Comprehensive Global Guidance on Developing and Implementing Bilateral Labour Migration Arrangements (BLAs) - Unpacking Key Obstacles to Implementation in the African Region** (IOM, ILO, Sweden)
- 4. Remittances for Africa: reducing costs and maximizing impact for development** (The European Commission and the IFAD)
- 5. African Cities’ Initiative on Migration: Towards Fighting against all Forms of Discrimination** (UNESCO, Moroccan National Council for Human Rights (CNDH), UCLG-Africa)

# *Platform for Partnerships: Conclusions*

- As we enter the era of GCM implementation, further reflection is needed on how **the PfP can be practically situated** in the development of the UN Capacity Building Mechanism and how the GFMD, in general, can establish close links with the **UN Migration Network**.
- This will allow the Global Forum to effectively contribute and concretise its accorded role in **the implementation, follow up and review of the GCM**.
- Going forward, the next **GFMD Chair of Ecuador** is committed to further develop the PfP to advance multi-stakeholder partnerships, address today's migration and development challenges, and continue accompanying the **new architecture of international migration**.

## *Future of the Forum*

- **Amb. Götz Schmidt-Bremme** and **Mr. El Habib Nadir** shared the milestones that have been achieved leading to the Marrakesh Summit, highlighting the GFMD's contribution to the 2030 Agenda and the GCM processes—the GFMD Recommendations to the 2017 and 2018 High Level Political Forum and the GFMD Thematic Recollection (2007-2017).
- **Ms. Louise Arbour** and **IOM DG Mr. Antonio Vitorino** delivered keynote remarks. They both stressed the need for the GFMD to complement the knowledge platform that the UN Migration Network will provide to support the implementation of the short-term deliverables and objectives of the GCM.

# Future of the Forum

- **Amb. Eduard Gnesa and Amb. Esteban Conejos Jr.**, GFMD Review Team Co-Chairs, presented the findings contained in the report of the **GFMD Ten-Year Review**, wherein they emphasized the three elements of the GFMD's added value in:
  - (1) offering networking opportunities,
  - (2) facilitating partnerships, and
  - (3) acquiring knowledge.

According to specific recommendations in the report, the **GFMD can deepen policy dialogue** through continued format, facilitate multi-stakeholder partnerships through a **GFMD Marketplace and Migration Laboratories**, and support the implementation, follow-up and review of the internationally agreed goals.

# *Future of the Forum*

- **Mr. Santiago Javier Chavez Pareja** presented his vision of the Twelfth GFMD Summit. The 2019 GFMD will be guided by the overarching theme “*Changing paradigms – towards real strategic alliances and shared responsibilities*”, and will concentrate on:

**Shared responsibility** based on the human rights of people in mobility

**Giving a voice** to every actor involved, in order to have integral and effective management of migration and to generate specific, strategic and effective alliances

Promoting necessary **changes in the narrative** of human mobility

Coordinating and developing efforts aimed at the recollection and **processing of data** and information on migration

Contributing to the **implementation of the GCM**

# *Closing Session*

- *Keynote speech:*

**Ms. Valérie Plante**, Mayor of Montreal, Canada, delivered a keynote address which focused on the critical role of cities in migration management. She highlighted **that local authorities** were already delivering on many of the objectives reflected in the Global Compact and should thus be clearly involved in the design of its follow-up and implementation architecture. She applauded the GFMD for welcoming the **establishment of a Mayors Mechanism** within the Forum.

- *Closing session:*

**Ambassador Götz Schmidt-Bremme**

German co-Chair

- **Urged all participants to utilise the GFMD as a space** for an honest, fact-based debate on migration, while involving those that remain as critical of the GCM

**Mr. El Habib Nadir**

Moroccan co-Chair

- **Highlighted the potential of the GFMD** – as a well-established, informal, state-led but multi-stakeholder space – for the implementation and follow-up of the GCM and in making a case for migration as a basis for development

**Mr. Santiago Javier Chavez Pareja, GFMD**  
2019 Chair Ecuador

- **Will work closely with Germany and Morocco** towards achieving a vision for the GFMD, to facilitate discussions on the implementation of the Global Compact for Migration, and to maintain its structure as a broad, informal and flexible space for the establishment of strategic partnerships.

Official Handover  
of Chairmanship  
from Germany and  
Morocco to  
Ecuador

