EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCES AND INITITIVES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GLOBAL COMPACT FOR SAFE, ORDERLY AND REGULAR MIGRATION - GLOBAL FORUM ON MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT QUITO 24 JANUARY 2019

SPANISH ENTRY

Spain remains strongly committed with the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM). The Head of Government Mr. Pedro Sánchez attended the Intergovernmental Conference held in Marrakech on 10-11 December 2018 where the GCM was adopted. In UN New York Spain voted in favour of UNGA Resolution 73/195 which endorsed the GCM and acted as a Co-facilitator together with Bangladesh of the UNGA Resolution on Modalities of the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF). In UN Geneve Spain is part of the group Friends of Migration.

Spain has a long experience in dealing with international migration. In last decades the country has developed a comprehensive migratory policy based upon a global 360 degrees approach to migration. This national approach embodied, avant la lettre, the core of the vision, principles and objectives of the GCM. Therefore in practical terms Spain was implementing the GCM well before its adoption.

The GCM and its framework for cooperation, as a milestone in approaching migratory challenges and opportunities by international community, represent a major source of inspiration for Spanish national migratory management. Spain is committed to the implementation of the GCM at national level. To the extent of its possibilities Spain also contributes -both bilaterally and as a member of the European Union- to ease the execution of the GCM at regional levels (Latin America, Northern Africa and Subsaharian Africa).

In the last year since the approval of the GCM Spain has developed several initiatives linked to the national implementation of GCM. This action combines new fresh projects with already on-going measures. They relate mainly the following objectives of the Compact:

- Objective 2 (ongoing Spanish Agency of Cooperation –AECID- projects in Subsaharian countries)
- Objective 3 (ongoing AECID projects on migratory information and awareness on risks of irregular paths of migration)
- Objective 5 (fresh new Projects on Circular Migration both on labour –agricultureand higher education –fresh approach to scholarships-)
- Objective 6 (connected to Circular Migration programs)

- Objective 7 (several fresh measures: new type of center for first reception of migrants; human-friendly modifications of security-concerned facilities in some land border posts; especial treatment in the context of Venezuelan mobility crisis)
- Objective 8 (improving national Save and Rescue Service and cooperation with neighbouring countries; solidarity in disembarkations from Central Mediterranean)
- Objective 9 (ongoing and new projects with third Northern African and Subsaharian African countries)
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- Objective 11 (several new measures have improved IBM in national coast borders)
- Objective 15 (enlargement of services included; measures implemented in close cooperation with regional and local authorities and civil society)
- Objective 16 (well advanced works for a new National Plan for Citizenship and Integration –including migrants-)
- Objective 17 (reinforced new activities of the National Observatory for Countering Xenophobia and Racism –OBERAXE- in strong cooperation with regional observatories, academia and civil society)
- Objective 21 (ongoing implementation of the National Resettlement Program; ongoing partnership with IOM in both resettlement and accompanied returns and reintegration)

In all these state-led measures the whole-of-government approach is applied and, when feasible, the whole-of-society approach.

Spain looks forward to this first exchange of good practices and experiences on the implementation of GCM at the margins of GFMD XII Summit in Quito.