

Report of the Eleventh GFMD 2018 Moroccan-German Co-Chairmanship

“Honouring international commitments to unlock the potential of all migrants for development”



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Foreword

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

There are more than 258 million migrants in the world, and they play an important economic role, contributing to 9% to the GDP and constituting 3% of the worldwide population. Economic factors used to be the main driver for migrations but now migration is often forced due to the population's vulnerability, insecurity and ethnic conflicts. Forced migrations have pushed the UN to rethink this issue. The *2015 UN SGDs* constitute a starting point and a strategic vision to provide a comprehensive solution. The *New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants* is another key document to promote safe, orderly and regular migration. Furthermore, the *Global Compact for Migrations (GCM)* constitutes a historical step towards recognising a shared responsibility among countries of destination, transit and origin and thinking about national, local, regional, continental and worldwide tools to find sustainable solutions. This Forum would like to take stand against populism, racism and political manipulation. Migration should not be manipulated irrationally by the media to create fear and be portrayed as a source of problems. This Forum is a worldwide initiative that relies on a participative approach from all countries.



In Morocco, more than 5 million Moroccans live abroad; they constitute 13% of the population and 7% of the GDP. About 500 000 are highly skilled. They share strong links with their country of origin, and they value religion, solidarity and tolerance. His Majesty the King Mohammed VI stresses on a new vision for migrations grounded in 3 foundations: 1) human and based on human rights, 2) taking a regional, and 3) a global approach. This legislative change was followed by 2 regularisation campaigns that provided a legal stay in Morocco to 50 000 migrants, and 7000 children had access to school. Regularised migrants could benefit from health services, social housing and professional training. Morocco presented its agenda for change at the *Addis Ababa Conference*, sharing its participative vision of migration governance, based on deep South-South cooperation. Indeed, 32 million migrants come from Africa and 4 out 5 migrants from Africa migrate within Africa. Solidarity and cooperation among African countries is needed. For this Forum to be a success and provide solutions, it needs to adopt a scientific reflexion and keep a human vision of migrations.

Foreword

Mr. El Habib Nadir, Moroccan Co-Chair of the GFMD 2017-2018

**Excellencies, Honourable Ministers,
Directors of the Intergovernmental Organizations, Ambassadors;
Distinguished Parliamentarians;
Distinguished delegates, representatives of governments, international organizations, civil society,
private sector, academics and media;
Ladies and gentlemen.**

I would like to welcome you to this eleventh edition of the GFMD in this great and beautiful city that is Marrakech. A mythical city, a melting pot of human civilisations and a truly multicultural city. A city in Africa; a young and hopeful continent in all aspects.

I would like to welcome you to this eleventh edition of the GFMD in this great and beautiful city that is Marrakech, a mythical city, a melting pot of human civilisations and multicultural and open city. A city in Africa, a young and a promising continent in every way.

I would like to thank all the participants here today for accepting our invitation to participate in this high-level event, which is one of the most important annual meetings dealing with migration in relation to development. This 11th edition of the GFMD is under the overarching theme "Honouring international commitments to unlock the potential of migrants for development"

It is also the end of the two-year co-presidency with Germany, which happened in symbiosis and harmony. It was an example of a successful North-South cooperation on a respect and mutual understanding basis.

During this co-chairmanship we discussed the whole spectrum of migration issues related to development, including controversial issues. And this is where the strength of the GFMD lies. Because the discussions are free and the exchanges serene and fruitful.

Also, I am pleased to express my congratulations to our German partners for the efforts made to ensure the success of this co-chairmanship of the Forum.

I would like to pay tribute to Ambassador Schmidt-Bremme and his team, for the climate of mutual trust with the Moroccan team, and the convergence of views. I must say that there was a symbiosis and a perfect harmony between our two teams.

My thanks also go to all the stakeholders: Governments, international organizations, civil society, private sector, researchers, experts for their significant contribution to the success of the forum and for the ideas, the proposals, and the richness of the debates and exchanges throughout the preparatory process. Similarly, as part of our joint action, we have accompanied the process of developing the Global Compact on Migration, and it is a great honour for Morocco to be selected by the United Nations to host the conference for the adoption of the Global Compact on Migration. We are thankful for this confidence and responsibility entrusted to us.

Ladies and gentlemen

We felt that after 10 years of existence of the Forum, it was necessary to launch an evaluation, and we were assisted in this endeavour by a panel of high level experts including former GFMD Presidents, and I want to pay tribute to them for their tremendous work and will be presented on the last day of the forum as part of the "Future of the Forum" session.

It will be an opportunity to move forward the tremendous work accomplished throughout this decade, when the Forum has become a major consultation and exchange process in the field of migration related to development.

Indeed, our Global Forum has made a lot of progress since its first edition in 2007 in Brussels. And we have the immense honor of welcoming Ms. Declercq who is the first chair of the forum.

In its own way, every state that Chaired the GFMD, marked it by its footprint, addressing new topics and new channels of communication between governments, international organizations, civil society and private sector. We are so delighted this year to open a new migration dimension namely the important role of local authorities in migration issues. We are so happy to welcome Mayors and representatives of local authorities.

Each annual meeting was an opportunity to forge new partnerships between states and other stakeholders. Our Forum has always been responsive to migration news, and it has had successful actions such as the inclusion of migration in the 2030 Agenda and its role in the process of developing the Global Compact for Migration. Safe, regular and orderly. Similarly, the New York Declaration on Migrants and Refugees explicitly recognized the important role of the GFMD.

Thanks to an inclusive approach, regular consultations and follow-up activities, today it is more than an annual conference, but a truly dynamic international process.

Ladies and gentlemen,

We are experiencing a historic turning point marked by the will of the international community to take a step forward towards global governance of migration. Only collective action and renewed cooperation based on shared responsibility and development can maximize the positive effects of migration on host countries, countries of origin and the migrants themselves.

If we want to realize the vision of the 2030 Agenda for a world of peace, prosperity, and dignity for all where no one is left behind, we must promote diversity and the human rights of migrants. Human mobility is a global phenomenon, it is a fact, it cannot be curbed, but it must be well managed for the interest of the countries of origin, destination and the migrants themselves.

Ladies and gentlemen,

I am pleased with the interest generated by the Global Forum on Migration and Development, as evidenced this year by the number of participants from all continents (135 countries) and international organizations. There is no need to remind you of the enormous challenge that migration is, one of the most important issues of the 21st century. The launch today of the 11th edition, on the eve of the adoption of the first international instrument on migration, gives us the opportunity to take stock of migration issues that interest all of us, countries of origin, transit and destination.

We want to strengthen this important platform that can foster new forms of cooperation between different stakeholders, while keeping its specificity as a state-led process, where the latter can come with ideas, can present models, practical and useful experiences. The aim is to identify what is working well, to

fill gaps, to advance thinking through constructive dialogue away from the weight of formal international meetings.

To conclude, I welcome you once again to this edition of the Forum in Marrakech, the ocher city. I am convinced that the debates and exchanges during this forum will lead to concrete results and recommendations for migrants and communities of origin and reception.

Thank you for your attention.

Foreword

Ambassador Götz Schmidt-Bremme, *German Co-Chair of the GFMD 2017-2018*

Anrede, Dear friends!

The leaders of the world including German Chancellor **Angela Merkel** are on their way to Marrakech to confirm their **commitment to the Global Compact** for safe, orderly and regular migration.

Our **Moroccan hosts have undertaken tremendous efforts** to prepare for this unique double summit.

Je suis sûrement aussi impressionné que tous les autres invités de ce cadre magnifique crée pour nos discussions et manifestations.

As German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas, who would have preferred to be with us already today, phrased it – and I quote: “Almost the entire world community has agreed on a common and coherent approach to such a controversial topic as migration. This is a courageous and **encouraging sign for effective multilateral action**. The Global Compact is the response of the international community to a challenge which **cannot be efficiently dealt with in an isolated national manner**.

While already the preamble of the Global compact highlights that national **sovereignty is neither restricted nor transferred by the Compact, respect for basic human rights is also indisputable**. The guiding principle of the Compact is the **reduction of irregular migration** and its negative consequences. It is about addressing its **root causes**, to give people **perspectives for decent living in their home countries**. No one should be forced to leave his or her home, to the effect that migration becomes **an option, not a necessity**, and the overall **volume decreases**. The German government stands ready to **support anyone in his or her efforts to attain these objectives**” Unquote.

Now we are here **to jointly commit to and celebrate our future partnership**, but also to bring it to the ground, to the world beyond conference tables.

Therefore, I ask:

Which are the first steps we should take to implement the GCM?

What are the first challenges for GFMD to address? And how should this be done?

And – very importantly – are there new trends which we must not overlook?

Let me come to this last question first.

After 10 years of GFMD, we are fortunate to have a group of eminent **migration experts** who carried out a **review of GFMD** under the aegis of two very distinguished former chairs: Ambassador Gnesa and Ambassador Conejos. And we are grateful for the elaborate analysis and the wide range of tools and options pointed out by their very detailed report.

During the coming days I am looking forward to also listening to the voices of **private sector, civil societies and local administrations**. Local administrations in particular are first in line to deliver to the people. **The importance of the local level can therefore hardly be overrated!**

Why do growing parts of society in some countries of transit and destination, perceive migration as a challenge rather than a benefit for their communities? What is your assessment? I would argue, that this is the **result of large mixed migration flows and a lack of migration governance**, resulting in predominantly irregular migration **in the past**. Therefore, the **GCM is the remedy**.

But **how do we prove to local communities that their needs are always taken duly into account**, when they do not see this explicitly mentioned in the GCM?

We can point out, that it is the first and **primary obligation of every government to look after the wellbeing of its citizens**. This obligation is one of the pillars and preconditions of national sovereignty. It **needs no further specification** or international agreement. Whereas there **have not been any global guidelines on standards for the treatment of migrants before the GCM**, except the obligation to respect their basic human rights.

But local communities will only be **convinced of the benefits of migration if they are tangible on the ground**, in their everyday life. Therefore, **let us explore, how we as GFMD** and how we, the governments who adopt the GCM **can help to make migration a success on the ground**.

Which technique has the GFMD to offer? Migration Labs? More exchange between local administrations? Fieldtrips? We are looking forward to hearing your advice counting on your expertise.

There is **no better place to address this issue than GFMD**.

Because **GFMD is the market place** at the centre of the new GCM ecosystem, the shortcut for all stakeholders to find a competent interlocutor or partner, a toolbox, a catalyst and a safe environment for open discussion, confidence building and experiment.

Allow me to underline **some specific entry points** into the implementation of the GCM and migration in general. We believe these issues **should be at the core of our future joint efforts**:

1. **“Global Skills Partnerships“**: we are prepared to extend our engagement regarding bilateral agreements to prepare qualified labour in countries of origin for job vacancies in countries of destination. The **GFMD** can facilitate these partnerships.
2. **Legal identity and adequate information**: All countries need to respect the right of all individuals to a legal identity by providing all their nationals with proof of nationality and relevant documentation. In the migration context we need to know, whom we are dealing with, to determine how best to proceed. “Proof of legal identity” is the precondition for almost everything that the Global Compact offers to migrants. And, very importantly, it will considerably improve the narrative about migration in countries of transit and destination.
3. **Smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons**: We need to respond to the needs of migrants who face situations of vulnerability, e.g. those who have been smuggled or who are victims of human trafficking. The **German contribution to the International Organization for Migration alone in 2018** amounts to more than **100 Mio. USD**. Far more than half of this were used for programs in **Africa**. Much of it was spent to protect people from the risks of irregular migration or to **assist their return and reintegration at home and to stabilize their communities**.
4. **Disaster Risk Reduction and Disaster Displacement**: Germany very much welcomes that the GCM highlights the importance to protect disaster displaced persons and to cooperate to this end with the **Platform on Disaster Displacement**. We support this platform and urge those who share our concern to join the effort. We need more effective **disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation**. We need to implement the **Sendai Framework** for better disaster preparedness, early warning and action. And we need forecast based financing. Finally:

Intraregional migration: During last week’s IOM-Council we have heard many examples for **good cooperation on migration in different regions of the world**. This is increasingly important and deserves our attention, since intraregional migration is accounting for more than half – and in some regions more than 80 % - of the total migration. We welcome that regional Organizations like the African Union, ESCAP, Mercosur, ASEAN, not to mention the EU, have already contributed considerably to migration management in their respective regions. We therefore **welcome the leadership shown by Ecuador, the incoming GFMD-Chair** on this subject.

We are **looking forward to the Ecuadorian Chairmanship**, convinced that the nature of today’s migration requires a truly international approach- we will only be successful together.

Last but not least, allow me to thank the government of Morocco and in particular my friend, Mr. Nadir and his team for two exciting and productive years in partnership and friendship.

I thank you for your kind attention.

Foreword

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

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Thank you to the co-chairs of the GFMD, Director-General Nadir and ambassador Schmidt-Bremme, for inviting me to this inaugural session of the Eleventh GFMD Summit Meeting. May I take this opportunity to congratulate you for your extraordinary commitment to the global debate and cooperation on migration and development over the course of your joint chairmanship?

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Ecuador for its willingness to take up the chairmanship of the GFMD next year. I would like to thank you for stepping up and assuming this responsibility during an important period of migration challenges, not least in your own region. I wish you the best of luck.

These past two years have been truly remarkable. We have seen a phenomenal culmination of effort and energy to put migration at the center of the global agenda – to recognize its multilateral dimension as a cross border phenomenon. Governments and other stakeholders have sought to define the common challenges and find common solutions to one of humanity's most central issues, realizing that the gains of better cooperation are enormous.

We have come a long way since the first High-Level Dialogue in the General Assembly in 2006 – in which member states of the UN highlighted many of the same issues, across regions and independent of being perceived of as countries of origin, transit and destination. Looking back, it might be surprising that we could already find a remarkably comprehensive approach to many aspects of migration and a strong willingness to debate and cooperate at that time. This willingness manifested itself in the creation of the GFMD in 2007. Member States have now further refined their understanding of migration and have reached a historic agreement in the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. Migration has finally found its home in the United Nations.

The compact considers the complex realities of why people make the decision to move across borders. It is a comprehensive framework, that deals with all aspects and phases of the migratory process. It is anchored in the fundamental interlinkage between state sovereignty and state interdependence and aims at improving state cooperation as its key organizing principle. It seeks to maximize the benefits of migration for all – migrants, communities and states - while reducing the negative aspects of migration, particularly those linked to irregular, chaotic and dangerous practices.

The compact is legally non-binding and its goal is neither to stop nor to increase migration. It is designed to allow countries to better manage migration in a safe, orderly and regular fashion on a voluntary basis. It is meant to be truly global and does not favour any particular region. Rather, it reflects a global need for evidence-based policies and greater international cooperation on migration to better harness its undoubted benefits and mitigate its challenges.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The historic July 13 agreement on the text of the Global Compact for Migration was reached after some 18 months of consultations and negotiations, involving both governments and multi-stakeholders, in which most of you were intimately involved.

Not surprisingly, the GCM recognizes the contributions of the GFMD to the process leading to the adoption of the Compact. The GFMD has indeed served as one of the key venues in which professional expertise as well as political goodwill were developed over a decade. I would be amiss not to mention in this context the formidable contribution of Peter Sutherland in establishing the GFMD and forcefully setting migration on the global agenda. His work has led to a more constructive global dialogue and created an atmosphere of trust between stakeholders, leading us to where we are today – to an environment in which this issue could finally find a proper home in the United Nations.

In light of that, it seems appropriate that the GCM expressly invites the GFMD to engage in the implementation of its objectives through its tested working methods, namely to provide a platform to exchange experiences on implementation, share good practices on policies and cooperation, promote innovative approaches, and foster multi-stakeholder partnerships around specific policy issues. The GCM, however, leaves ample room for this Forum to decide how best to include discussions on CGM implementation, follow-up and review, in its agenda.

The GFMD's greatest asset is the many dedicated colleagues, from states, civil society and private sector, and its most recent addition of the Mayoral Mechanism, who have tirelessly worked to advance these efforts. We will continue to count on your support as we now move into what the Secretary-General has called the era of implementation.

As Member States and other participants gather for the Intergovernmental Conference for the adoption of the Global Compact in just a few days we will have the opportunity to launch an unprecedented process of cooperation to harness the benefits of human mobility and reduce the human and economic costs of poorly managed, chaotic and disorderly international migration. Roles and mandates will need to be clarified, resources need to be allocated, but most importantly, we must make the GCM come to life by generating ideas, projects and action. The GFMD will be an important component in making it happen.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Morocco assumed the Co-Chairmanship of the 11th Global Forum for Migration and Development (GFMD) in January 2017, in a period of transition for the international community and for the GFMD. Fundamental changes have taken place in the global migration discourse since 2006, at the time of the first High Level Dialogue (HLD). That first HLD presented an opportunity to identify ways and means to maximise the developmental benefits of international migration. The other significant outcome of the HLD was the proposal of the UN Secretary-General and his Special Representative on International Migration and Development for the creation of the GFMD. Following the adoption of the 2030 Agenda in 2015 and the inclusion of Target 10.7 on 2 “*orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people,*” the contribution of migration to development has been officially included in the UN development framework for the first time, as have the indicators which can be used to measure progress in the way countries manage migration for development. In line with SDGs, the Global Compact for Migration (CGM) is seen as a potential blue print for the implementation of target 10.7, and to contributing to target 8.8 in protecting migrant workers, among other goals and targets. Since 2015, the GFMD has increasingly focused on the review and implementation of migration-related SDGs, in particular by establishing the GFMD ad-hoc Working Group on the 2030 Agenda and the Global Compact on Migration.

The Moroccan Co-Chair organised three preparatory meetings over the course of a year that contributed to finalising the background papers for the six Roundtable Sessions. These preparatory meetings were supported by discussions under three thematic workshops. In addition, two side-events and two dialogues were held in collaboration with various international partners. The Summit of the 11th GFMD was held in Marrakesh, Morocco from 5 to 7 December 2018.

This report is divided into 5 parts: 1. Introduction, outlining the background of Morocco’s Co-Chairmanship; 2. The preparatory Process; 3. The GFMD and Key Partners in Migration and Development – A Multi-stakeholder Partnership for Promoting Migration for Development; and 4. The Eleventh GFMD Summit Meeting –Honouring international commitments to unlock the potential of all migrants for development, and 5. The Chair’s Summary.

1. Introduction

The eleventh GFMD took place at a crucial time. Migration currently occupies a prominent position on the international political agenda, following the September 2016 New York Declaration, the subsequent preparations for a Global Compact for Migration (GCM) and a Global Compact on Refugees (GCR). Attitudes towards migration continue to evolve, but significant differences persist. On the one hand, migration has become a more sensitive issue in countries experiencing serious integration or labour market challenges; many migrants are losing their lives at sea and in the desert, while extreme poverty, gender inequalities, and natural disasters continue to drive people to move. On the other hand, the positive effects of migration – when well managed – are increasingly recognised, and many governments worldwide have developed a strong interest into optimising the benefits of migration through more international partnerships to ensure that migration is beneficial to all.

The joint GFMD chairmanship of Germany and Morocco is the most recent example of this positive approach. The world is starting to notice that without multi-stakeholder and effective migration governance, the potential benefits of migration will never be realised. Hence, “Honouring International Commitments to Unlock the Potential of all Migrants for Development” was chosen as the overarching theme of the second year of the GFMD Co-Chairmanship.

2. Preparatory Process

The GFMD preparatory process consists of several activities such as roundtable discussions, preparatory meetings, thematic workshops, side events, dialogues, and special meetings. These activities contribute to shaping each annual GFMD Summit, as well as sustaining the Global Forum as an open discussion platform, that remains instrumental in paving the way for recent advances in international cooperation in migration and development.

The GFMD roundtable discussions were structured around the following three main themes, each systematically mainstreaming human rights, gender perspectives, whole-of-government, and whole-of-society approaches, and were discussed in six roundtables:

From vulnerability to resilience: recognising migrant women and men as agents of development

- Harnessing migrants' existing capitals to build resilience
- Migrants' engagement with public services: from basic access to co-production

Regional mobility to promote transferable learning and policy coherence

- South-South mobility: trends, patterns and transferable learning
- Regional mobility and policy coherence to support development

Good migration governance for sustainable development

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

Three preparatory meetings were held to inform the annual GFMD Summit and the overall international migration and development objectives by setting agendas, addressing practical and logistical elements of the Forum, and discussing matters related to states and observers.

Three thematic workshops were also organised. The first one was organised in April in Rabat and tackled the issue of "Migration for Development: a roadmap to achieving SDGs". The second thematic workshop was held in May in Geneva and discussed "Labour Migration and Skills". The last workshop took place in June in Agadir and was entitled "Children and Youth on the Move: Implementing Sustainable Solutions". Various migration and development policies and practices were shared during these thematic workshops.

Two side events were organised. The first event was on "Migration and rural development: fostering transnational partnerships" and was held to support policy-making and country-level interventions which successfully tackle the adverse drivers of rural migration and harness its development potential. A second side event at the 2018 High Level Political Forum focused on the "Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies", and showcased the findings of the GFMD's report, "Recommendations of the GFMD to the 2018 HLPF".

Furthermore, a Special Meeting on the GCM held in June 2018 with the Co-Facilitators and the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) for International Migration took place to prepare for future actions on the implementation of the Compact. Finally, a GFMD Dialogue on the Implementation of GCM was held in Geneva in September 2018. It provided the first opportunity for over 200 representatives to reflect collectively on how the GFMD could help translate the GCM commitments into action.

3. GFMD and Key Partners – A Multi-stakeholder Partnership for Promoting Migration for Development

Throughout the year, the GFMD Co-Chairs coordinated with the UN SRSG for International Migration and the Global Migration Group (GMG). To enhance the collaboration between the GFMD and the UN, several meetings and events were held with the SRSG and the GMG. These meetings reflected on the importance of a multi-stakeholder approach for the global migration debate and the relevance of working closely together to deliver ambitious outcomes.

During 2018, the Moroccan Co-Chairmanship took a bold step in recognising the important role of civil society in shaping migration discourses and policies and for putting emphasis on a rights-based approach to managing migration. For the first time, all participants of the Civil Society Days (CSDs) were invited to participate in the Platform for Partnership and the Closing Plenary at the Marrakesh GFMD Summit. More than 350 representatives of civil society from over 75 countries, as well as over 40 non-civil society observers including government delegates, foundations, and international organisations, gathered in Marrakesh for the CSDs to deliberate on action, goals, and partnerships needed for the inclusion, protection and empowerment of migrants.

The GFMD Business Mechanism organised the 2018 GFMD Business Meeting at the annual Summit in Marrakesh, exploring cross-cutting issues of business and migration among the private sector, governments, and other relevant stakeholders. It also gave support by providing speakers during the thematic workshops. At the multilateral level, the Business Mechanism was the primary vehicle for private sector participation in the negotiation of the CGM; a delegation of observers was sent during each of the six intense rounds of negotiations that took place between February and July 2018.

Furthermore, the German-Moroccan Co-Chairs formalised the relationship between local authorities participating in the Mayoral Forum on Human Mobility, Migration, and Development (“Mayoral Forum”) and the GFMD through the establishment of a “GFMD Mayors Mechanism.” This will improve the relationship between local authorities and the GFMD which will help bridge existing divides between local realities and global policy discussions, and between migrants, civil society and national governments.

The Co-Chairmanship has also recognised the importance of youth participation in GFMD activities. A thematic workshop entitled “Children and Youth on the Move: Implementing Sustainable Solutions” was organised in partnership with UNICEF in July. A representative of young migrants was invited to deliver a speech at the Opening Session of the Eleventh GFMD Summit.

Finally, Morocco has also placed a strong focus on research and has engaged with academics throughout the year. During the Summit, a workshop on the “Migration challenges and stakes of Morocco, between Africa and Europe” was organised by Moroccan Researchers on Migration.

4. Eleventh GFMD Summit Meeting – honouring international commitments to unlock the potential of all migrants for development

The Eleventh GFMD Summit started on 5 December with welcome addresses by the Moroccan and German GFMD Co-Chairs, Mr. El Habib Nadir and Ambassador Götz Schmidt-Bremme, who took stock of the achievements made in the framework of the first ever two-year GFMD Co-Chairmanship. For his part, Mr. Abdelkrim Benoutiq, Minister Delegate in charge of Moroccans Living Abroad and Migration Affairs, took pride in Morocco’s national policy on migration governance and emphasised that managing human mobility is a responsibility of all states which necessitates a participatory and consensual approach. Speaking as the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General for International Migration, Ms. Louise Arbour, articulated that that the impending adoption of the

Global Compact, after two remarkable years of elaborating, signifies that migration is now at the centre of the global agenda, thanks to the atmosphere of trust and political will that the GFMD has built in the past decade. Mr. Antonio Vitorino, the Director General of IOM, shared that today states and international organisations' task are not just about managing the challenges of migration but also developing processes to harness and optimise the benefits of migration.

Mr. Driss El Yazami, President of National Human Rights Council; Ms. Asako Okai, Assistant Secretary General and Director of Crisis Bureau, UNDP; Ambassador Regine De Clerq, GFMD 2007 Chair; Mr. Stephane Jaquemet, Director of Policy of ICMC; Mr. Roberto Suarez-Santos, Secretary-General of IOE; and Ms. Yasmin Youssef, representative of young migrants, also delivered their speeches during the inaugural ceremony. The speakers emphasised the crucial role that the GFMD has played over the past decade - and will continue to play amidst the increasingly xenophobic developments in many parts of the world. Indeed, the GFMD will remain a state-led and multi-stakeholder space dedicated to advancing dialogue and international cooperation on migration and development.

Focused on the theme *"From Global Commitments to Multi-Stakeholder Action,"* this year's Common Space commenced with the opening statements from Mr. El Habib Nadir; Civil Society Co-Chair Mr. Mamadou Goita and UN SRSG Ms. Louise Arbour. A Davos-style panel session also took place, wherein civil society, national and local government and private sector speakers articulated their institutional perspectives on how global commitments contained in the GCM can be amplified through their already existing initiatives on the ground, and in cooperation with the UN migration network. This network will report to the UN Secretary-General on the implementation of the GCM and will be coordinated by the International Organisation for Migrations. Four parallel thematic sessions followed 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; and (4) decent work, labour rights, and fair recruitment.

The 2018 Common Space wrap up was moderated by Ambassador Arturo Cabrera Hidalgo, GFMD 2019 Ecuadorian Chairmanship. He underscored the imperative for governments to work with civil society and other non-state actors in ensuring that international frameworks on human mobility and development - including the GCM and the Global Compact for Refugees - work for migrants and societies. The presentations by rapporteurs were followed by the closing remarks addressed by Ambassador Götz Schmidt-Bremme, Mr. Hamza Ibrahim, Civil Society Co-Chair, and Mr. António Vitorino.

Member States also met in a Special Session about the Future of the Forum and were unanimous in their resolve to maintain the GFMD as a privileged platform for policy exchange. The Forum agreed that it should play an important role in the implementation, follow-up, and review of the Global Compact on Migration. Ecuador, the new GFMD Chair, affirmed that it will strive to further develop the GFMD as an inclusive and non-normative space that has the capacity to generate a consensus of understanding and action – in particular, but not limited to the realisation of objectives and commitments of the Global Compact.

The special session on the Platform for Partnership (PfP) provided a joint space for governments and other GFMD stakeholders to discuss and present concrete projects and initiatives that relate to migration and development issues. For the first time this year, and thanks to the Moroccan GFMD Chair, the PfP session opened its doors to the Civil Society and Private Sector participants— to further leverage multi-stakeholder partnerships within and beyond the UN. Under the Ecuadorian 2019 Chairmanship, they proposed to revive a demand-driven "Marketplace", first introduced by the Belgian GFMD Chairmanship in 2007.

Closing Remarks and the Way Forward – Towards the implementation of the Global Migration Compact

The Closing Session of the 11th GFMD Summit featured the highlights of the intensive and substantive three-day programme. The rapporteurs from the different Roundtable Sessions respectively highlighted the main outcomes and recommendations from the three clusters of Roundtables, exploring aspects of migration and development related to promoting resilience, fostering mobility, and good migration governance, respectively. The presentations by the general rapporteurs were followed by a report on the Special Session of the Future of the Forum introduced by Ambassador Eduard Gnesa and Ambassador Esteban Conejos Jr., GFMD Review Team Co-Chairs. The Report on the Special Session on the PfP was presented by Ms. Estrella Lajom, Head of the GFMD Support Unit. Ms. Roula Hamati, Chair of GFMD 2018 Civil Society Days introduced the main conclusions from the Civil Society Days. Furthermore, Ms. Lynn Shotwell, Vice Chair of GFMD 2018 Business Mechanism, outlined the importance of the private sector's involvement and presented remarks on the Business Mechanism Meeting. The Keynote speech was delivered by Ms. Valérie Plante, Mayor of Montreal, Canada, who focused on the critical role of cities in migration management.

In closing the Eleventh Summit, Ambassador Götz Schmidt-Bremme 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. Similarly, Mr. El Habib Nadir 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. In his summary, the Chair highlighted discussions across five broad areas, (i) the roundtable outcomes; (ii) the Global Compact on Migration; (iii) the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development; (iv) GFMD and Key Partners; and (v) the Future of the Forum.

Both Co-Chairs warmly thanked all Summit participants for their engagement throughout the past two years and symbolically handed the GFMD Chairmanship over to Mr. Santiago Javier Chavez Pareja, Vice Minister for Human Mobility of Ecuador.

In his remarks, the Ecuadorian GFMD Chair vowed to 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 and generating consensus, which would allow for comprehensive consideration of all aspects and challenges posed by human mobility, including its humanitarian, development and human rights dimensions. He also joined the GFMD community to support the GFMD Chairmanship of Ecuador in 2019.

1. INTRODUCTION

The Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) 2017-2018 Co-Chairmanship of Germany and Morocco was launched in New York in December 2016. For the first time since the creation of the GFMD in 2007, two countries co-chaired the Global Forum at a time coinciding with the launch of the GCM process. This symbolic bridging of the Mediterranean Sea by linking Africa and Europe sent a strong signal for the further development of global migration objectives. The realisation of the second year of the GFMD Co-Chairmanship was only made possible thanks to the dedicated efforts of the GFMD community and builds upon the initiatives and achievements undertaken in the first year of the Co-Chairmanship.

This approach is a unique initiative for at least three reasons. Firstly, the nature of the co-chairmanship puts both Northern and Southern partners on an equal footing in leading the discussions on addressing common migration concerns. Secondly, for the first time, these two governments are providing planned and purposeful GFMD leadership over two years (a period that coincides with two historical processes: the development of the GCM and the early implementation of migration related aspects of the Sustainable Development Goals or SDGs). Thirdly, both governments have led by example in recent years through the introduction of forward-looking migration policies at the national level.

Morocco has for a long time been advocating for the conclusion of such a global cooperative framework. In his speech to the participants of the 2nd International Human Rights Forum on 27 November 2014 in Marrakesh, His Majesty the King Mohammed VI invited “the international community to resume discussions to come up with an international and regional migration governance framework, in line with the High-Level Dialogue on Migration and Development initiated by the former United Nations Secretary General, Mr. Kofi Annan”¹. Every region has committed to come up with a common position to be represented for discussion and many countries have organised internal consultations to define their own position. In Morocco, national consultations were held in September 2017 with civil society and diaspora representatives, scholars and researchers, representatives of the private sector and public institutions. These national consultations have enabled Morocco to come with a consolidated contribution to the Global Compact, the “Recommendations of the Kingdom of Morocco on the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migrations”.²

The last decade has been a period of transition for the international community and for the GFMD. Fundamental changes have taken place in the global migration discourse since 2006, at the time of the first High Level Political Dialogue (HLD). That first HLD presented an opportunity to identify ways and means to maximise the developmental benefits of international migration. The other significant outcome of the HLD was the proposal of the UN Secretary-General and his Special Representative on International Migration and Development for the creation of the GFMD. Following the adoption of the 2030 Agenda in 2015 and the inclusion of Target 10.7 on 2 “*orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people,*” the contribution of migration to development has been officially included in the UN development framework for the first time, as have the indicators which can be used to measure progress in the way countries manage migration for development. In line with SDGs, the GCM is seen as a potential blue print for the implementation of target 10.7, and to contributing to target 8.8 in protecting migrant workers, among other goals and targets. Since 2015,

¹Moroccan News Agency (MAP), “Royal message addressed to the participants of the 2nd World Forum on Human Rights”, 2014. Available here: <http://www.mapnews.ma/fr/phototheque/message-de-sm-le-roi-aux-participants-au-2-eme-forum-mondial-des-droits-de-lhomme>

²Please refer to “Morocco’s Migration Policies and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migrations”, Ministry Delegate in charge of International Cooperation, Moroccans Living Abroad and Migration Affairs (MDCMREAM), December 2018. Available here: https://www.gfmd.org/files/documents/moroccos_migration_web_.pdf

the GFMD has increasingly focused on the review and implementation of migration-related SDGs, in particular by establishing the GFMD ad-hoc Working Group on the 2030 Agenda and the Global Compact on Migration³.

Morocco has taken measures to implement these migration-explicit targets. This includes, for example, the adoption of a law on human trafficking in August 2016, that is currently being implemented, and for which a regulatory text is being finalised (targets 5.2, 8.7 and 16.2)⁴. This includes also the favourable policies that Morocco is implementing in favour of foreign students, who benefit from a 5% quota in public universities and from more than 7000 scholarships in 2016-2017 (target 4.b). This includes, finally, the work that Morocco has been doing in the past years to foster “safe, orderly and regular migration” (target 10.7) by regulating Moroccan migration and efficiently controlling borders⁵. This can be illustrated by Morocco’s decision to develop, at the invitation of His Majesty the King, a comprehensive policy on immigration and asylum based on a humanistic approach and consistent with the Kingdom’s international commitments that was adopted by the Government Council on 18 December 2014. This National Immigration and Asylum Strategy is a pioneering initiative in the Middle East and North Africa and pursues four strategic objectives: i) managing migration flows in a manner consistent with human rights; ii) facilitating the integration of legal immigrants; iii) implementing an appropriate institutional framework; and iv) updating the regulatory framework⁶.

The GFMD constitutes a broad, informal and flexible space for the establishment of strategic partnerships and generating consensus. Looking forward, the GFMD has the opportunity to become a motor for GCM implementation, follow-up, and review, by playing a catalytic role in encouraging States and other stakeholders to act, share their progress (as well as failures), and thereby to learn from and motivate each other. The UN Migration Network will be the new connexion between the GFMD and the United Nations, thus marking an important step towards more effective migration governance. This Network will be coordinated by IOM to support Member States’ initiatives to implement the Global Compact.

For the GFMD, this means it will be operating in and will have to adapt to, a highly dynamic environment in the coming years. As outlined in the GFMD Ten-year review, while participating States face some big choices on the overall direction of the Forum, the current context with its inherent uncertainties calls for an exploratory and iterative approach to evolving the GFMD as the many “moving parts” around it begins to settle. If anything, the current environment, combined with a new role for the GFMD in supporting the implementation of the GCM create space for experimentation and entrepreneurship, for seizing the informal nature of the process to test new formats, initiatives and forms of partnership⁷.

³ Established as “Ad-Hoc Working Group on the 2030 Agenda” in 2016.

⁴ “Morocco’s Migration Policies and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, Ministry Delegate in charge of International Cooperation, Moroccans Living Abroad and Migration Affairs (MDCMREAM), April 2018

⁵ “Morocco’s Migration Policies and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, Ministry Delegate in charge of International Cooperation, Moroccans Living Abroad and Migration Affairs (MDCMREAM), April 2018

⁶ “Morocco’s Migration Policies and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migrations”, Ministry Delegate in charge of International Cooperation, Moroccans Living Abroad and Migration Affairs (MDCMREAM), December 2018. Available here: https://www.gfmd.org/files/documents/morocco_migration_web_.pdf

⁷ GFMD Review 2018, “GFMD Ten-Year Review: Lessons Learnt and Future Perspectives”, November 2018. Available here: https://gfmd.org/files/documents/report_on_the_gfmd_ten-year_review.pdf

2. PREPARATORY PROCESS

2.1 Agenda of the 2nd Year of the GFMD 2017-2018 Co-Chairmanship

Considering the current global discussions and thematic debates, the Co-Chairmanship's priorities were to:

- Focus on the linkages between the GFMD, GCM and the 2030 Agenda – this was accentuated in GFMD's "*Thematic Recollection 2007-2017*" paper that was introduced to the GCM process and was further emphasised in the 2018 roundtable discussions⁸.
- Consider the GFMD's contribution to global dialogue and policy-making on migration and development – a ten-year review as conducted to highlight GFMD's successes and challenges in addressing migration as a development issue.

The overarching theme – "Honouring international commitments to unlock the potential of all migrants for development" was considered for the discussions taking place in 2018, as a continuation of the discussions held at the Tenth Summit in Berlin in 2017, under the theme "Towards a Global Social Contract on Migration and Development." The Eleventh Summit of the GFMD in December 2018 precedes the Intergovernmental Conference to Adopt the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM), following an extensive process of national, regional and international consultations on safe, orderly and regular migration, thus taking an important step towards establishing a "Global Social Contract". However, the adoption of the GCM was only the first step: 2019 is a crucial year for governments and all relevant actors at local, national and international levels to begin putting the "*Global Social Contract*" into action.

2.1.2 Thematic Priorities of the Moroccan Co-Chairmanship as set out in the concept paper

The Eleventh GFMD was structured around six Roundtables under three themes, each systematically mainstreaming human right, gender perspectives, and whole-of-society approaches. The first theme, "*From Vulnerability to Resilience*" addressed the factors that lead to migrant's vulnerability and considered how migrants could overcome these vulnerabilities so that they can contribute to local economies and become agents of development. The second theme on "*Regional Mobility*" focused on mobility and the role of origin, transit and destination countries. Lastly, the third theme, "*Good Migration Governance for Sustainable Development*" analysed the ways in which global migration governance models can be aligned with contemporary drivers of migration.

- **Theme 1: From vulnerability to resilience: recognising migrant women and men as agents of development**
 - Roundtable 1.1: Harnessing migrants' existing capitals to build resilience
 - Roundtable 1.2: Migrants' engagement with public services: from basic access to co-production
- **Theme 2: Regional mobility to promote transferable learning and policy coherence**
 - Roundtable 2.1: South-South mobility: trends, patterns and transferable learning
 - Roundtable 2.2: Regional mobility and policy coherence to support development

⁸ For more information, please refer to the full report available here:

https://www.gfmd.org/files/documents/gfmd_thematic_recollection_2007_to_2017_-_contribution_to_the_gcm.pdf

- **Theme 3: Good migration governance for sustainable development**
 - Roundtable 3.1: Aligning governance with contemporary drivers of migration
 - Roundtable 3.2: Beyond Remittances: leveraging the development impact and promoting the transnational engagement of diaspora and migrants

1. From vulnerability to resilience: recognising migrant women and men as agents of development

The first two roundtables established the responsibility of the states and other stakeholders to focus on the means to maximise the capacity and resilience of all migrants while acknowledging their possible vulnerability. It is essential to analyse the risks that may lead to vulnerabilities while being able to promote the understanding of migrants as potential positive contributors to local and national development. The duality of migrants' vulnerability vs. their resilience is also captured in the SDGs, as it recognised that migrants may find themselves in vulnerable situations, or at risk of exploitation and abuse (targets 5.2, 8.7, 8.8, 16.2 and paragraph 23 of the New York Declaration). To ensure migrants' agency, social and economic empowerment, and integration within societies, coherent multi-sectoral approaches involving stakeholders at the local, regional and national levels are needed.

- Roundtable 1.1: Harnessing migrants' existing capitals to build resilience

This roundtable considered how the capital which migrants bring with them can best be harnessed to benefit sending and receiving countries, build the resilience of migrants themselves and help create a healthier, happier and more productive society⁹. Migrants both bring and acquire capital in a variety of forms, including human, economic, social and cultural, increasing their resilience and capacity to withstand external shocks in their adopted home. However, it is important to note that boundaries between different forms of capital are fluid. Several key issues for policymakers can be identified such as the distinction between regular and irregular migrants, temporary and permanent migration, and finally, male and female migration. There is an increased willingness to understand and harness the benefits of regular migrations; however, the loss in capital from irregular migrations still needs to be taken into consideration. Temporary migrants may bring less economic capital to host countries than permanent migrants, as they plan to return to their countries of origin. Lastly, women and men may face different reasons for migrating and can be confronted with significantly different challenges and opportunities in their migration experiences.

Furthermore, three main challenges can be outlined. First, migrants face growing negative public perceptions and the rise of populism and xenophobia. Second, migrants' capital can be limited. Indeed, while cultural and social capital can help them withstand external shocks, in some circumstances, no amount of know-how or connections will suffice. Third, the lack of effective social integration and cohesion policy in a host country can undermine the harnessing of migrants' capital. To overcome these challenges, specific attention was encouraged to providing accurate and timely information at all stages of migration, enhancing the availability of comprehensive and planned migration systems, addressing labour and skills shortage and finally promoting public-private partnerships. In doing so, a focus on the specific vulnerabilities of women and children was encouraged.

⁹ The Background Paper of RT Session 1.1 is available here: https://www.gfmd.org/files/documents/final_gfmd_2018_rt_session_1.1_background_paper.pdf

- **Roundtable 1.2: Migrants' engagement with public services: from basic access to co-production**

This roundtable established the responsibility of cities and local governments to provide or coordinate public service provision to their population, including migrants, as advocated for by the GCM¹⁰. In fact, public services can be seen as the foundation for human welfare and economic growth. The absence of legitimacy and trust between local municipalities and central government departments affects their success in responding to humanitarian crises like irregular migration. To successfully deliver integrated basic services to migrants and to the general population, a multilevel governance approach is essential, bringing together a wide variety of policy measures on areas such as education, labour, welfare, health, housing, and urban planning. Furthermore, the discussion should not only focus on service delivery that is related to short-term costs and societal impact. It needs to look at longer-term considerations of well-being and consider the future contributions of immigrant children.

Four main areas of controversy were identified. The first controversy is related to access to public services that should be free and not connected to immigration enforcement or legal status. Many migrants face discrimination not only because of legal challenges in accessing services but also due to lack of knowledge of their rights. The second controversy is due to the schism between national and local policies which can derail sustainable development and create conflicts. The third one is linked to the stigmatisation and increased xenophobia that migrants face, creating further issues within service delivery.

The service delivery can be constrained by several factors, leading to the exclusion of some minority groups from services. Increased efforts should be deployed to encourage participation mechanisms in service delivery, integrated governance systems and networked approaches. Hence, a coordinated approach is required to achieve access to basic services for migrants as well as strengthen them as key participants in the co-production of the services required by all.

II. Regional mobility to promote transferable learning and policy coherence

Traditionally, the focus of migration policy and research has been on South-North mobility patterns. However, most of the human mobility happens within a country and between countries of the same region. South-South migration is estimated to account for half of all outward migration from South Asia, 64 % from Europe and Central Asia, and 69 % from Sub-Saharan Africa. Migrants, particularly from Africa, present a reservoir of great potential that the African continent can harness in a variety of ways to accelerate the development prospects of many countries and assist in the fight against poverty, malnutrition, health concerns and unemployment. This was the motivation for African governments to initiate the Joint Labour Migration Programme for the region. The key challenge is how to use this human mobility for development at national and regional levels. As part of that objective, they must learn how to build on ongoing regional economic integration processes in order to devise mobility patterns that will contribute to them.

- **Roundtable 2.1: South-South mobility: trends, patterns and transferable learning**

South-South Mobility has been very closely targeted in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and in Agenda 2030 of the SDGs. In fact, South-South Mobility has resulted in positive outcomes in terms of poverty alleviation, skills acquisition, productive activities, including through remittances, where robust regulatory frameworks and regular pathways for migration have been in place. Yet, South-

¹⁰ The Background Paper of RT Session 1.2 is available here:
https://www.gfmd.org/files/documents/final_gfmd_2018_rt_session_1.2_background_paper.pdf

South Mobility remains overwhelmingly characterised by informal flows and increasingly concentrated in precarious segments of labour markets. Several gaps in existing policy frameworks and implementation challenges were presented. Bilateral labour agreements and free trade agreements face a widespread lack of adherence to existing International Labour Standards, particularly in Africa and Asia. Fragmented governance systems and inconsistent regulatory approaches often dominate over planned and strategic migrations policies. Moreover, the scarcity of migration data and the complexity and rapid versatility of flows constitute main obstacles.

This roundtable identified promising international good practices organised in three areas: (1) multilateral mechanisms along corridors and or at sub-regional level to improve the conditions in which migration takes place, (2) partnerships and non-binding processes as a conduit, complement or preliminary phase in the adoption of a more formal mechanism, and (3) national and bilateral efforts such as the inclusion of migrant workers' protection in national labour legislation and bilateral government to government agreements¹¹.

- **Roundtable 2.2: Regional mobility and policy coherence to support development**

This roundtable discussed the interactions between regional mobility cooperation and the development of countries of origin, transit, and destination¹². It focused on the supra-national level of cooperation within a specific region (intra-regional) and between regions (inter-regional). Policy and institutional coherence are fundamental to foster positive developmental effects and avoid negative side-effects. Therefore, policy coherence needs to be ensured both at the vertical level (between different levels of governance), and at the horizontal level (between the different policy areas). Regional cooperation can be instrumental in contributing both to vertical and to horizontal policy coherence and therefore shows various advantages. The cooperation on regional mobility can be either formal through agreements or informal via Regional Consultative Processes and migration dialogues.

Regional mobility understood as free movement is a long-term and complex process prone to numerous challenges at each stage of the policy cycle. First, the difficulty in finding agreement on the scope of cooperation, prevalent in international relations, is a major stumbling block on the road to regional mobility. Second, other challenges are linked to the ineffective implementation of the provisions due to obstacles such as the inadequate time and resources allocated to the harmonisation of policies or missing legislative instruments. Third, regional mobility cooperation is prone to challenges of conceptual, methodological and theoretical nature. It is particularly difficult to assess the effects of cooperation as there are often no mechanisms to monitor and evaluate the actual enforcement. Turning migration challenges into opportunities for destination countries, origin countries and migrants at the regional level can be achieved by developing stronger cooperation between and within regions, improved data collection and exchange of information, and the development of Regional Skills Development Programmes.

III. Good migration governance for sustainable development

The third set of roundtables recognised the complex two-way nexus between migration and development and outlined that development does not take away the need or desire to migrate but contributes towards ensuring that migration takes place in a safe, orderly, regular and

¹¹ The Background Paper of RT Session 2.1 is available here:

https://www.gfmd.org/files/documents/final_gfmd_2018_rt_session_2.1_background_paper.pdf

¹² The Background Paper of RT Session 2.2 is available here:

https://www.gfmd.org/files/documents/final_gfmd_2018_rt_session_2.2_background_paper.pdf

manner. Environmental factors directly or indirectly impact on the resilience and vulnerability of individuals, households, and communities, and may push them to migrate. Consequently, it is necessary to develop and implement policies which address “migration by necessity” whilst also maximising the benefits of regular migration for the sustainable development of countries of origin, transit, and destination. These benefits range from remittances, philanthropy and entrepreneurial drive to socio-political influence.

- **Roundtable 3.1: Aligning governance with contemporary drivers of migration**

The purpose of this roundtable was to explore the ways in which drivers of migration have traditionally been understood, how this has changed and how we could be considering this in today’s migration governance efforts within the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the GCM¹³. It is important to note that drivers are context specific and depend on individual and community-level resilience to external stresses and shocks. Knowing more about the reasons why people move and how these movements interact with and are affected by economic, political, social, demographic, environmental and development processes would allow governments, humanitarian and development actors to better consider these factors in long-term policy and programme planning.

The GFMD recommendations to the GCM on addressing drivers included combatting root causes of migration through further research, increased cooperation among development actors and responding to the long-term needs of migrants in situations of crises. However, the focus on drivers has looked predominantly at negative aspects, such as poverty and conflict. Migration can be an expression of the opportunities provided through human development. The challenge is developing governance frameworks that can mitigate the risks of forced and irregular migration, and simultaneously generate proactive strategies to respond to peace and development prospects. Migration should be accepted as a constant variable, rather than a problem to solve. In order to do so, partnerships across origin, transit and destination countries should promote a migration governance that considers drivers of migration throughout the entire migratory cycle across the relevant sectors (health, education, employment etc.) for any given migratory context.

- **Roundtable 3.2: Beyond Remittances: leveraging the development impact and promoting the transnational engagement of diaspora and migrants**

Migrants’ transnational engagement extends beyond remittances, and includes, among others, nostalgic trade, investment, entrepreneurship, philanthropy, and skills transfer. The last roundtable established how migrants’ contribution to their countries of origin can be supported and leveraged, to efficiently maximise their vast potential for the development of national and local economies¹⁴. To do so, there are at least two aspects to consider. Firstly, it is essential to promote a research agenda aimed at providing better and more coherent data on the scope and depth of migrant economic engagement in all its forms. This will provide an improved understanding of the impact of migrant’s contribution to the development of their countries of origin and more broadly to the SDGs. Secondly, stakeholders should identify the points of convergence between development challenges, causes of migration and migrants’ needs and ambitions in their home countries. Access to finance is a central development challenge, which intersects with migrant transnational engagement. For example,

¹³ The Background Paper of RT Session 3.1 is available here: https://www.gfmd.org/files/documents/final_gfmd_2018_rt_session_3.1_background_paper.pdf

¹⁴ The Background Paper of RT Session 3.2 is available here: https://www.gfmd.org/files/documents/final_gfmd_2018_rt_session_3.2_background_paper.pdf

remittances can be leveraged by formalising savings, thus increasing liquidity in the financial system, and mobilising these savings for investments in areas that can increase productivity.

Nevertheless, the debate to explore the impact of migrants’ engagement in the local economies remains limited to a few aspects and often tied to opinions rather than facts. Indeed, on the effects of remittances, there is still a “reductionist” approach to transfer costs and volumes without analysing the leveraging value of these transfers. Subsequently, financial inclusion and support to diaspora groups to design development projects remain uncovered. Lastly, building trust with migrants and migrant communities is a long and intricate process, especially in fragile states. A migrant-centred and development-oriented approach to leverage the development impact of diaspora and migrants should primarily pass through policies designed to: (i) acquire better knowledge on the magnitude and form of engagement; and (ii) foster an enabling environment through financial and human capital investments, including promoting broader partnerships between governments, local authorities, migrants and diaspora communities, and the private sector. One option is to reach out to the diaspora before they go abroad. Pre-departure seminars, including basic financial education and information on potential financial services based on migrant profiles, can be effective.

2.2 Preparatory Meetings of the Troika, Steering Group and Friends of the Forum



Building upon the initiatives undertaken during the first year of the German-Moroccan co-chairmanship, three preparatory meetings of the GFMD Troika¹⁵ (*comprised of Germany and Morocco GFMD 2017-2018 Co-chairs, the Bangladesh GFMD 2016 Chair who attended the first two meetings and the incoming Ecuador GFMD 2019 Chair who joined the last one*), the GFMD Steering Group¹⁶, and the Friends of the Forum¹⁷ were held in Geneva on February 5th, May 2nd and September 3rd. The Troika meetings were held ahead of the Steering Group and Friends of Forum meetings. The Co-Chairs (Germany and Morocco) worked together in

¹⁵ The GFMD Troika is comprised of the former Chair, the Chair in-Office, and the Future Chair of the Global Forum. The Chair in-Office assumes responsibility for the preparatory process and the implementation of each Forum, with the assistance of the outgoing and Future Chairs. In particular, the Troika discusses strategic and political issues related to the Global Forum as a process, including its relationship with the UN and other international bodies, and makes recommendations on these areas to the Steering Group and the Friends of the Forum.

¹⁶ Composition of GFMD 2018 Steering Group members: *Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Canada, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, India, Indonesia, Israel, Kenya, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, the Netherlands, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, and the United States of America.*

¹⁷ The Friends of the Forum include all Member States and Observers of the United Nations, specialised agencies of the United Nations, as well as other international organisations, international foundations and regional processes that are observers of the GFMD (see <https://www.gfmd.org/observers>).

determining the agenda of the preparatory meetings and anticipating emerging issues for the GFMD. The Steering Group meetings discussed the key policies and strategic concerns of the GFMD, while the Friends of the Forum meetings shared information with Member States and GFMD Observers on the main features of the GFMD agenda for 2018. It provided updates on the progress on the preparatory activities for the Summit such as the workshops and roundtables, on the work of the ad-hoc Working Groups (Communication Strategy and 2030 Agenda and GCM), on the GFMD Ten-Year Review, on the GFMD budget and financial position, the Civil Society process, the GFMD Business Mechanism and the GFMD Platform for Partnerships.

Fifth Preparatory Meetings

February 5, 2018

The first event held in February 2018 was the Fifth Preparatory Meetings of the two-year GFMD Co-Chairmanship. It focused on the main elements of the draft concept note and work plan of GFMD 2018 under the overarching theme “*Honouring International Commitments to Unlock the Potential of Migrants for Development*”. The Co-Chairs invited all Member States and GFMD Observers to submit their comments on the concept paper. The 2018 work plan identified three overarching aims: (1) preserving continuity between the Berlin and Marrakesh Summits, (2) aligning the GFMD with the Global Compact drafting process, as well as the adoption and implementation phases, and (3) taking stock of the implementation of migration-related SDGs in the 2030 Agenda. This meeting also paid tribute to the founding father of the GFMD, the late Mr. Peter Sutherland, who served as the Special Representative of the Secretary General for International Migration from 2006 to 2017. Furthermore, the Fifth Preparatory Meeting offered the opportunity to present the Report on the First Year of the GFMD 2017-2018 Co-Chairmanship as well as the UN Secretary General’s Report “*Making Migration Work for All*”. The preliminary budget for the period 1 January to 31 December 2018 was also presented. This first meeting served as an opportunity to present the 2018 work plan and thematic priorities of the GFMD 2018 Civil Society Process, the 2018 GFMD-Business Mechanism and the Global Migration Group (GMG).

Sixth Preparatory Meetings

May 2, 2018

The Sixth Preparatory Meeting started with the intervention of the Moroccan Co-Chair, Mr. El Habib Nadir who presented the progress made since the last meeting in February and discussed the next activities of the GFMD in 2018. He pointed to the upcoming fourth round (from May 14 to 18) of the GCM intergovernmental negotiations and presented the side events and thematic workshops that will be organised. The Co-Chairs also informed the Friends of the Forum about the status of preparation of the roundtables. During the meeting, the GFMD Ten-Year Review was launched to get Member States’ insights on the GFMD’s added value and contribution to the global dialogue on migration and development in the past 10 years. The Co-Chairs of the Working Group on the 2030 Agenda and GCM presented the main points of the HLPF Report, which emphasised the many linkages between migration and relevant SDGs. Attention was paid to the Non-State Partners such as civil society through the GFMD 2018 Civil Society Process as well as the private sector with the GFMD Business Mechanism. In this context, civil society presented the latest development of the work undertaken by ICMC and the GFMD Civil Society International Steering Committee (ISC). Regarding the preparation for the GFMD Summit in December, a broad consultation within civil society was scheduled in July. The Business Mechanism was working on innovative ways to integrate the skills and creative ideas brought by migrants, such as by introducing a start-up competition on technology.

Seventh Preparatory Meetings

September 3, 2018

Convened two months after the release of the “Inter-governmentally negotiated and agreed outcome of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration” on 13 July 2018, the Seventh preparatory meetings in September 2018 highlighted the final preparations for the Eleventh GFMD Summit Meeting held from 5 to 7 December in Marrakesh. The GFMD Ten-year Review expert team leaders presented to the Friends of the Forum preliminary findings based on responses from governments, civil society, the private sector, and GMG agencies. Moreover, the motivations behind organising a GFMD Dialogue on GCM Implication were discussed; it would offer the opportunity for states to concretise ideas on the GFMD’s role in supporting GCM implementation. The respective Roundtables’ Co-Chairs were also invited to inform the Friends of the Forum on the status of preparation. They all confirmed that the roundtable background paper drafting process was on track. The GFMD Ad Hoc Working Group on 2030 Agenda and GCM provided some updates regarding the Migration Laboratory, commissioned by GIZ in coordination with the GFMD German-Moroccan Co-Chairmanship. The Lab led to eight tangible multi-stakeholder project proposals. The working group also presented a recap of the GFMD side event at the 2018 HLPF and an update on the work achieved in the field of communications. A questionnaire was sent to the Working Group members and past GFMD chairs to identify how the GFMD could improve its communications activities. A brief synopsis on the provisional program of the Marrakesh Summit was shared with the participants. With regards to the GFMD’s institutional partners, a proposal to establish a Mayors Mechanism within the GFMD was submitted by IOM and the City Diplomacy Unit (CDU). The Co-Chairs agreed to lend their support to the proposal, given the increased awareness and recognition of the role played by cities and local governments in addressing migration as a global issue. Furthermore, the GFMD civil society submitted the report “*Twelve Civil Society Recommendations for the future of the GFMD*”¹⁸, outlining concrete proposal to better incorporate civil society’s participation in the process. The German Co-Chair announced Ecuador submitted its candidature for the GFMD 2019 Chairmanship. Ecuador was one of the most actively involved countries throughout the GFMD’s evolution.

On average, 100 to 130 delegates from around 85 Member States and 18 Observers attended the meetings of the Friends of the Forum. The Steering Group meetings were attended by about 22 to 27 Member States.

¹⁸ The full report is available here:

http://www.madenetwork.org/sites/default/files/ISC%20recommendations%20for%20future%20of%20GFMD_16July%202018.pdf

2.3 Government-led Roundtable Consultations



To facilitate the incorporation of the thematic Roundtable discussions into the work programme of the Moroccan Co-Chair, all Member States were invited by the Chair to join the GFMD 2018 Government Roundtable Teams and to share their thematic expertise and experiences in the preparation for the Eleventh GFMD Summit Meeting.

These government-led Roundtable meetings were held back-to-back with the meetings of the Troika, Steering Group and Friends of the Forum (and hence also took place in February, May and September 2018). Following the model introduced by the GFMD 2013-2014 Swedish Chairmanship, the Moroccan Co-Chair organised six Roundtables under three Roundtable themes, in accordance with the Terms of Reference for Government-led RT teams adopted in 2017-2018.

Seventy-seven governments representing all regions of the world and 21 international and civil society organisations voluntarily joined as members of the Roundtable government teams, each co-chaired by 2-3 governments. These co-chairs led the preparatory meetings of the Roundtable Government teams in February, May, and September as well as the drafting process of the background papers.

In the preparatory process of the Roundtables and the preparation of the background papers, the Roundtable co-chairs were assisted by technical experts from governments and international organisations. The background papers provided a basis for discussion and an improved evidence-base in the thematic area covered by each Roundtable session at the December 2018 GFMD Summit.

2.4 Thematic Workshops

The Moroccan Chair followed the model of organising thematic meetings, as introduced by the GFMD 2011 Chair of Switzerland. The GFMD thematic workshops are considered as a productive approach to complement the preparation of the thematic Roundtables. The aim of a thematic workshop is to focus the debate and offer more targeted discussions on thematic areas related to the Roundtable topics and to bring the outcomes of the thematic meeting to the GFMD Summit Roundtables.

In 2018, three thematic workshops were organised. The workshops were held between April and June in Skhirat, Agadir and Geneva. In order to expand the outreach and for connecting GFMD process to various international and national processes, the Co-Chairs decided to hold the three thematic meetings in three different venues. The GFMD Support Unit provided considerable

administrative and logistical support for the organisation of the thematic meetings. While the May thematic meeting was held back-to-back with the preparatory meetings of the Troika, the Steering Group and the Friends of the Forum, the thematic meetings of April and June were held on separate occasions. On average, the thematic workshops were attended by 140 delegates from more than 70 governments and 21 observers.

Various migration and development policies and practices were shared during these thematic workshops and were subsequently uploaded to the Policy and Practice Database of the Platform for Partnership. The summary reports of those thematic workshops were distributed to all Friends of the Forum and posted on the GFMD web portal.

2.4.1 Thematic Workshop 1: “Migration for Development: a roadmap to achieving the SDGs” April 18-19, 2018 – Rabat



The objective of the first GFMD 2018 thematic workshop on “*Migration for Development: a roadmap to achieving the SDGs*” was to focus on the interrelationship between human mobility and sustainable development outcomes¹⁹. Four key dimensions of the link between migration, development and the SDGs were discussed: (1) migration constitutes a powerful poverty reduction tool; (2) the specific risks and vulnerabilities of migrants are often overlooked; (3) the implementation of existing programs is weak for migrations; and (4) there are major gaps in data.

The event was divided into six parallel workshops. The first one focused on the opportunities and challenges associated with providing services such as social protection, health, and education to migrants. The panel highlighted the importance of human rights and an evidence-based approach to service delivery. It also recognised the benefits for both migrants and host communities to harmonise services among agencies. However, several challenges remain such as the lack of coordination between ministries to ensure policy coherence and the absence of collaboration among neighbouring countries on the registration and identification of migrants. Despite these challenges, the discussion identified several opportunities and good practices.

The second parallel workshop addressed climate change as one of the main drivers of migration. People only move if they are not sufficiently resilient to withstand the impact of these changes, therefore stressing on the importance of the SDGs in addressing vulnerability. Yet, very few connexions were established between climate change, migration, and development. To move

¹⁹ For more information, please refer to the Summary Report available here: https://www.gfmd.org/files/documents/summary_report_-_gfmd_thematic_workshop_on_migration_for_development.pdf

forward, efforts should be deployed to reduce hazards, build resilience by diversifying the agricultural base and finally, integrate mobility into climate change adaptation plans.

The third workshop stressed the importance of labour migrations and its benefits to migrants, host and origin countries. In fact, migrants fill labour gaps, transfer funds, and skills, and bring new ideas and development. Origin and destination countries need to work together to improve the portability of skills, promote migration policies that match labour market needs, complement the skills of the national workforce and protect migrants' rights.

The fourth workshop recognised the role of cities and local authorities as first responders and receivers of migrants. There is a need for greater policy coherence between the national and local levels. Indeed, migrants, civil society and the private sector should be included in the design of policy solutions as they contribute to social and economic integration at the local level. The showcasing of good practices and the exchange between cities through platforms such as the Mayors' Forum were recognised as opportunities going forward.

The fifth workshop insisted on the contribution women and girls make to the economies of both origin and destination countries, as well as the specific vulnerabilities they face. While women represent 48% of the stock of migrations, they are often excluded from migration discussions. Two main challenges were highlighted. First, gender-based data need to be collected, and the implementation and evaluation of projects must be gender-sensitive. Second, since women mostly work in unregulated sectors, such as the care sector, they must overcome increased vulnerabilities. Diaspora groups can ensure that women's voices are heard at the national and international levels.

The final workshop discussed SDG16 on peaceful, just and inclusive societies and the relationship between migration status and positive development. Migration status can lead to a lack of access to human rights or rule of law and create tensions between migrants and host communities. Consequently, migrants are further marginalised, and negative public attitudes can prevail. To address these issues, local governments have encouraged initiatives to create welcoming city environments. Furthermore, the civil society has deployed efforts to ease the integration of migrations by providing language training.

Overall, four principles for action were emphasised. First, on data as migrants are often invisible in statistics. Second, there is a need to design appropriate legal frameworks to ensure access to essential services. Third, there is the necessity for the establishment of governance structure with clear delineation of responsibilities among government actors. And finally, partnerships are crucial, between governments, civil society, and the private sector. It was concluded that the GFMD constitutes the ideal platform to foster this increased cooperation among stakeholders.

2.4.2 Thematic Workshop 2: “Labour Migration and Skills”

May 3, 2018 – Geneva



This thematic workshop saw the participation of more than 100 policymakers and practitioners in the field of international migration, representing over 60 UN Member States and international organisations, civil society and the private sector²⁰. The objective was to explore how the GCM can take forward the commitments laid out in Objective 18 (*“Invest in skills development and facilitate recognition of skills, qualifications, and competencies”*) and the role of the GFMD in the implementation of partnerships to this end. Four mutually related sessions were organised to unpack the challenges and opportunities as to labour mobility, exchange good practices to foster recognition of skills and qualifications and establish a global skills partnership.

The first session focused on the need for improved systems aimed at understanding the future and current skills demand in destination countries and matching systems in countries of origin. However, several challenges remain. Many countries of origin lack systems for skills-anticipation, running the risk of brain drain waste, and potentially increasing the “push factors” for irregular migration. Furthermore, the data available on skills demand is limited due to technological change and the presence of large informal sectors. To overcome these obstacles, there is a need for skills needs assessment, direct recruitment and vocational training for migrant workers. The costs could be shared between the governments of origin and destination countries, and the employers.

The second session focused on how skills needs, and gaps can be addressed by both potential and returning migrant workers. High-quality and relevant skills training can play a considerable role in responding to dynamic skill demands in the context of rapid technological change. In terms of challenges, the speakers underscored that migrant workers’ skills are oftentimes neither well-articulated nor closely linked to the eligibility for employment in the countries of destination. Furthermore, when migrants work in developing countries, they tend to be overqualified for their job and work in non-standardised forms of employment, thereby benefiting from a limited bargaining power. To overcome these issues, the Colombo Process was given as an example of an innovative regional consultative process addressing the challenges in the Asian migration corridors in three thematic areas: (a) pre-departure orientation and training, (b) qualification and skills recognition, and (c) historical labour market analyses.

The third session centred on understanding the relevance of skills recognition and its impact on the labour market in the context of mobility. Citing the example of the European labour market, 50% of migrants in the region are inactive, unemployed or over-qualified in their jobs. This situation points

²⁰ For more information, please refer to the Summary Report available here: https://www.gfmd.org/files/documents/summary_report_-_gfmd_thematic_workshop_on_labour_migration_and_skills.pdf

to a lack of accessible skills recognition services during the migration process, especially in low-education sectors. To respond to these challenges, migrants should be given pre-arrival training, skills assessment and mentoring. To create a harmonised skills ecosystem, governments must work together to expand bilateral and multilateral agreements on mutual recognition of skills and qualifications.

Building on the previous sessions, the last panel focused on actionable commitments on skills development and recognition to be included in the GCM. In this context, the value-added of global skills partnerships was discussed. In order to capitalise on the numerous opportunities and economic progress that migrants could bring, commitments should be supported by well-rooted and functioning labour migration schemes and education systems. Furthermore, formalising migration corridors for low-skilled and informal occupations remains a challenge, leaving migrants unprotected. This can be achieved using trusted employer programs, work authorisation mobility, and increasing labour market participation of under-served population such as the youth, women, and minorities. It is high time to formulate a global skills partnership that can tackle skills recognition, collect data on national and regional skills demand and supply, as well as improve education and training systems.

2.4.3 Thematic Workshop 3: “Children and Youth on the Move: Implementing sustainable solutions”

June 21-22, 2018 – Agadir



This thematic workshop was attended by local and national authorities, practitioners, experts, and the private sector, together with 13 young people with migrant backgrounds from Italy, Germany, the UK, and Morocco²¹. The aim of this workshop, organised in partnership with UNICEF, was to unpack priority issues at stake for children and young people on the move, such as protection gaps, social inclusion, and access to services and labour markets. In a context of growing demographic inequities between ageing societies and countries with burgeoning youth populations, economies will soon compete to attract young migrants whose skills and talents are promising.

Over the course of the workshop, the participants identified four priority issue areas and key recommendations. The first one is related to protecting the youth and ensuring that the best interests of the child remain the primary consideration in all cases involving migrant children, regardless of their migration status. In order to do so, child protection systems require increased investments in countries of origin, transit, and destination. Furthermore, alternatives to detention should be encouraged, such as guardianships, to avoid placing children in detention. Family reunification through child-responsive labour migration policies and the return are two of several

²¹ For more information, please refer to the Summary Report available here: https://www.gfmd.org/files/documents/exe_report_thematic_workshopw11_logovuk_005.pdf

possibilities for migrant children and must be grounded in fundamental human rights principles. Further, the panel noted that the care provided needs to go beyond immediate protection to ensure that the child has access to school and professional opportunities. To implement this change, cross-border cooperation is vital. States should develop universally agreed guidelines and procedures for cross-border case management. The ECOWAS model of cooperation in West Africa was highlighted as an example of good practice.

The second priority issue area is related to the access to services and integration. Indeed, “firewalls” between immigration enforcement and public services are needed to grant children access to basic services. However, several challenges remain. The discrimination between migrant children and nationals, as well as between regular and irregular migrants, should be further documented and addressed. Moreover, integration policies should be designed as a two-way process between migrants and host communities to address mutual fears and promote social cohesion. Ideally, policymakers and societies should integrate young migrants while giving them the chance to preserve their cultural identities. Education systems can facilitate integration only when they are inclusive of the needs of migrant children and youth and recognise education and skills qualifications across borders.

The third priority issue recognises the meaningful participation of youth and migrant children as a key element to the development, implementation, monitoring and review of policies that affect them within the GCM process, and at the national and local level. Young migrants are “agents of change” and should be equipped with the right skills, tools, and platforms. They possess the networking capacity and the influence to develop and change public opinion and society.

The last priority issue stresses the need for improved collection, use and protection of disaggregated data. Access to better quality data is necessary to understand the factors affecting the youth on their migratory journey and identify their needs. This can inform policy practice and programming solutions. Participants have suggested creating a mechanism to further develop and review data standards, especially for children, that could be part of a data initiative to implement Objective 1 of the GCM or as a working group of the new UN migration network. Finally, a nuanced approach to collecting data would ensure better understanding and response to specific vulnerabilities, such as approaches that consider children with disabilities and trafficked children.

In addition to these priority focus areas, the thematic workshop urged African leadership, including the African Union, to address the “push” factors of migration by children and youth from Africa and prevent unsafe migration. Multi-stakeholder partnerships, across borders and across regions, through various levels of government, between multiple sectors and parts of society, and with young migrants themselves are key to realising the commitments of the GCM.

2.5 GFMD Side Events

2.5.1 GFMD Side Event on “Migration and rural development: Fostering transnational partnership”

March 26, 2018 – New York



The role of agriculture and rural development (ARD) has largely been overlooked, even though 40 percent of global remittances are sent to rural areas, indicating the rural origin of a large share of migrants; and over 70 percent of the rural poor depend on agriculture for their livelihoods. Rural populations are particularly vulnerable to natural resources degradation and climatic events and have limited job opportunities; these effects are particularly exacerbated for rural women.

Although climate change is a global issue, its consequences are felt locally, and disproportionately affect the most vulnerable and marginalised populations, principally in developing countries. Among these groups, rural populations are particularly exposed due to natural hazards and their dependence on natural resources, extreme poverty, as well as the overall lack of public investment in basic infrastructure in rural areas. Therefore, providing adequate climate change adaptation responses is a high priority for increasing rural resilience to climate change.

On the margins of IOM’s 2018 International Dialogue on Migration (IDM), the side event on Migration and rural development was co-organised by the GFMD 2017-2018 Co-Chairs, namely Germany and Morocco, the Global Migration Group (GMG) Co-Chairs, IOM and FAO at the United Nations Headquarters on March 26, 2018.

The side event was held to highlight the complex relationship between migration and ARD, as well as discuss, share and promote successful experiences in harnessing the development potential of rural migration. It also provided opportunities for the GFMD and the GMG to stress the importance of identifying areas for joint programming, work in partnership to generate evidence and raise awareness on the complex relationship between migration and ARD. The overall goal of the discussion was to support policy-making and country-level interventions which successfully tackle the adverse drivers of rural migration and harness its development potential, including in the context of climate change.

Migration is a major determinant of economic stability and growth in rural areas. In this regard, there is a need to bring together different agendas and international frameworks such as the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Paris Climate Agreement, the Migration Governance Framework (MiGOF) of IOM, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to ensure convergent policies on the links between migration and ARD. This would entail establishing rural infrastructure, investing remittances in rural areas and providing opportunities for rural youth.

Strong partnerships are central to addressing rural poverty and food insecurity in all its forms and stabilising affected and vulnerable communities.

The panellists shared institutional and country-level initiatives in addressing the complex relationship between migration and agriculture and rural development in Moldova, Ecuador, Senegal, and the UNDP. During this panel discussion, four key points emerged with regards to the nexus between human mobility patterns and rural communities:

- 1) The links between ARD and migration are complex and must be addressed holistically with a whole-of-society approach and through strong partnerships.
- 2) Migration has a strong agriculture and rural dimension, and it is a key determinant of sustainable development in rural areas.
- 3) Addressing the adverse drivers and structural factors that compel people to leave their country is key to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration. This can be achieved through establishing rural infrastructure, investing remittances in rural areas and providing opportunities for rural youth.
- 4) Migration can be a positive adaptation strategy that reduces exposure to immediate threats and helps diversify rural household incomes.

While there exists a variety of strategies to harness the development potential of rural migration and increase rural resilience, there remains much more to be done to understand and address issues surrounding agriculture and rural development.

2.5.2 GFMD Side Event at the margins of 2018 High Level Political Forum

July 13, 2018 – New York



On the margins of the 2018 High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) which focused on the theme "Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies," the GFMD Co-Chairs organised a second side event on the 13 July 2018 to share and reflect on the findings of the GFMD’s report, “Recommendations of the GFMD to the 2018 HLPF”²². This report was prepared upon an invitation by the ECOSOC and showcased the role of the GFMD, as an intergovernmental body contributing to the 2030 Agenda, and particularly to the SDGs and respective targets that are most relevant to GFMD’s mandate.

The ad hoc Working Group on the 2030 Agenda and the GCM under the Co-Chairmanship of Germany and Morocco prepared the GFMD’s contribution to the 2018 HLPF. The report was based

²² The Recommendations of the GFMD to the 2018 HLPF are available here: https://www.gfmd.org/files/documents/gfmd_recommendations_to_the_2018_hlpf_final.pdf

on the key outcomes and recommendations that have emerged in various GFMD Summit meetings, workshops, sessions of the Platform for Partnership (PfP) and Common Space discussions. In addition, it examined how interventions in the migration context in GFMD countries – ranging from small-targeted projects to wider programmes or reforms – have contributed to achieving the goals featured in this year’s HLPF (i.e. Goals 6, 7, 11, 12, 15 and 17). In line with the 2018 HLPF theme to “create truly inclusive, sustainable and resilient societies,” the report provided insights into the issues of migrants’ access to services and migration in the context of climate change and disasters.

The report displayed several interlinkages between the SDGs in focus on the 2018 HLPF and migration. The report formulated four main recommendations: (1) involving a wide range of stakeholders ensures that projects are more effective and sustainable, (2) engaging the diaspora can increase the impact of certain interventions, both through mobilising resources available and increasing their legitimacy and potential sustainability, (3) adopting regional approaches can be a valuable way to link national and international-level efforts to address migration and development and can enable the sharing of experiences between countries with similar opportunities and challenges even beyond project completion, and finally, (4) consolidating and sharing data on the impacts of interventions on a regular basis is important and needs to be improved.

Morocco has extensive experience in implementing the SDGs in focus, more specifically with regards to investments in improving access to drinking water, sanitation and electricity and the corresponding contribution of migrants and diaspora. In rural areas, migrants have contributed to improving access to drinking water and electricity networks, thereby becoming agents of development. Due to their success, such local programmes were subsequently followed up on the national level, for instance in relation to access to education.

Attended by more than 100 participants, the panel identified the following key points:

- There is a need to invest in evidence-based approaches to showcase the linkages between migration and development.
- To enable migration as an adaptation strategy due to adverse effects of climate change, access to regular channels is vital; moreover, the mobilisation of the diaspora can help to enhance investments in mitigation strategies.
- Those affected by natural disasters, especially in urban areas, need to be consulted in the response planning because resilience is connected to participation and empowerment.
- Coherent, multi-stakeholder approaches are key to designing policy responses, including financing – in this sense, the GCM provides a new reference point.

The Side Event concluded that the GFMD should continue to serve as a catalyst for multi-stakeholder partnerships, thereby further enriching the dialogue on migration-related SDGs and strengthening international cooperation.

2.6 GFMD Dialogues and Special Meetings

2.6.1 GFMD Special Meeting with the GCM Co-Facilitators and SRSG June 19, 2018 – Geneva



The GFMD has been instrumental in placing migration on the international agenda throughout the past ten years and is well positioned to play a role in the implementation, follow-up, and review of the GCM after its adoption in December 2018.

This dialogue with the Co-Facilitators sought to prepare for future actions on the implementation of the Compact. Held in Geneva on June 19, the Special Meeting on the GCM of the GFMD 2017-2018 Co-Chairmanship gathered around 110 delegates from 84 UN Member States and 16 GFMD Observers. It was an occasion for the GCM Co-Facilitators and the UN SRSG for International Migration to update GFMD stakeholders on the status of the GCM intergovernmental negotiations in New York.

A presentation was given on the current steps and where the GCM process stood at that moment, in between its fifth and sixth negotiation rounds; discussions focused on implementation, follow-up, and review. It was noted that dynamic conversations were held with an increased understanding of concepts and growing convergence on contentious issues. The Co-Facilitators stressed the importance to strive towards a robust text providing a solid instrument for reinforced international cooperation.

Member States pointed out that the GCM's most powerful element – as it is to be adopted in a consensual way – is the collective political buy-in to the text. Since the GCM intends to serve as the spine for the global debates on migration, they also highlighted the need for discussions organised around the comprehensive logic of the GCM itself. Rather than traditional and formal reporting mechanisms, the GCM would allow countries to deliberate and exchange views within the UN institutional framework.

A new and innovative three-pronged scheme was described. First, the development of a flexible capacity-building mechanism, to be handled by the UN system, is key to provide a space for cooperation with countries for GCM implementation. Second, countries must identify the resources required for a specific project – including identifying strategic partners – before seeking out financial resources. Lastly, a mechanism is needed to create a knowledge hub where migration experiences and practices, either as a result of the GCM implementation or of any migration policy or idea, can be

recorded in an open database that could be used by the Member States, civil society and the UN system, to create an enormous wealth of information.

Following the clear message by the Member States that IOM should have a coordinating role, the SG decided to establish a UN Network on Migration to replace the Global Migration Group. Once established, this Network is meant to support GCM implementation at all relevant levels.

It was reiterated that the GFMD has been instrumental in paving the way for recent advances in international cooperation on migration and development, including the inclusion of migration in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the adoption of the New York Declaration—advances which have helped launch the process of developing the two UN Global Compacts. The GFMD can promote dialogue and action, by building bridges between its Platform for Partnerships and the objectives stated in the Compact. Further to this reflection, a Ten-Year GFMD Review was undertaken to assess the GFMD's added value in the last decade and consider how to further strengthen and enhance the GFMD process.

The open discussion followed on IOM's new role as coordinator and secretariat of the UN migration network. Indeed, there is a strong wish to minimise overlaps in migration processes, while maximising elements with clear value. IOM's Deputy Director General Ambassador Laura Thompson supported the idea of breaking down the existing firewall between the GFMD Support Unit and IOM to facilitate coordination and establish a more coherent work plan and agenda. She argued that removing the firewalls will boost the potential of the GFMD and IOM to foster continued dialogue and the successful implementation of the GCM and migration-related SDGs, as well as help address the concerns of Member States to ensure that the technical expertise of Geneva is fully utilised in GCM implementation.

Participants also called for a closer and more transparent relationship between the IOM and the GFMD while preserving and possibly strengthening the Forum's unique character as an informal, non-binding and voluntary process on migration and development. They envisioned that this closer synergy would facilitate seamless coordination across levels of policymakers at the national, regional and global levels. Towards the end of the meeting, the preliminary logistics for the "Migration Week" to be held in Marrakesh on 5 to 11 December 2018 were presented.

2.6.2 Dialogue on the GCM Implementation – Implications, Challenges and Opportunities for the GFMD

September 4, 2018 – Geneva



As part of the GFMD's efforts to accompany the evolving GCM process and encourage Member States to develop their perspectives on international cooperation on migration in the future, the 2017-2018 Co-Chairs, Germany, and Morocco, convened a GFMD Dialogue on GCM implementation on 4 September, at the Palais des Nations, Geneva²³. With the successful finalisation of the intergovernmental negotiations on July 13, this Dialogue provided the first opportunity for over 200 representatives from member states, GFMD observers, civil society and private sector to reflect collectively on how the GFMD could help translate the GCM commitments into action. Concretely, the Dialogue aimed to: (1) promote a collective understanding of the implications, challenges, and opportunities for the GFMD of the final GCM draft released on 11 July 2018, (2) harness GFMD's multi-stakeholder space and innovative approaches to support Member States in the implementation, follow up and review of the GCM commitments, and (3) discuss how the GFMD could foster institutional and thematic linkages with the proposed UN network on migration to be coordinated by IOM.

In the first session of the dialogue, lessons learned, and good practices were identified to build upon GFMD's Modalities to contribute to the UN Capacity-Building Mechanism on Migration. According to the preliminary results of the GFMD Review questionnaire, participating Member States value the Forum as a dialogue space for building a common understanding on relevant issues (*knowledge*), for thereby assisting in policy formulation (*implementation*), and for connecting a multiplicity of stakeholders (*networking*). The GFMD offers these crucial aspects to support the GCM implementation and contribute to the UN capacity-building mechanism (CBM) on migration. The GFMD's multi-stakeholder character is instrumental in ensuring that the Marrakesh Summit will not be an end but rather the beginning of a new era.

With the Compact providing a reinforced basis for international cooperation, delegations recommended to maximise the available resources of concerned stakeholders. Existing tools such as the Platform for Partnerships could be leveraged and used alongside with professional dialogue methodologies to further develop the GFMD considering GCM implementation and beyond. The GFMD must be leveraged as an open discussion platform that could support the GCM implementation, follow up and review, without exclusively confining to the aspects related to the GCM.

With regards to maximising synergies, the second session of the Dialogue focused on how to enhance GFMD's institutional linkages – with the UN and beyond – to support the implementation,

²³ For more information, please refer to the Highlights of Proceedings, available here: https://www.gfmd.org/files/documents/highlights_of_proceedings_-_gfmd_dialogue_on_gcm_implementation.pdf

as well as follow up and review of the GCM. The GFMD's mandate should not be limited to supporting GCM implementation, while at the same time not precluding an evolution in terms of linking with the UN and other processes. In this context, synergies with the Regional Consultative Processes, which could benefit from the GFMD's acquired experiences and vice-versa, are important. Furthermore, a closer cooperation between the GFMD and the UN Migration Network, as well as leveraging the existing GFMD mechanisms is essential to ensuring a systematic alignment with the GCM agenda.

From the perspective of civil society organisations, the GFMD should not be conceived as a mere annex to the GCM but rather as a full-fledged house, forming close links with other UN agencies and processes. In this sense, the GCM was to provide the common soil on which these different houses may be restructured and expanded. Civil society and the private sector, in turn, should be understood as an integral part of the whole architecture. This will provide a critical space for multi-stakeholder cooperation on issues such as skills mobility and access to labour market.

Participants called upon Member States to exercise their ownership in shaping the GFMD's position in the GCM and to clearly define its added value as part of a post-GCM architecture that is adaptable in multiple governance levels. Furthermore, they pointed out that the interactions between the various governance levels should be perceived as a "network flow", decisively driven by decision-making at the national level. Based on the recognition that global interconnectedness requires global approaches, strengthened international cooperation somehow serves to reinforce national sovereignty.

2.7 GFMD Outreach and forward-looking Initiatives

2.7.1 GFMD Ten-Year Review: Lessons learnt and future perspectives

The purpose of the Ten-Year Review of the GFMD was to assess the added value and contributions of the Forum to the global dialogue on migration and development, as well as to the development and implementation of policies at the national level²⁴.

The Review Team adopted a mix of quantitative and qualitative methods to carry out its assignment and seek out the perspectives of GFMD stakeholders. The team prepared a 15-point questionnaire, "GFMD Review 2018 – Questionnaire for Member States", which was circulated to all governments and to the Friends of the Forum to seek their input. The questionnaire was divided into three main parts, respectively inquiring about: 1) the involvement of the responding government in the GFMD process, 2) the perceived added value of the GFMD, and 3) the government's views and ideas regarding the future role of GFMD in the context of the GCM. Most questions were open-ended to allow governments to share their views, experiences, and suggestions. The questionnaire was translated into French and Spanish to increase accessibility and response rates.

The results of the surveys and consultations with GFMD participating states, civil society and businesses have suggested recommendations, while highlighting the relevant role that the GFMD has played and will play in the future, particularly by supporting the implementation, the monitoring and the review of the GCM.

States consider the GFMD as:

²⁴ GFMD Review 2018, "GFMD Ten-Year Review: Lessons Learnt and Future Perspectives", November 2018. Available here: https://gfmd.org/files/documents/report_on_the_gfmd_ten-year_review.pdf

- An informal and malleable space that allows governments to discuss sensitive issues, share challenges they face, and develop a common understanding and vision of the complex links between migration and development. So, it is a networking place, where the stakeholders can partner and learn about policies and good practices worldwide.
- A mechanism that has developed a broad body of policy recommendations on migration and development that has shaped the global consensus on the SDGs, the New York Declaration and the GCM.
- A platform for increased interaction with stakeholders to discuss policies and practices that allow development to benefit from migration potential and mitigate its risks. Indeed, the GFMD is state-led process that regularly brings together decision-makers from all regions of the world, representing countries from all stages of development and various government agencies, as well as the UN and other international organisations, universities, migrant organisations, diaspora organisations, civil society, and business representatives. In short, the strength of the GFMD lies in its inclusiveness of other stakeholders.

Although it has largely benefited from informality, the GFMD also suffers from some structural weaknesses:

- It has, on several occasions, experienced difficulties in ensuring the succession of presidents and continues to rely on a breathless support unit.
- Its financial support comes from a small number of participating States that have begun to reduce their contributions in recent years. And decisions made, such as the long-term funding model or rotation of GFMD Steering Group members, are difficult to implement.
- In addition, the format of the GFMD is considered too formal and reserved for discussion, lacking the "courage" to monitor its results. It has little impact on normative standards and is perceived as biasing development issues.
- Stakeholders remain largely sidelined in the GFMD process, with increasing demands for further interaction. Civil society, in particular, is seeking greater inclusion in all aspects of the forum.

States and other GFMD stakeholders were asked about the future of the GFMD in the context of the adoption of the Global Compact on Migration.

For the most, the governments interviewed were in favour of the GFMD playing a supporting role in the implementation and monitoring of the GCM, as stipulated in the Compact. Some described the role of the GFMD as an advocate for the implementation of the GCM and SDGs, bridging the global goals with the policies at the national level. The GFMD can become a driver for the implementation, monitoring and revision of the GCM, playing a catalytic role in encouraging States and other stakeholders to act, share their progress (as well as their failures) and learn from experiences while motivating each other. It has been a multi-stakeholder space and is expected to expand this role with the local authorities' association through the proposed new GFMD Mayors Mechanism. In the future, the GFMD should build on its strengths while seeking to address its weaknesses. This is more important as the political environment is increasingly difficult. Many governments are reassessing their commitment to multilateralism. Unilateral and transactional approaches to international cooperation on migration and development are increasing. The GFMD, too, will likely be increasingly measured by its ability to deliver concrete results that serve the immediate national interests of States.

To deepen policy dialogue and policy coherence through the GFMD, the report suggested some recommendations to introduce more continuous formats for technical discussions. Options could include:

- Establish sector-specific networks that facilitate consultations among key ministries and agencies on a voluntary and regular basis to foster understanding among officials that are not usually involved in international cooperation.
- Create a dedicated window for interaction with the research community –online, at SG and FOF meetings, and during GFMD Summits – giving researchers a chance to present and provide analysis of important findings and trends, while allowing governments and others to ask questions and discuss policy implications.
- Establish a solutions-driven “marketplace” to match potential partners. The GFMD could provide an online and in-person marketplace for governments and other stakeholders who have a specific solution or tools that they are willing to share in order to help others develop their own solutions.
- Support the formation of outcome-oriented partnerships through Migration Labs. Building on the Migration Lab pilot that was undertaken during the German-Moroccan GFMD Co-Chairmanship, the GFMD could seek to forge a partnership for the replication of Migration Labs tailored to solving problems in specific regional, national and local contexts.

In conclusion, the results of this Ten-Year Review validated the continued relevance of the GFMD. It highlighted the increased expectations placed in the Forum as to the way forward. This is good news, but there are also challenges. Views on how the GFMD should evolve were not unanimous. The review insisted on the fact that the current environment, combined with the new role for the GFMD in supporting the implementation of the GCM, creates space for experimentation and entrepreneurship, for seizing the informal nature of the process to test new formats, initiatives and forms of partnership.

2.7.2 GFMD Report on Communication Strategy

The GFMD Communication Strategy was developed to consider the long-term communication requirements and optimise the communication activities of the GFMD²⁵. It was drafted by the CRK Communication Agency, in coordination with the ad hoc Working Group on Communications and with the valuable inputs of the GFMD Support Unit. The document covered a four-year period to accompany the discussions on the quadrennial International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) of the GCM.

The main objective of the strategy is to increase the awareness of the GFMD within the new institutional architecture on migration. Two sub-goals are defined to serve the main objective: firstly, to position the GFMD in the implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of the GCM and secondly, to clarify and communicate the value of GFMD participation to its Member States.

Both the main objective and the two sub-objectives are addressed to Member States, civil society and the private sector. They target internal actors, such as GFMD Troika, Steering Group, Friends of the Forum, Civil Society, Business Mechanism, and GFMD Donors. They also focus on other regional and global processes (such as the 2030 Agenda), other regional or global platforms and forums in the field of business and society, international media, the UN, researchers, think- tanks and academic institutions.

²⁵ The full Report of the GFMD Communication Strategy is available here: https://gfmd.org/files/documents/gfmd_communication_strategy.pdf

To achieve its objectives, the strategy developed three core elements:

1. Define cooperation with existing and new partners outside and within the GCM process
2. Equip the Forum with its own content while contributing to the debate on international migration and development
3. Promote the benefits of the Forum at the local and national levels

The strategy is described as a cooperation and positioning strategy. It aims to create more presence and relevance through cooperation with third parties in and outside the GCM process while positioning the GFMD as an actor with its own contributions on migration and development, present not only at the international but also at the local and national levels.

The strategy paper also outlined the GFMD main communications narrative and key message. Migration is a global, multi-faceted and natural phenomenon that needs to be managed at national, regional and global levels. At the same time, however, there is also great development potential in global mobility. The action-oriented exchange in a neutral and inclusive space within the GFMD makes a valuable contribution to the global debate on migration and development and supports states in seeking solutions to common challenges.

The GFMD Communication Strategy underlined that the profile and visibility of an organisation are not only shaped by communication content but also very much by individuals. Press spokespersons, directors or presidents, in short, exponents of an organisation, make the content tangible and emotional. This is a decisive advantage, especially when dealing with the media. Furthermore, the report advised to clarify the GFMD spokespersons for internal and external communications and to equip them with the appropriate competencies and resources. This implies having dedicated staff to implement the communication strategy and planned activities, with the assistance of an external communications agency. Periodic assessments, for example through focused group discussions, surveys may also be required to monitor progress vis-à-vis set objectives, which may also have cost implications for the GFMD.

3. GFMD AND KEY PARTNERS – A MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIP FOR PROMOTING MIGRATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

3.1 GFMD and the UN System

Throughout the year, the GFMD Co-Chairs cooperated and coordinated with the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) for International Migration and the Global Migration Group²⁶ (GMG). The GFMD has encouraged much progress in the UN framework and has offered the ideal platform for dialogue and positive transformation. To enhance the collaboration between the GFMD and UN entities, several meetings and events were held between the SRSG, the GFMD Troika and the GMG. Furthermore, the GMG has co-sponsored a side event on “*Migration and Rural Development*” at the IOM’s 2018 International Dialogue on Migration (IDM), the informal meetings with the GCM Co-Facilitators, and the Dialogue on the GCM implementation. These meetings reflect the importance of a multi-stakeholder approach for the global migration debate and the importance of working closely together to deliver ambitious outcomes. The GFMD Co-Chairmanship contributed to and benefited greatly from the SRSG’s commitment and efforts in strengthening international cooperation and the UN’s engagement on migration issues. This has materialised with the adoption of the Global Compact on Migration on 10th December 2018 in Marrakesh.

The link between the UN and the GFMD was reinforced by the GMG. It supported the GFMD since its inception, through secondments, technical advice to the Chairs, and by providing thematic expertise and practice examples to the Roundtables and the Platform for Partnership (PfP). The cooperation between the GMG and the 2018 GFMD Moroccan Co-Chairmanship was marked by its commitment to support Member States in their efforts to achieve the SDGs, with a specific focus on SDG target 10.7 on the facilitation of safe, orderly and responsible migration, though, *inter alia*, the implementation of well-managed migration policies.

In order to do so, the GMG, as well as its individual agencies, aligned their work plans to the thematic priorities of the GFMD and used the Forum’s recommendations to inform their activities, programming, advocacy, and outreach at national, regional and international levels. GMG tools and guidelines produced (e.g. on the protection of vulnerable migrants, on data, and on migration mainstreaming in the UNDAFs) supported the follow-up and implementation of GFMD recommendations at the country level.

The international migration landscape is profoundly changing. The UN system is witnessing a reorganisation to better accommodate Member States’ initiatives to implement the Global Compact – and particularly, the UN Migration Network will succeed the GMG. This Network will ensure effective, coordinated system-wide support to the implementation of the GCM and IOM will serve as its coordinator and secretariat.

²⁶ The Global Migration Group (GMG) is an inter-agency group bringing together heads of agencies to promote the wider application of all relevant international and regional instruments and norms relating to migration, and to encourage the adoption of more coherent, comprehensive and better coordinated approaches to the issue of international migration. The GMG is particularly concerned with improving the overall effectiveness of its members and other stakeholders in capitalising upon the opportunities and responding to the challenges presented by international migration.

In terms of the future of the collaboration between the UN and the GFMD relations, several governments suggested in the GFMD Ten-year Review²⁷ that the GFMD should pursue a closer relationship with the UN System. While the GFMD remains independent, it is now part of an emerging “implementation ecosystem” for the GCM. This could give rise to a collaborative relationship with the UN, including old and new mechanisms such as the IOM’s IDM, the nascent UN Migration Network and the foreseen Capacity Building Mechanism of the GCM.

The UN can provide operational guidance to inform governments on how to transform the Forum’s recommendations into concrete actions and programs and enable them to achieve national development objectives. The GFMD and the UN could collaborate by identifying evolving issues, understanding development linkages, and supporting the creation of structured partnerships for the implementation of the GCM. Moreover, states and agencies alike recognised the role of the GFMD PfP as a source of good practices on migration and development that could inform the global knowledge platform of the capacity-building mechanism that is to be established in the UN to support the implementation of the GCM (para 43c).

However, there were also responses that urged the GFMD to remain independent from the UN and to keep a “healthy distance” from the new UN Migration Network²⁸. Multiple responses further suggested the need to clearly delineate between the roles of the GFMD and IOM. For its part, IOM suggested that it could serve as an important bridge between the GFMD and the UN system given its new role as the secretariat to and coordinator of the UN Migration Network. The GFMD will have to navigate this new operating environment, which presents it with both, challenges and opportunities for the way forward.

3.2 GFMD and Civil Society

For over ten years, civil society has come together in the GFMD space to strategize and advocate, as well as to share and be inspired by each other. The GFMD Civil Society Days (CSDs) are an important opportunity for civil society leaders from all over the world to come together to discuss and interact with states on critical issues in the areas of migration and development. Since 2014, the CSDs have, in particular, taken forward the central issues of the “5-year, 8-point plan”²⁹, which civil society launched at the UN General Assembly High Level Dialogue (HLD) in 2013, for collaboration with governments in migration and development. At this HLD, member states adopted a consensus Declaration on a range of migration and development issues, strongly affirming the value of the GFMD and civil society’s role in it³⁰.

Directly tied to the GCM process and inspired by civil society’s “5-year, 8-point plan”, the GFMD 2017 CSDs focused on the theme “Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration Now: Mechanics of Compact worth Agreeing to”. The recommendations from the 2017 CSDs formed the basis of the “Now and How: TEN ACTS for the Global Compact”³¹, an important contribution to the ongoing advocacy effort around the Global Compact, signed by over 250 civil society organisations. Also, in line with the process of developing the Global Compact, civil society has held numerous national, regional and global thematic consultations. The GFMD Civil Society continues to provide an important space for civil society and government actors to share perspectives and to help bridge policy with practice. Within

²⁷ The full report is available here: https://gfmd.org/files/documents/report_on_the_gfmd_ten-year_review.pdf

²⁸ For more information, please refer to the GFMD Ten-year Review.

²⁹ The 5-year action plan for collaboration is available here: http://www.madenetwork.org/sites/default/files/PDF/2013_5year_8point_Plan%20of%20Action.pdf

³⁰ The brochure on the GFMD and Civil Society is available here: http://madenetwork.org/sites/default/files/ICM%20003-16%20leaflet_v7.pdf

³¹ The full report is available here: http://www.madenetwork.org/sites/default/files/Civil%20Society%20-%20Now%20and%20How%20TEN%20Acts_%20English.pdf

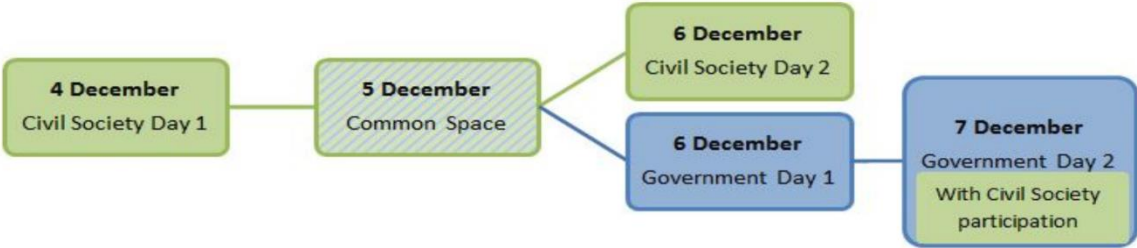
this discussion and guided by the “12 Civil Society Recommendations for the Future of the GFMD”³², the CSDs this year offered the opportunity to reflect on the ways the GFMD can refine, rejuvenate or even reinvent itself to ensure that it is fit for purpose in the years ahead. Equally important was the need to explore how civil society can contribute to and shape the implementation, follow up and review of the Compact.

This year marked a momentous occasion for civil society participation. During 2018, the Moroccan Co-Chairmanship took a bold step in recognising the important role of civil society in shaping migration discourses and policies and for putting emphasis on a rights-based approach to managing migration as well as in recognition of the shortfalls of current mechanisms of governing migration and addressing the needs of migrants. For the first time, all registered civil society participants of the CSDs were invited by the Moroccan Co-Chair to engage in the Platform for Partnerships and the Closing Plenary, taking place on the second day of the GFMD Summit on 7 December. This, in addition to the joint programme with governments in Common Space, is an important acknowledgment of civil society’s role and is in line with the document, “12 Civil Society Recommendations for the Future of the GFMD.” This inclusivity of the GFMD towards civil society was positively received by most stakeholders who expressed gratitude for the constructive approach during the 2018 Co-Chairmanship.

GFMD Civil Society Days 2018, “Goals, Compacts, Action: Human mobility that works for migrants and societies”

The CSDs 2018 of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD), entitled “Goals, Compacts, Action: Human mobility that works for migrants and societies” took place on the 4th and 6th of December, kicking off “Marrakesh Migration Week” - eight days of events and activities that culminated in the intergovernmental conference to adopt the Global Compact for Migration. The Coordinating Office of the International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC), in close consultation with the International Steering Committee, defined the scope and programme for the CSDs, bearing in mind related events taking place throughout Migration Week.

Civil Society Days and Programme:



The CSDs traditionally overlap with the Government Days of the GFMD. As illustrated, the programme for governments began with Common Space on Wednesday 5 December, with the Government Days falling on Thursday 6 and Friday 7 December. The CSDs were split, with Day 1 on Tuesday 4 December (the day before Common Space), and Day 2 on Thursday 6 December (the day after Common Space). In terms of structure, Civil Society Day 1 corresponded to Recommendation Day, where discussions focused on developing key recommendations, messages, and actions on the

³² The 12 Civil Society Recommendations for the future of the GFMD are available here: <https://gfmd.org/12-civil-society-recommendations-future-gfmd>

themes to bring to governments in and beyond Common Space. Civil Society Day 2 provided a space to look ahead, both towards the rest of Migration Week and beyond and planned how to effectively engage with governments in implementing the GCM.

More than 350 representatives of civil society from over 75 countries gathered in Marrakesh for the CSDs to deliberate on action, goals, and partnerships needed for the inclusion, protection and empowerment of migrants. Furthermore, more than 40 non-civil society observers including government delegates, foundations, and international organisations attended the event. The 2018 GFMD CSDs included a mix of plenary sessions, interactive parallel working sessions, special sessions, and networking spaces, as well as a number of side events. Each of the working sessions convened groups of about 60 – 90 civil society delegates plus a smaller number of additional observers. The working sessions centred on four broad thematic tracks, all relating directly to 4 recommendations from the 2017 GFMD CSDs in Berlin and subsequent *“Now and How: TEN ACTS for the Global Compact”* as well as the final draft of the *“Global Compact for Safe Orderly and Regular Migration”*.

- Theme 1: **Actions responding to the drivers of forced displacement, including due to climate change and environmental degradation.**
- Theme 2: **Actions ensuring safe, dignified and rights-based transit, entry, reception and return.**
- Theme 3: **Actions ensuring decent work, labour rights and fair recruitment.**
- Theme 4: **Actions ensuring the social, economic and political inclusion of migrants in communities.**

On 5 December, the CSDs participants – leaders of civil society, migrant and diaspora groups, trade unions, and academia – joined ministers and senior government officials, together with representatives of international organisations and the private sector, for a day of “Common Space”, followed by two days of government deliberations on 6-7 December. During the Opening Ceremony of the Government Days, the 2018 Civil Society Co-Chair, Mr. Mamadou Goita stated that CSOs will continue working with member states and providing technical and political expertise to assist them in the implementation of the GCM and creating new spaces for dialogue. He also reminded that the *“UN Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families”* is a key agreement that was not ratified by several countries. He highlighted the need to respect international law and ensure equal access of migrants to justice and social services. He insisted on the fact that the criminalisation of migrations is not a solution; we need to find legal ways to regularise migrants who are in an informal situation.

At the closing session of the 2018 GFMD Summit, Ms. Roula Hamati, Chair of the GFMD 2018 Civil Society Days presented the 10 commitments of the CSDs. These commitments draw on the report in the Common Space, as well as the reports by the Civil Society rapporteurs of the working and special sessions, and those of special trackers and rapporteurs of the SDGs, on women and on children:

- 1) **Continue to defend the human rights of migrants**, to interpret and implement the Compact in accordance with human rights principles and to work to ensure that migrants are at the heart of all policies that affect them.
- 2) **Raise awareness of the Compact**, to collect and use facts and data to change the negative narratives on migration, to highlight the contributions of migrants at all levels and to foster social inclusion at the local and national level.
- 3) **Continue to fight** to ensure that all migrant workers, women, and men, regardless of status, are guaranteed their **core labour rights** including the freedom of association and collective bargaining and to ensure that those rights are respected and protected at all stages of migration.

- 4) **Mobilise, advocate, and lobby governments to bridge the gap between regular and irregular migrants** at the local and national levels, commit to provide services to all migrants regardless of status and with special attention to the most vulnerable migrants.
- 5) **Continue to view migration from the larger lens of human mobility** and to work at the national level to ensure the joint implementation of the Global Compact for Migration and the Global Compact on Refugees to reduce gaps and to ensure that people do not fall through the cracks of rigid definitions.
- 6) **Push for stronger climate displacement agenda** in the Global Compact and in other spaces such as the GFMD so that the unique risks facing climate-vulnerable communities are recognised and addressed in a short time frame.
- 7) **Continue to work to ensure that the principle of the best interest of the child** as the primary consideration in all matters concerning migrant children is always respected. No child should be detained for immigration purposes or separated from their family.
- 8) **Commit to recognise and support the role of women** as leaders in communities, families, and economies whether as primary migrants or as the 'left behind' when family members migrate for work
- 9) **Commit to be critical, yet to engage in the spirit of dialogue and partnership** with member states, UN agencies and other stakeholders implementing the Global Compact.
- 10) **Commit to monitor and keep governments** to account on all their commitments. We will take the initiative to create monitoring systems to track progress at different levels, connecting the national, regional and global and to create multi-year civil society action plans for implementation.

Ms. Roula Hamati concluded with the following statement: “We are all people on the move, it's not our location that defines our rights!”.

About half of the participants at the 2018 GFMD CSDs were migrants or diaspora members themselves. Working at grassroots, national, regional and international levels across every region in the world, delegates presented a diversity of human rights and development NGOs, migrant and diaspora associations, faith-based and workers organisations, academics and the private sector. Furthermore, over 20% of the participants this year were youth delegates, under the age of 35.

3.3 GFMD and the Business Mechanism

The GFMD Business Mechanism was launched in 2015 and endorsed at the 2015 GFMD Summit in Istanbul. It brings the voice of the business community to the Forum and aims to enhance public-private dialogue and deepen the engagement of international companies in the development of migration policy. There is clearly a mutual interest between governments, the private sector, and civil society, to promote more transparent, effective and humane migration policies, considering labour market needs. The International Organisation of Employers (IOE) and the World Economic Forum Global Agenda Council on Migration (WEF GACM) coordinate the work of the GFMD Business Mechanism. Together they form the Business Advisory Group. A GFMD Business Secretariat is housed at the IOE.

In line with the GFMD Co-Chairs, the Business Mechanism focused its efforts on inter-regional mobility and on operationalising the recommendations set out in the 2017 publication *“Toward a Global Compact on Migration: Perspectives on Labour Migration from the GFMD Business Mechanism”*.³³ The Business Mechanism brings its expertise to the shared goals of the UN system,

³³ The full report is available here: <https://gfmdbusinessmechanism.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Business-Mechanism-Report-to-10-GFMD-Summit-2017-06-19-final.pdf>

governments, and civil society in creating transparent, effective, and human migration policies which support business and development in creating job opportunities and economic prosperity.

At the multilateral level, the Business Mechanism was the primary vehicle for private sector participation in the negotiation of the GCM. A delegation of observers was sent during each of the six intense rounds of negotiations that took place between February and July 2018 at the UN headquarters in New York, and separate briefings were held with Ambassadors from each of the major regional groups attending the negotiations. While heavily focused on the protection of migrant rights, the GCM includes language recognising the importance of labour-market needs, predictable labour-mobility schemes, and appreciation of the role and expertise of the private sector, in particular in identifying skills needs.

Labour market needs and migration policy interests of the private sector are diverse and vary hugely among companies, industries, countries, and regions. This is why technical regional and national workshops were organised in Europe, Africa, and Asia:

- In Geneva last spring, the Business Mechanism actively participated in a workshop on “Skills shortages and immigration policies” organised by Swiss employers, that explored the relationships between local labour market needs, skill demands and immigration frameworks.
- In Kampala, Uganda last May the IOE organised a conference of the East, Central and Southern African Employers Organisations, to involve business organisations in migration policies in the context of regional mobility schemes.
- In Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in October 2018 when an Annual Business Thematic meeting was organised for Employers and companies in the Asia-Pacific region. The theme of the meeting was “Business Perspectives on Regional Mobility: Learning the Now to shape the future”.
- Finally, the Business Mechanism supported the GFMD to ensure private sector participation in all workshops organised in 2018.

The outcome of these activities enabled to publish the IOE position paper on labour migration³⁴, which highlights the following pillars:

- 1) The needs for skills mobility and the challenges faced by companies to access skills, in the context of complex political frameworks and with the perspective of drastic talent shortages in the future of work.
- 2) The business engagement in supporting governments in putting in place enforcement mechanisms, thereby protecting the most vulnerable migrant workers.
- 3) Businesses cannot do that alone. Efficient partnerships with governments and public institutions are key.

Therefore, employers have a vital interest in the development and promulgation of clear and consistent migration policies and practices that address both issues. They also bring to the table essential experience and expertise.

³⁴ The full report is available here: <https://www.ioe-emp.org/index.php?eID=dumpFile&t=f&f=135034&token=acb0ba361bca8f4ac7fa09eb0f5ad63d6c3c130f>

In the future, among the challenges will be ensuring coordination and complementarity among the numerous international and regional agencies and processes operating in the migration space, including defining the roles of the GFMD, ILO and the IOM and other relevant UN agencies.

The 2018 GFMD Business Meeting was held in December 6th and saw the broadest and most diverse representation of the private sector in the GFMD history. The participation of the private sector as an independent stakeholder received strong political support from many governments at the Summit.

3.4 GFMD and the Mayors Mechanism

The last few years have witnessed an increased awareness and recognition of the role of cities and local governments in addressing global governance challenges, from climate change to economic development, and international migration. Governments cannot achieve the goal of “safe, regular and orderly migration” without embracing a whole-of-government approach that would include local authorities as the first responders to migrants’ needs. Several policy frameworks, such as the 2030 Development Agenda, the Paris Agreement, the Addis Ababa Agenda for Action and the GCM have acknowledged the decisive role that global governance plays in achieving global aims. Localised sustainable solutions are needed to leave no one behind.

The German-Moroccan Co-Chairs formalised the relationship between local authorities participating in the Mayoral Forum on Human Mobility, Migration, and Development (“Mayoral Forum”) and the GFMD through the establishment of a “Mayors Mechanism” for the GFMD. Ecuador, as the 2019 Chair of the GFMD and the host of the 2019 Mayoral Forum (as it did in 2015), has also supported including the voices of local authorities in international fora.

For local authorities, the Mayors Mechanism will provide:

- 1) An opportunity for peer-to-peer learning, networking, and exchange of practices.
- 2) A platform to interact with States and an opportunity to find solutions to shared problems.
- 3) A forum to interact with civil society and business to explore shared interests and opportunities for collaboration, including engagement in CSDs and the Business Mechanism.
- 4) A platform to review the implementation of the GCM at the local level, to have that review included in the GFMD’s report to the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF), and to support the development of policy frameworks for cities’ implementation of the GCM.
- 5) A chance to join and build operational alliances and partnerships, including identifying and incubating partnerships between cities, between cities and national governments, and between cities and the private sector.
- 6) A repository of tools, methodologies and good practices on migration and development, and support for adapting those tools and good practices to and applying them in particular local circumstances.
- 7) An ongoing supporting function to advance progress during the interim periods between the annual Mayoral Fora, including outreach and engagement of new cities.

For the GFMD, the Mayors Mechanism will:

- 1) Add depth to the deliberations and help to bridge existing divides between local realities and global policy discussions, and between migrants, civil society, and States.

- 2) Support progress in delivering on the broader GCM and SDG agendas and contributing to policy and institutional coherence between different levels of government.
- 3) Bolster the position of the GFMD in the context of GCM implementation and follow-up as the most inclusive venue for dialogue and as a venue to mobilise partners for implementation.
- 4) Ensure greater alignment and strategic coherence across multi-stakeholder fora on migration and development.

Therefore, a more profound relationship between local authorities and the GFMD will help bridge existing divides between local realities and global policy discussions, and between migrants, civil society and national governments. Local governments can become more consistent stakeholders in the GFMD with the opportunity to inform and be informed by states in their deliberations.

In terms of governance, the Mayors Mechanism will be led by a secretariat that can connect the international and the local, formed by a leading UN agency and a global city organisation working together. In line with this principle, the secretariat will be led jointly by the newly established City Diplomacy Unit (CDU) and IOM.

3.5 Youth Participation in GFMD activities

“Young migrants are actors of change with rights – our future!”

- *Key message from young delegates*³⁵

The Moroccan Co-Chairmanship has recognised the importance of youth participation in GFMD activities. Against this backdrop, a thematic workshop entitled “Children and Youth on the Move: Implementing Sustainable Solutions” was organised in partnership with UNICEF. The workshop was attended by over 180 representatives from Member States, Observers, civil society and private sector organisations, together with 13 young people with migrant backgrounds from Italy, Germany, the UK, and Morocco. It focused on informing the implementation of the GCM by identifying solutions to address priority issues for children and youth on the move. Migration can be an empowering experience for millions of children and youth around the world.

The young delegates shared their personal experiences about migration and collectively came up with three calls to actions and recommendations for the CGM:

- 1) Integrate young migrants in societies while giving them the chance to preserve their cultural identities.
- 2) Recognise achievements and school/university degrees of young migrants across borders.
- 3) Equip migrant children and youth with the right skills, tools, and platforms to promote their meaningful participation.

Young migrants constitute “agents of change” and are key actors within the migration debate. Their participation is critical to the development, implementation, monitoring, and review of policies that affect them within the GCM process, at both the national and local levels. Furthermore, they have the capacity to challenge the negative perceptions about migration and change public opinion.

A representative of young migrants was invited to deliver a speech at the Opening Plenary Session of the Eleventh GFMD Summit in December 2018³⁶. She highlighted the fact that children are strong

³⁵ Key message from young delegates during the Thematic Workshop on “Children and Youth on the Move: Implementing Sustainable Solutions” held in Agadir on 21-22 June 2018. For more information, please refer to the Summary report available here: https://gfmd.org/files/documents/exe_report_thematic_workshop11_-_logovuk_005.pdf

and resilient. With the right support and in the right environments, they have immense potential to drive change.

3.6 GFMD's engagement with Academics

The Moroccan Co-Chairmanship placed a strong focus on research and engaged with academics throughout the year. For the first in the history of the GFMD, a workshop was dedicated to researchers. Indeed, during the Eleventh GFMD Summit, a workshop on the migration challenges and stakes of Morocco, between Africa and Europe was organised by Moroccan Researchers on Migration. The workshop was moderated by Pr. Bachir Hamdouch from the "Association de Migration Internationale" (AMI) and by Pr. Abdelkrim Belguendouz from the Informal Collective of Moroccan Migration Researchers.

³⁶ Speeches from the opening ceremony are available at: <https://gfmd.org/docs/germany-morocco-2017-2018-landing> and a video of the whole session is available here: <https://web.facebook.com/MCMREAM/videos/275746936629086/>

4. ELEVENTH GFMD SUMMIT MEETING - HONOURING INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS TO UNLOCK THE POTENTIAL OF ALL MIGRANTS FOR DEVELOPMENT



4.1 Opening Ceremony

The opening ceremony of the Eleventh edition³⁷ of the GFMD Summit gathered over 2,000 participants from 135 United Nations Member States, 45 international organisations, civil society, the 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 organisations also graced the inaugural session.

The Eleventh GFMD Summit meeting started on 5 December with welcome addresses by the Moroccan and German GFMD Co-Chairs: **Mr. El Habib Nadir**³⁸ and **Ambassador Götz Schmidt-Bremme**³⁹ respectively. The two Co-Chairs introduced the achievements made in the framework of the first ever two-year GFMD Co-Chairmanship, highlighting that this joint leadership is an example of successful North-South cooperation based on respect and mutual understanding. In their separate statements, they highlighted the substantial contribution of the Global Forum in the review of the implementation of the migration-related targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

³⁷ Speeches from the opening ceremony are available at: <https://gfmd.org/docs/germany-morocco-2017-2018-landing> and a video of the whole session is available here: <https://web.facebook.com/MCMREAM/videos/275746936629086/>

³⁸ The opening statement addressed by Mr El Habib Nadir is available at: https://gfmd.org/files/statements/opening_speech_of_mr_nadir-english.pdf

³⁹ The opening statement addressed by Ambassador Götz Schmidt-Bremme is available at: https://gfmd.org/files/statements/german_opening_statement_gfmd_summit_2018.pdf

and more importantly, in the elaboration of the UN-led Global Compact for safe, orderly and regular migration (GCM), which was adopted by participating UN Member States on 10-11 December 2018. As the outgoing Co-Chair, Mr. Nadir stated that the launch of the Summit on the eve of the Intergovernmental Conference constitutes a historic turning point marked by the will of the international community to take a step forward towards global governance on migration. Ambassador Schmidt-Bremme, on the other hand, called the GFMD as the “market place at the centre of the new GCM ecosystem,” which provides all stakeholders a safe environment and a catalyst for open discussion, confidence building, and experiment on pressing migration issues.

For his part, **Mr. Abdelkrim Benoutiq**, Minister Delegate in charge of Moroccan Living Abroad and Migration Affairs took pride of Morocco’s national policy on migration governance and emphasised that managing human mobility is the responsibility of all states which necessitates a participatory and scientific approach. He articulated that 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, continental and international levels.

Speaking as the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General for International Migration, **Ms. Louise Arbour**⁴⁰, outlined that the impending adoption of the Global Compact, after two remarkable years of elaborating, 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 has built in the past decade. She insisted on the fact that 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.

Mr. Antonio Vitorino, Director General of the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), shared that 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. He highlighted the importance of the Mayoral Mechanism in providing tools to implement the compact at all levels, especially at the local level.

Mr. Driss El Yazami⁴¹, President of the National Human Rights Council, insisted on the fact that this year marked a momentous occasion for civil society participation. The government of Morocco took several steps in recognition of the important role of civil society in shaping migration discourses and policies and for putting emphasis on a rights-based approach to managing migration and addressing the needs of migrants. He concluded that the good health of a democracy depends on its capacity of welcoming others. Choosing fraternity and shared experience is the only way moving forward.

In her intervention, **Ms. Asako Okai**⁴², Assistant Secretary General and Director of Crisis Bureau at UNDP explained that the 360 degrees vision of the GCM and the SDGs constitute an excellent framework for development actors to contribute to migration governance in support of the GFMD. She used the examples of several interventions in Moldova, Niger, and Jamaica to illustrate UNDP’s support in implementing the objectives of the GCM and addressing drivers of forced migrations (Objectives 1, 19 and 21). UNDP intends to play an active role in the newly-established UN Network on Migration.

⁴⁰ The speech by Ms Louise Arbour is available at: https://gfmd.org/files/statements/gfmd_opening_session_-_louise_arbour.pdf

⁴¹ The speech by Mr Driss El Yazami is available at: https://gfmd.org/files/statements/discours_gfmd_5_decembre_18_mr_driss_el_yazami.pdf

⁴² The opening statement addressed by Ms. Asako Okai is available at: https://gfmd.org/files/statements/opening_statement_of_ms_asako_okai_-_undp.pdf

Ambassador Regine De Clerq⁴³, First and Founding Executive Director of the GFMD in 2007, emphasised the crucial role that the GFMD has played over the past decade and will continue to play amidst the increasingly xenophobic developments in many parts of the world. She insisted on the fact that trust is the prerequisite for positive cooperation in a multilateral and multi-stakeholder framework to advance dialogue and collectively find solutions for better migration management.

In his speech, **Mr. Stephane Jaquemet**, Director of Policy of ICMC, stated that human decency and the respect of human rights lie at the core of the GFMD. This forum represents the first-time states take responsibility and initiative to go beyond the toxic narrative against migrants and try to find inclusive and sustainable solutions.

Mr. Roberto Suarez-Santos⁴⁴, Secretary-General of IOE, highlighted the role of IOE in coordinating the Business Mechanism, which was the primary vehicle for private sector participation in the negotiation of the GCM. He stressed the importance of well managed migration as a critical tool for balancing labour supply and demand, for sparking innovation, and for transferring and spreading skills.

Finally, **Ms. Yasmin Yousef**⁴⁵, representative of young migrants, also delivered a speech during the inaugural ceremony. She started her intervention by insisting on the importance of giving young migrants the possibility to speak up and play an active role in our societies. Indeed, children are strong and resilient. With the right support and the right environment, they have immense potential to drive change.

4.2 GFMD 2018 Common Space

The GFMD Common Space is the principal venue for interaction between Governments, the civil society, the private sector, international organisations and other relevant stakeholders at the GFMD Summit meeting. It brings stakeholders from all sectors that have concerns about migration and development to discuss issues of mutual interest. The overarching theme was “From global commitments to multi-stakeholder action: inspiring implementation at the regional, national and sub-national level”. The Common Space bridges the programme of the Civil Society Days and the programme of the Government Meeting. As in the past, the Common Space was held immediately after the opening ceremony of the GFMD Summit.

The high level introductory plenary session began with the opening statements from the Moroccan GFMD Co-Chair Mr. El Habib Nadir; Civil Society Co-Chair Mr. Mamadou Goita and UN SRSG Ms. Louise Arbour⁴⁶. In his welcome remarks, **Mr. El Habib Nadir** highlighted that the GFMD is a platform to develop an understanding and a working method to foster the inclusion of migrants while including different stakeholders such as governments, CSOs, academia, the private sector, and the media. “To make migrations work for all, we need to focus on achieving specific policy goals within clear time frameworks, have a smart use of financial resources, and gather, analyse and disseminate data to empower and protect migrants.” He noted that Public-Private Partnerships and building networks are important practices to move forward from negotiations to implementation. **Mr. Mamadou Goita** stated that CSOs will continue working with member states and providing technical and political expertise to assist them in the implementation of the GCM and creating new spaces for dialogue. He also reminded that the “*UN Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant*

⁴³ The speech by Ambassador Regine De Clerq is available at: https://gfmd.org/files/statements/opening_speech_of_regine_de_clerq.pdf

⁴⁴ The remark by Mr. Roberto Suarez-Santos are available at: https://gfmd.org/files/statements/5_gfmd_opening_ceremony_-_rss.pdf

⁴⁵ The remark by Ms. Yasmin Yousef are available at: https://gfmd.org/files/statements/opening_speech_by_ms._yasmine_youssef.pdf

⁴⁶ The Keynote speech addressed by Ms. Louise Arbour is available here: https://gfmd.org/files/statements/gfmd_common_space_-_louise_arbour.pdf

Workers and Members of Their Families” is a key agreement that was not ratified by several countries. “We need to respect international law and ensure equal access of migrants to justice and social services. The criminalisation of migrations is not a solution; we need to find legal ways to regularise migrants who are in an informal situation.” **Ms. Louise Arbour** outlined that the Common Space embodies the multi-stakeholder spirit needed to take the Compact to action, by involving the widest possible range of actors, mobilising and sharing knowledge, expertise, and financial resources. She noted that to increase benefits, we need: 1) the alignment of migration policies to meet labour market needs, 2) a reduction in the costs of remittance transfers to below 3 percent, and 3) the alignment of the conditions of migrant workers to those of native workers. She also referred to the collaboration between McKinsey & Company and IOM to present a quantified perspective on the benefits of implementing the CGM, compared to the costs of no action, in terms of economic, social and humanitarian impact.

A Davos-style panel session moderated by **Ms. Roula Hamati**, Civil Society Chair, also 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.

Ms. Solveigh Hieronimus, Partner at McKinsey & Company spoke first. She introduced the recent report from the McKinsey Global Institute “*People on the move: Global migration’s impact and opportunity*”⁴⁷ aimed at understanding the patterns of global migration and the economic impact that is created when people move across the world’s borders. She insisted on the fact that policies need to be evidenced-based to unlock the potential of the GCM. Indeed, she stated that “migrants make up just 3.4 percent of the world’s population, but they contribute nearly 10 percent of global GDP. Today migrants tend to earn 20 to 30 percent less than native-born workers”. The report identifies that if countries narrow that wage gap to just 5 to 10 percent by integrating migrants more effectively across various aspects of education, housing, health, and community engagement, they could generate an additional boost of \$800 billion to \$1 trillion to the global economy⁴⁸. She concluded that better quality data means better migration outcomes.

The second speaker was **Mr. Yaya Sangaré**, from the Ministry of Malians Abroad and African Integration. He described the specific position of Mali, as a country of origin, destination, and transit. All key stakeholders should be involved in the policy design, from CSOs, migrants’ associations and the diaspora. The GCM constitutes a chance and an opportunity for all actors; it is a global and coherent approach, based on a participative process seeking to find sustainable and fair solutions.

The third speaker was **Ms. Seemi Choudry**, Director, Mayor's Office of New Americans, city of Chicago. She explained that Chicago is a welcoming city, thanks to the adoption of integrative policies to support migrants. The city has already implemented a variety of initiatives reflected in the GCM and provides the resources needed to every resident, regardless of their citizenship or legal status. For instance, the city provides subsidised education and scholarships at the secondary and post-secondary levels thanks to Public-Private Partnerships. Chicago is a dynamic city because of the inclusions of migrants.

The fourth speaker was **Mr. Ignacio Packer**, Executive Director at ICVA who urged states to look at the bigger picture and mentioned some of the pressing issues such as the rise of inequality,

⁴⁷ The full report is available here:

<https://www.mckinsey.com/~media/McKinsey/Featured%20Insights/Employment%20and%20Growth/Global%20migrations%20impact%20and%20opportunity/MGI-People-on-the-Move-Executive-summary-December-2016.ashx>

⁴⁸ The full report is available here:

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xenophobia, violence and climate change. He insisted on the fact that solutions and partnerships are ready to see the GCM and GCR make a concrete difference in the global governance of migrations. He identified three areas where a shift is needed: 1) reinforced collective political support to scale up, initiate and implement programmes, 2) better communication of successes stories to various audiences, and 3) ambitious and visionary implementation approaches considering long-term needs. Properly implemented, the GCM is another step toward a world in which migration is a choice, not a necessity.

Lastly, **Mr. Jonathan Prentice**, Chief of Office for the SRSB for International Migration, outlined several main points in his intervention. First, multi-stakeholder partnerships are at the core of the GCM, bringing together different actors working towards the successful integration of migrants. However, this will require discipline and policy coherence at all levels. Second, a change of narrative to outline the positive impact of migrations can improve public perceptions and address the issue of xenophobia and discrimination. Finally, the UN Network on migrations is a new collaborative coordination mechanism housed in IOM and comprises all different part of the UN system. It will work towards a coherent and global approach.

Four parallel thematic sessions followed 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; and (4) decent work, labour rights and fair recruitment.

4.2.1 Session 1: Ensuring an enabling environment for migrants and diaspora to contribute to sustainable development

Joint presentation:

- **Ambassador Sory Kaba**, Director General, Foreign Ministry of Senegal & **Mr. Amadou Bocar Sam Daff**, President of the Association of Senegalese in Catalonia
- **Ms. Daniela Morari**, State Secretary, Republic of Moldova

Moderator:

- **Mr. Bela Hovy**, UN DESA

Discussants:

- **Mr. Abdallah Boussof**, Secretary General of the Council of the Moroccan community abroad
- **Mr. Ahmed Bugre**, Foundation for Shelter and Support to Migrants

Rapporteur:

- **Mr. John Mufukare**, Executive Director of the Employers Confederation of Zimbabwe (EMCOZ)

The session outlined the need to support migrants at all stages of the migratory cycle, from the country of origin, transit and destination. On the one hand, the country of origin should provide the necessary documentation before departure and assist migrants through consular support in the destination country. On the other hand, the host country should deploy efforts to assist migrants in settling by providing them with a welcoming environment and appropriate resources and services. Furthermore, it is important to keep the migrants' cultural and social identity alive. The session also highlighted the importance of building trust and confidence between the diaspora and governments in the home countries. Source countries can provide incentives for migrants to invest knowledge, skills, and money back home.

Moving forward, several practices were shared which aim to concretely support the follow-up and review of the GCM. At the national level, participants suggested a parliamentary representation of the diaspora in the country of origin. For instance, Senegal and Moldova are two countries where the

diaspora has a strong and direct voice in local representations; migrants can influence what is happening and remain engaged in the political life of their country of origin. At the regional level, the monitoring and evaluation of Regional Protocols on Migration can improve the efficiency of multi-stakeholder practices and partnerships. Finally, at the global level, the link between migration and development should be promoted for origin and destination countries. Overall, participants concluded that migrants are actors who live in two countries and who should feel welcomed and comfortable in both.

4.2.2 Session 2: Ensuring the inclusion of migrants

Joint presentation:

- **Mr. Mario Konzett**, Director, Migration and Passport Office, Liechtenstein
- **Mr. Arno Brändle**, Liechtenstein Languages

Moderator:

- **Mr. Fernando de la Mora**, GCM Co-Facilitator's Team, Mexico

Discussants:

- **Ms. Lola Lopez**, Commissioner for Immigration, Barcelona City Council
- **Ms. Claire Charbit**, OECD

Rapporteur:

- **Ms. Claudia Lucero**, Chicago Religious Leadership Network on Latin American, and Durango UniSA

The session stressed the importance of working with migrant groups, the diaspora and grass root organisations to inform the strategies for the implementation of the GCM. 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. Furthermore, the joint presentation highlighted the fact that the voices of children and young migrants should be heard to inform the implementation of policies that will benefit them. Participants have identified good practices and initiatives that could be replicated in other regions and contexts. They mentioned, for example, the “Somos We Are” initiative from Alianza Americas which engages communities, especially the youth, in building a new narrative around migration and challenging ongoing economic inequality, xenophobia, and racism. Moreover, 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.

In terms of the implementation of the GCM, the session suggested, at the national level, the adoption of a national plan for the integration of migrants as part of the social fabric of the host communities. This plan can contain several areas such as education (both formal and informal), and health (with a focus on mental health). At the regional level, a plan with governments should ensure the option for people to either migrate or stay. Finally, at the global level, strategies to change the rhetoric of racism and fight xenophobia against migrants should be deployed. Large metropolises are often more diverse and used to welcoming migrants.

“Liechtenstein Languages” is a successful example of a multi stakeholder partnership. It promotes the inclusion of migrants through language training; the focus of this programme created by the government is to promote mutual understanding and teach the language to migrants using nontraditional ways. Economic inclusion is not enough; the integration of migrants should be done at the cultural and social levels as well. Therefore, inclusion is a two-way street; migrants need to make efforts while partners need to be aware of their realities.

4.2.3 Session 3: Ensuring safe, dignified and rights-based transit, entry, reception and return

Joint presentation:

- **Mr. Jorge Gonzalez Mayagoitia**, Permanent Mission of Mexico, Geneva & **Ms. Silvia Gomez**, Global Advocacy Coordinator, International Detention Coalition

Moderator:

- **Ms. Kathleen Newland**, Migration Policy Centre

Discussants:

- **Ms. Anne Gallagher**, ICMC
- **Ms. Ilse Hahn**, BMZ, Germany

Rapporteur :

- **Ms. Michele Levoy**, PICUM

Several examples of laws prohibiting detention were outlined. In Mexico, a General Law on Children and Adolescents Rights was passed in 2014. However, implementation challenges remain, and the law still needs to be translated to practice. A national working group was set up to gather all relevant implementers such as child rights authorities, CSOs, the government, and UN Agencies. The plan “Somos Mexicanos” was also mentioned, this comprehensive initiative includes health care and education components and helped over one million Mexicans to return home between 2009 and 2017. More broadly, at the EU level, EU Member States worked jointly to give access to protection to migrants when needed. Partnership Frameworks were signed with third countries and the EU financed a Trust Fund of over four billion euros to ease the return and reintegration of migrants. The UN has also developed programmes of assisted voluntary return and reintegration.

In international law, detention means deprivation of liberty and this can be harmful not only for the migrant himself but also for society in general. Participants insisted on the importance of allowing CSOs to conduct monitoring missions and ensuring that the fundamental rights of migrants are respected. In the context of alternatives to detention, the GCM is providing a roadmap to implement an already existing framework, namely, the human rights framework.

In terms of capacity building needs, participants highlighted the importance of finding regular pathways for migration, focusing on vulnerable populations such as children, lowering the requirements of visa procedures, and launching international schemes on monitoring as well programs for the identification of missing migrants.

4.2.4 Session 4: Ensuring decent work, labour rights and fair recruitment

Joint presentation:

- **Mr. Villamor Plan**, Philippine Overseas Employment Administration & **Ms. Jillian Roque**, Public Services Labour Independent Confederation (PSLINK)

Moderator:

- **Mr. William Gois**, Migrant Forum Asia

Discussant:

- **Mr. Najim Azahaf**, Bertelsmann Foundation

Rapporteur:

- **Mr. Hani Chaar**, Adviser, Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the UNOG

The Triple win project is based on 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. The Triple win

project includes skills and language training courses before departure, a transparent selection process of workers and employers, a dispute settlement mechanism, as well as monitoring guidelines for further implementation. The gold standard for fair migration is the Triple win by matching labour demand between countries and balancing the interests of the country of origin, the country of destination and the migrants themselves.

Participants have identified elements that could be replicated in other regions and contexts. The Triple win has a comprehensive approach and considers every stage of the migration cycle, including the pre-departure and the return of the migrant. Furthermore, this initiative involves all the main stakeholders and ensures the portability of social security benefits.

At the national level, to guarantee the follow-up and review of the GCM and other related global commitments, the Triple win project can serve as an example of successful partnership and illustrate what is already done on the ground to implement the Objective 18 of the GCM on Global Skills partnership. Such practices could serve as a basis towards the ratification of other international conventions like the *“The International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families”*. Regional agreements focusing on decent work conditions are also needed at the regional level. Finally, at the global level, the example highlighted in this session showed the importance of a comprehensive approach and the linkages between global commitments such as the GCM, the 2030 Agenda, and the Decent Work Agenda. The successful implementation of such partnerships requires time and phased implementation. It also illustrates the need to develop pathways to ensure safe and regular migration.

Concluding reflections in the Common Space

The 2018 Common Space wrap up was moderated by **Ambassador Arturo Cabrera Hidalgo**, GFMD 2019 Chairmanship Ecuador. He underscored the imperative for governments to work with civil society and other non-state actors in ensuring that international frameworks on human mobility and development - including the GCM and the Global Compact for Refugees - truly work for migrants and societies. The presentations by rapporteurs were followed by the closing remarks addressed by **Ambassador Götz Schmidt-Bremme**, German GFMD Co-Chair, **Mr. Hamza Ibrahim**, Civil Society Co-Chair, and **Mr. António Vitorino**, IOM Director General.

In his statement, Ambassador Götz Schmidt-Bremme stated that it was the role of civil society to put pressure on leaders to honour their commitments and find sustainable and inclusive solutions. He also noted, from the recommendations and findings of the breakout session, that trust is key. Migrants must feel comfortable and accepted in destination countries and this will require trust and shared responsibility.

Mr. Hamza Ibrahim stressed the importance of making sure that the voices of migrants’ children are heard and protecting human rights. And finally, Mr. Antonio stressed on the need to work together and focus our efforts on the countries in favour of the global compact. The faith of the GCM lies in the vision that each of us can provide by building partnerships and providing innovative and concrete ideas for implementation. He identified the following key recommendations to move forward:

- Demonstrate that multilateralism can deliver positive results and put an end to all the suffering caused by forced migrations.
- Reject the criminalisation and demonization of those who are in a critical situation.
- Defend the positive impact of migrations without denying its side effects and negative impacts.
- 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.

4.3 GFMD 2018 Business Meeting

The 2018 GFMD Business Meeting saw the broadest and most diverse representation of the private sector in the GFMD history. It was co-moderated by Ms. Lynn Shotwell, SVP and Head, Global Outreach and Operations, Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) and Ms. Stéphanie Winet, Head of Stakeholder Engagement, International Organisation of Employers (IOE). The overarching theme of the Business Meeting was: *“Implementation of the GCM: how business will judge success in the 21st century world of work”*.

After the opening, three sets of panel discussions took place to elaborate on the business perspective on how to implement the GCM:

Session 1. Story-telling: businesses and governments share their stories

- Ministry of Administrative Development and Labour and Social Affairs, State of Qatar
- Mr. Jaap Buis, Public Affairs Manager, Randstad
- Mr. Alain Rolland, CEO, AMR Consulting

Session 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?

- Mr. Mohamed Slassi Sennou, CEO, Sunbiose and CGEM
- Ms. Linda Kromjong, Global Labor and Human Rights Director, Samsung Electronics
- Mr. Steven Cryne, President and CEO, Canadian Employee Relocation Council
- Ms. Laura Thompson, Deputy Director General, IOM

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

- Mr. Nadim Bardawil, lawyer at BSA Ahmad Bin Hezeem & Associates LLP and partner at TaQadam
- Mr. Gary Slaiman, Corporate Outreach Advisor, Talent Beyond Boundaries
- Ms. Sondra Saric, Vice President, Talent Innovation, Information and Communications Technology Council (ICTC)

In the first session, business and government speakers shared their personal stories and institutional initiatives. This elicited reactions from the speakers in the second session who then discussed their positions on how to fill the current skills gaps and what regulatory frameworks could look like under the GCM. The final session focused on leveraging the use of technology to respond to the 21st century labour market needs and support cooperation on migration.

The concluding session was led by Mr. Roberto Suarez-Santos, Secretary-General, IOE, followed by Mr. Touzani Mohammed, Project Manager of the Employment and Social Relations Commission (CGEM); Ambassador Götz Schmidt-Bremme, German GFMD Co-Chair, and Mr. Santiago Chávez, Ecuadorian GFMD 2019 Chair. In their separate interventions, the speakers 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 that allow for the movement of skills and economic

growth. The speakers on the panel represented governments, private companies, and business associations, as well as civil society. They called for the strengthening of the public-private partnership on migration issues, beyond the GFMD. They also called on stakeholders to develop a positive narrative on the impact of international migration.

4.4 GFMD 2018 Roundtable Sessions – Key outcomes

Three Roundtable Teams Consultations on vulnerability, regional mobility, and good migration governance were organised in 2018. These preparatory meetings were led by 2-3 Government Teams (GT) that volunteered to Co-chair a Roundtable session (RT). GTs are primarily responsible for 1) preparing lively RT sessions at the Summit, and 2) leading the process of conceptualising, drafting and finalising the RT background papers, which stimulated debate around policy options and provided guiding questions during the Summit. The RT sessions were attended by governments and observer delegates as well as representatives of civil society and the private sector. On average, each brought around 90 participants.

From vulnerability to resilience: recognising migrants as agents of development

RT Session 1.1. Harnessing the capital of migrants to realise their potential

The roundtable 1.1 was Co-Chaired by Canada and the United Arab Emirates. The meeting discussed the main points of the background paper: 1) Harnessing the capital and potential of migrants is not differentiated between North and South rather it is a responsibility for all, 2) The effective and sustainable integration of migrants is key, 3) It is central to differentiate between different forms of capital as they can overlap, 4) Demonstrating how these capital work through the experience of migrants is valuable in reducing the negativity faced by the migrants, 5) The importance of distinguishing between regular and irregular migrants, temporary and permanent migrations, and finally, male and female migration, 6) Regular migration does not automatically convey opportunities of harnessing migrants' capital, 7) The relevance of dividing between skilled and unskilled migrants, 8) Data on migration stock is essential to the process of harnessing migrants' capital, and finally, 9) The necessity of establishing institutions and strategies for maximising migrants' capital .

Among the challenges highlighted, roundtable 1.1 addressed the issue of closed communities impeding the successful integration of migrants. Providing a welcoming and enabling environment is central to harnessing migrants' potential. Furthermore, the ineffectiveness of integration programs and the lack of integrated approaches can constitute a stumbling block in the efforts to harness migrants' capital. To overcome these obstacles, holistic approaches are needed, considering the different forms of capital that migrants can bring. Including the youth in discussions and investing in them presents a long-term opportunity for both origin and destination countries. They can facilitate the integration process for their families and thrive culturally, socially and economically. Finally, there is insufficient coordination and collaboration between countries of origin and destination to capitalise on the value-added that migrants can bring and realise their potential.

Participants shared some experiences to maximise the potential of migrants such as the need for governments to incorporate migration in their development and social planning. This work needs to be done in collaboration between host countries, origin countries, and migrants themselves in order to avoid populism and negative perceptions. Social tension is not a result of migration; migration brings a pre-existing lack of social cohesion to the public's attention. Mainstreaming migration at the heart of social policies should start at the community level and create bridges with all actors, including CSOs. Creating comprehensive systems and expanding the opportunities for regular migration is key, recognising the huge loss of capital in irregular migration. Moreover, sharing

positive experiences to illustrate how the capital of migrants can be harnessed will play a role in changing the public's perception of migrations.

Three initiatives were identified as good practices and ways to move forward:

- The Permits Foundation campaigns to improve work permit regularisations and make it easier for partners of internationally assigned staff to gain employment. This initiative is beneficial for the family of the expatriate, the expatriate himself as well as the host country since it attracts more foreign investments.
- The United Arab Emirates has deployed efforts to harness the full capital of migrants as well as allow the families and spouses of migrants to access the work market. Employers also pay for orientation courses named "tawjih" delivered by guidance centres. These courses allow migrants to be informed about the existing laws and culture of the receiving community.
- The Germany-Philippines Bilateral Labour Agreement on Health Workers is a successful example of a government to government approach including the ethical recruitment of workers and a comprehensive 6-month language course and professional training.

RT Session 1.2. Migrants' engagement with public services: from basic access to co-production

The roundtable 1.2 on migrants' engagement with public services was co-chaired by Ethiopia and Spain. The session highlighted the need to know how the national and local levels can work together and ensure that the targeted communities are consulted and given access to public services. Migrants should be perceived as a productive and self-empowered agent of development, positively contributing to society. Access to public services is essential for integration and must have both a short and long-term perspective to ensure its sustainability. The question remains on whether migrants should receive special treatment or the same services at the local community. This can be a sensitive issue especially when services are already limited to the host community and capacity constraints prevail. Furthermore, the way services are delivered is as important as what services are available in building trust and legitimacy within the population. Migrants should be seen as a productive asset to overcome xenophobia and politicization. Efforts should be deployed change the public perception and address the current narrative. To do so, cooperation is needed not only at the regional and national levels, but also at the local level by involving the migrants themselves and having the leaders of migrant communities at the centre of policy-making and service delivery. Alternatives for detention and penalising migrants for being irregular should be developed. Finally, migration should be recognised as a global phenomenon; the distinctions between countries of origin, destination and transit have been blurred as one country can be all three.

Participants identified several challenges hampering access to public services, such as language problems, cultural barriers, and legal identification issues. Consequently, countries like Mexico, which was historically a country of origin, have now become countries of destination and transit; they need to alter their policies accordingly. Some local governments in Mexico are not familiar with the laws in place and fail to provide legal identification for returnees who are then unable to access services. Therefore, more work should be done to ensure that public resources are available and that laws are implemented at the local level. We need to find solutions to promote burden sharing and the efficient allocation of resources, especially in the case of countries hosting large populations of migrants such as Turkey. It is important to set up strategic alliances at the country level with local governments, the private sector, and civil society as well as promote bilateral and regional discussions.

Delegates shared experiences and opportunities from their own countries. Several initiatives were identified as good practices and ways to move forward:

- Thailand has documented over two million irregular migrants so that they can access services like regular migrants. The country has worked closely with the home governments of the irregular migrants to ensure that they would not penalise their population for coming to work in Thailand.
- San Francisco is a Sanctuary City with a legal framework encouraging inclusion and integration. Migrants need to have the right to justice regardless of their migratory status so that they can feel safe and protected. The role of immigration enforcement authorities and the federal police are different and should be separated. Furthermore, the city funds NGOs to monitor public service delivery. San Francisco has also set up a supplementary budget to bring together migrant communities to work with local universities and supply public prosecution for all migrants. This helped to have one voice for all migrants.
- In Morocco, the Ministry of Religious Affairs sends Islamic guides which allow Moroccans living abroad to integrate into the host communities and preserve their Islamic identity. This Islamic education calls for respect and tolerance and encourages peaceful co-existence with migrants who are transiting through or living in Morocco.

The delegates stressed that there is a need to have local governments and migrants at the table when discussing the GCM and issues of access to services. Effective public service delivery for migration is a multi-sectoral and multi-level process. Accesses to services will, therefore, contribute to the overall Agenda 2030 to ensure that “No One is Left Behind”.

Regional mobility to promote transferable learning and policy coherence

The second set of roundtables was about regional mobility to promote transferable learning and policy coherence. It is important to consider first how to define and situate South-South Mobility (SSM). A second key point is on how to leverage this type of human mobility to foster development at the national and regional levels. SSM is a constantly transforming phenomenon in an environment where emerging economies face rapidly growing labour needs.

RT Session 2.1. South-South mobility: trends, patterns and transferable learning

The session explored the complexities of growing SSM and migration, defined both geographically and in terms of income. The theme emerged as particularly relevant as South-South mobility is a growing phenomenon, given the increasing weight of the global south in the world GDP. SSM is bound to become overwhelming in developing countries, and usual patterns of origin, transit, destinations are changing rapidly. Awareness about the benefits and challenges of migration remains an issue in many countries and shall be addressed accordingly. The background paper helped frame key trends, challenges and examples of good practice. The two key sources on labour migration used are the recently published “*ILO global estimates on migrant workers*”⁴⁹ and the “*ICLS Guidelines concerning Statistics of International Labour Migration*”⁵⁰. The discussion provided inputs from Latin America, Africa and to a lesser extent Asia.

The key challenges identified were twofold. First, from a socio-economic perspective, several obstacles remain such as the lack of decent jobs and sustainable employment, the negative impact of foreign and trade policies, internal inequalities and socio-political destabilisation if the basic needs of

⁴⁹ https://www.ilo.org/global/publications/books/WCMS_652001/lang-en/index.htm

⁵⁰ https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/-stat/documents/meetingdocument/wcms_648922.pdf

the local population are not fulfilled, and the lack of refugee determination mechanisms especially in countries evolving to become a transit and/or destination one. Second, from a technical dimension, some challenges were pointed out such as the lack of reliable and accessible data, the lack of local capacity at the ministerial level to make use of data when available, technical and capacity-building needs, and finally, the lack of sustained political will and coordination at the regional level.

The roundtable session has also highlighted opportunities and innovations for the way forward:

- At the national level, South Africa, with its 2017 White Paper, and Morocco, with the adoption of its new migratory policy in 2016, constitute two success stories. Furthermore, large-scale regularisation schemes emerged as courageous political decisions which offer solutions in certain circumstances. The two regularisation campaigns in Morocco, for example, provided a legal stay for about 50 000 migrants. The adoption of whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches will allow countries to change their policies and align to international standards.
- At the regional level, Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and Regional Consultative Processes (RCPs) are key mechanisms outlining the need for countries to intensify their cooperation. The Quito process is also one of the latest examples. Furthermore, mechanisms for data collection and social protection were presented within ASEAN, as well as the adoption of a labour migration policy framework in SADC.
- Finally, at the global level, innovative solutions using big telecom data may be an interesting avenue to supplement existing statistical data. However, this requires the strict management of data as per existing international standards and guidelines and a strong partnership with all government entities. To do so, the harmonisation of data collection on migrant workers is key. The International Conference of Labour Statisticians adopted a common definition of the migrant worker which will impact data collection globally in the future.

The above-mentioned points are completely in line with the content of the GCM and its need for implementation in countries dealing with challenges due to migration.

RT Session 2.2. Regional mobility and policy coherence to support development

This roundtable session discussed the interactions between regional mobility cooperation and the development of countries of origin, transit, and destination. Additionally, the roundtable offered lines for discussion on how to harness the potential of regional mobility and regional mobility arrangements for development objectives and how it can lead to enhanced policy coherence.

Migration is predominantly a regional issue – over 50% of people move regionally. Some regions have formal migration policies (e.g. free movement in ECOWAS, the African Union common passport) and others have informal migration policies aiming for policy convergence and coherence. From the one hand, regions have strengths such as a common history, language, and proximity. From the other hand, they have weaknesses like overlapping memberships, poor implementation, and incoherencies. Panellists identified the fact that most migration is circular; there is a need to institutionalise new circular migration pathways and assist people to take their new skills home.

Stronger political will may be necessary to incentivise regions to implement free movement policies (e.g. through concessional trade deals, or by using other policies e.g. climate, health, education). Regions need to push for policy coherence or even convergence as is the case of countries in South East Asia pushing for the latter to better align their policies. It is also important to hold regular dialogues to discuss regional issues (e.g. Dialogue on Mobility in Ecuador). Furthermore, there is a

need to fully embrace regional integration. For example, most trade in ECOWAS and SADEC is done between regions and European countries, and not inter-regionally.

However, there is little evidence of the impact of regional mobility and free movement on development. Consequently, data on how regional policies influence migration are needed. It may be better and more helpful to promote sub-regional (e.g. South East Asia, Western Europe). “Free movement” can also get in the way of negotiations in the framework of regional-based policies – often countries are pro-trade or economic development, but not free mobility.

Several initiatives were identified as good practices and ways to move forward:

- Ecuador recently launched a Human Mobility Plan which focuses on promoting universal citizenship and free mobility in the international sphere.
- The Philippines currently aligns its migration policies with the GCM, mainstreaming its objectives across all state departments.
- ECOWAS promotes economic integration in all fields of activity of its member countries in West Africa.

It is impossible to manage migration alone, therefore, the GFMD has a strong role in finding ways to share good practices across regions, perhaps through regional dialogues – many discussions are still state-led. There is a need to bring migration into large development fora that address regional issues (e.g. HLPF, Spring Meetings). IOM has a strong focus on migration and development and is aiming to implement these best practices at a regional level. Discussions about implementing free movement in Asia, like ECOWAS, could be difficult given the very diverse nature of Asian countries. Mutual Recognition Agreements constitute a step in the right direction by facilitating the circulation of individuals without reaching the stage of free movement.

Good migration governance for sustainable development

Views on the relationship between migration and development have been going through considerable changes in recent years. It is now widely recognised that migration and migrants have an impact on development processes, but that also development processes can have an impact on migration, both in positive and negative ways. The challenge is thus to consider migration in all political, economic and social planning processes in countries of origin, transit, and destination, and to ensure that sustainable development indeed translates into “leaving no one behind”.

RT Session 3.1. Aligning governance with contemporary drivers of migration

Migration governance is often unclear. The focus on migration drivers is often single-issue-driven and looks predominantly at negative aspects, such as poverty, conflict, and crises. This does not allow for an understanding of the positive factors that can become drivers of migration. Various speakers and contributors linked this point to the need to understand drivers not only from the sending country’s perspective but adopt a more comprehensive overview. On the one hand, migration can be a consequence of deficiencies in the spheres of sustainable development. On the other hand, it can also be an expression of the opportunities provided through human development, when occurring in a safe and regular manner. The demographic transition is also an element that needs to be considered as a driver of migration, considering the ageing population in some countries and the dramatic increase in the number of youths without economic opportunities in others. Developed countries will soon be competing for migrants. Subsequently, there is a need to work with

employment actors and other private and non-private actors to facilitate labour matching. This will require policy coherence between sectors such as employment, migration, and education.

Discussions also centred on the inequalities between the global North and South as a driver and the North's historic responsibility in supporting the South after colonialism. However, it was pointed out that it was too simplistic to look at migrations using the dichotomy between the North and the South; we also need to understand migrants' agency in deciding when and whether to migrate. It is crucial to understand the root causes of migrations rather than reacting to the symptoms. This will necessitate comprehensive policies tailored to the needs of migrants and enhancing development and conflict prevention.

Numerous challenges remain. In relation to drivers, migration governance is still unclear, and neither are the drivers behind migration. The debate around drivers seems to be putting the burden onto the countries without thinking about global phenomena driving migrations such as climate change. The increasing politicization of migration and the current toxic discourse constitute main issues. From this discussion, participants formulated two main questions: i) How to coordinate and share the experience of all countries on migration governance? and ii) How to transform the Global Compact into laws to ensure its implementation?

Delegates shared two examples of good practice:

- 1) Guatemala worked through the Puebla Process to strengthen its consular network with a focus on unaccompanied migrant children. This was grounded in a human rights-based approach aiming to eradicate the detention of children and supporting safe and regular pathways for migrations. The process also worked to support family reunification and access to justice. IOM provided support to Guatemala to enhance the capacities of their consulates in the US and created a contingency manual to support fast responses to emergency situations in partnership with other consulates.
- 2) France explained that they had developed a national Plan on Migration and Development aimed at maximising the positive aspects of migration for development. Moreover, in relation to regional processes, France will soon take the rotating presidency of the Rabat Process and highlighted its priorities: to better understand migration and drivers, combat exclusion, and support enhanced agribusiness to combat rural-urban migration and enhanced urban planning.

Several recommendations were also formulated:

- Continue the discussions to reach consensus and a better understanding of the drivers of migration and address them in relation to the 2030 Agenda and its universal approach. It is important to ensure better linkages between development and humanitarian actors, and an enhanced response to forced migration.
- Inter-governmental coordination and consultation with other necessary actors will be needed to fully understand and address the drivers of migration and this necessitates policy coherence between policies such as employment, migration, and education, etc.
- Going forward, creating partnerships, ensuring open action-oriented dialogue, and sharing of good practices should continue to be the focus of the GFMD.
- Regional approaches can be an excellent entry point to jointly manage migration for development.
- The GCM has not given enough attention to low skilled domestic workers and there needs to be more focus on this.
- There is a need to ensure that all efforts to understand migration drivers and achieving the 2030 Agenda and the GCM apply a gender-based approach.

RT Session 3.2. Beyond Remittances: leveraging the development impact and promoting the transnational engagement of diaspora and migrants

This roundtable discussed the various economic and non-economic forms of migrants' transnational activities with their home countries, and impact on development, and how to facilitate it. Migrants' transnational economic engagement is both a consequence and a factor of economic growth and development. Remittances are the most visible act of migrants' contribution to the development of their home countries, and almost half of these financial flows go to rural areas. Leveraging remittances further, through financial access, education and investment, would strengthen economic development, benefitting entire communities. Migrants' contribution extends beyond remittances, and includes, among others, nostalgic trade, investment, entrepreneurship, philanthropy, and skills transfer. They invest, both singularly and collectively, into micro, small and medium enterprises, in their countries of origin as well as their countries of destination, build assets and create international trade relationships. In the case of nostalgic trade, 80% of migrants purchase domestic products; this has a positive impact on several sectors, such as tourism, agriculture, and textile. Furthermore, it has been recognised that during times of crisis or in fragile situations, both remittances and migrant's investment tend to increase to help the families of the migrants' cope with hard circumstances and build resilience. Migrants' contribution to the development of the countries of origin and destination can also take non-economic forms. They transfer skills and capacities, disseminate their national culture and participate in the political debate. A growing number of countries understood the importance of engaging directly with their diaspora and have created dedicated ministries for the diaspora, taking advantage of their consular network to foster the national identity for their citizens abroad.

Several challenges were identified. First, there is a need for countries to know better their diaspora. Indeed, migrants and diaspora communities, even from the same country, have very different profiles in terms of the level of skills, education, earnings, networks, and ties with the origin and destination countries. A better understanding of the different expectations and needs will provide the knowledge desired to design tailored policies. Second, financial education remains a key aspect to spur the productive use of remittances and foster investment. It is the most important tool to lift migrants and their families out of the dependency from remittances and create the path towards financial independence. Third, aggregated data are still lacking on migrants' investments and the sectors they invested in. We need to expand and strengthen the collection, analysis, and application of diaspora-related data to foster effective policies, private-sector investment, and informed decision-making. Fourth, building trust is a key factor. Migrants are interested in investing in their home countries but are often suspicious of formal institutions and regulatory frameworks. Governments should create a conducive and enabling environment that facilitates migrants' participation in the home country's development. This can be done through improved market regulations that foster fair competition, facilitate international trade, and support external investments. Lastly, home and host countries need to work together to adopt a more coherent policy agenda and to better integrate migration into all development strategies. Linking migration strategies with specific sectors such as trade, finance, investment, entrepreneurship, (but also with education, social protection, health) involves close cooperation between several institutions and entities at both international, national and local level (Central banks, ministries of Labour, Trade, Agriculture, local authorities, etc.).

The roundtable identified some good practices and successful initiatives that could be replicated worldwide.

- The Ethiopian government launched in October 2018 the Ethiopian Diaspora Trust Fund, aimed at financing people-focused social and economic development projects. It collected around 500,000 USD. The Prime Minister challenged the diaspora to put one dollar a day to engage socially for the benefit and development of their country. The Fund aims at financing

projects that make the highest positive impact on groups and communities in Ethiopia in areas such as health, education, water and sanitation facilities, rehabilitation of persons with disability, agricultural development, technology, and small-scale entrepreneurship.

- Furthermore, Madagascar recently created a Directorate in charge of diaspora within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The first initiative they took was to carry out the profiling of diaspora members in France, where most migrants reside. Madagascar also organised the first forum on Diaspora, to show what the Malagasy diaspora does, and to connect this community and create synergies with CSOs.

Moving forward, governments should offer diaspora investors the same opportunities as other investors, by creating incentives and engaging them through an array of benefits. Governments should also take advantage of the unique position held by a migrant as a direct “trait d’union” between their communities of origin and their host countries. In this context, policies addressed exclusively to diaspora communities must be well assessed to avoid frictions with non-migrant communities.

The GCM provides a blueprint for ideas and actions to help create a convergence between the goals of migrants and their families back home, the strategies of the private sector to tap underserved markets, public policies, and the role of the civil society to promote positive change. Leveraging the development impact of remittances and diaspora investment to reach long-term goals can only be achieved when strategies to undertake concrete actions are formulated and implemented at both national and local levels.

4.5 Special Session on the Future of the Forum

The Future of the Forum session served as an opportunity for heads of participating delegations to take stock of the progress made since the Tenth GFMD Summit in Berlin. Ambassador Götz Schmidt-Bremme and Mr. El Habib Nadir shared the milestones that have been achieved leading to the Marrakesh Summit, highlighting the GFMD’s substantive 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) respectively. Mr. El Habib Nadir recalled the various events that took place during the second year of the Moroccan and German Co-chairmanship. He mentioned the three Thematic Workshops: Children and Youth on the Move, Labour Migration and Skills and Migration for Development: a roadmap to achieving the SDGs. The Co-Chair also organised various dialogues and side events, such as the GFMD Dialogue on the GCM Implementation and the Side Event on Migration and rural development. He stressed the importance of the work developed by working groups such as the GFMD Communications Strategy, and the GFMD Ten-year Review Report.

To articulate the UN perspective on how the GFMD can strategically situate itself in the era of GCM Implementation, Ms. Louise Arbour, UN SRSG for International Migration, highlighted three key points that will guide the GFMD going forward— focus, ambition, and collaboration. The GFMD constitutes the ideal platform for states to think strategically about which objectives of the GCM to focus on. Furthermore, the GFMD should preserve its valued qualities but also be ambitious in its goals and in engaging other fora. Lastly, regarding collaboration, the UN Migration Network will be the new connection between the GFMD and the UN. It will also support the Member States in the

implementation of GCM and is very keen to have the GFMD as an implementation partner. Nonetheless, this relationship will require much deeper and longer future clarifications.

For his part, Mr. Antonio Vitorino, IOM, Director General, elaborated on the added value of the GFMD and possible areas for partnership and cooperation on the implementation, follow-up, and review of the GCM. He expressed optimism considering the accomplishments and potential of the GFMD and the GCM. He outlined the GFMD's flexibility as an enormous asset in furthering the partnership between the GFMD and UN Migration Network. The GFMD should look at the multiplicity of drivers of migration and establish close links with the SDGs. Mr. Vitorino stated that IOM would welcome bringing the Support Unit closer to work in greater complementarity with the IOM.

The 10-year GFMD Review presentation

Ambassador Eduard Gnesa and Ambassador Esteban Conejos Jr., GFMD Review Team Co-Chairs, presented the findings contained in the report of the GFMD Ten-Year Review⁵¹, wherein they emphasised the three elements of the GFMD's added value in (1) offering networking opportunities, (2) facilitating partnerships, and (3) acquiring knowledge. They also pointed to specific recommendations in the report on how 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.

During the open discussion, around 20 Member States intervened, thus generating a strong consensus in support of the continuity of the Global Forum. Several states emphasised the need to strengthen the operating modalities of the GFMD and ensure that its mandate is not merely reduced to supporting the GCM, but also to advancing debates on other facets of migration that are not adequately covered by the Compact. The GFMD must continue in its current informal, inclusive, multi-stakeholder and non-binding character. States also acknowledged that the global migration community would not have been able to achieve the success of the GCM without the GFMD. With a view towards the implementation of the GCM, the GFMD can provide a forum for governments to convene and engage in the dialogue on migration and development in a comprehensive way and in a spirit of trust.

Conclusion

Moving forward, Mr. Santiago Javier Chavez Pareja, Vice Minister for Human Mobility of Ecuador and designated GFMD 2019 Chair, and Mr. Jonathan Prentice, Chief of Office for the SRSG for International Migration, reflected on the priorities for the next GFMD Chairmanship in 2019, coinciding with the first year of the GCM implementation.

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:

1. Shared responsibility based on the human rights of people in mobility

⁵¹ Please refer to the section 2.7.1 of this report for an overview of the GFMD 10-year Review.

2. 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
3. Promoting necessary changes in the narrative of human mobility
4. Coordinating and developing efforts aimed at the recollection and processing of data and information on migration
5. Contributing to the implementation of the GCM: the GFMD will constitute a bridge between the GCM and the GCR.

Ecuador will strive to further develop the GFMD as an inclusive and non-normative space that has the capacity and ability to generate a consensus of understanding and action – in particular, but not limited to the realisation of objectives and commitments of the Global Compact. The next Chairmanship will also take steps to build on the recommendations of the 10-year Review to make the GFMD fit for the purpose of supporting Member States in the implementation, review, and follow-up of the GCM, as well as the review of migration-related SDGs and targets of the 2030 Agenda.

4.6 Special Session on Platform for Partnerships

The GFMD Platform for Partnerships (PfP) was established as a mechanism for the exchange of governments' policies and programmes which have been inspired by GFMD discussions and recommendations. It is a platform where governments contribute to and benefit from evidence-based on migration and development practices. Since 2010, a Special Session on the PfP has been integrated into the annual GFMD Summits.

The special session on the PfP at the Eleventh Summit⁵² provided a joint space for governments and other GFMD stakeholders to discuss and present concrete projects and initiatives that relate to migration and development issues, in the context of the GCM commitments and the SDGs. For the first time this year, the PfP session opened its doors to the Civil Society and Private Sector participants—thanks to the Moroccan GFMD Chair— to further leverage multi-stakeholder partnerships within and beyond the UN.

Mr. Jaouad Dequieuc, Director of Cooperation, Government of Morocco, and Ambassador Alfonso Morales, Undersecretary for International Protection, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ecuador, co-chaired the session on behalf of the outgoing and incoming GFMD Chairs. Following their opening remarks, Ambassador Regine De Clercq, Founding Executive Director of the GFMD 2007 Chairmanship of Belgium, and Ambassador Arturo Cabrera Hidalgo, GFMD 2019 Chairmanship, highlighted the PfP's potential in concretising the GCM commitments and in advancing discussions on migration and development issues beyond the GCM. Under the Ecuadorian 2019 Chairmanship, they proposed to revive a demand-driven and interactive Marketplace, first introduced by the Belgian GFMD Chairmanship in 2007. The Marketplace will allow actors to identify their own capacity-building needs and submit corresponding requests for policy and programme support to the GFMD, acting as a mediator. Ms. Estrella Lajom, Head of the GFMD Support Unit, pointed out that the GFMD, through the Support Unit, could review the requests and proposals for “matchmaking” and identify potential partners that may offer technical assistance and targeted solution.

⁵² The Programme of the 2018 GFMD Special Session of the Platform for Partnership is available here: https://gfmd.org/files/documents/pfp_agenda_-_marrakesh_gfmd_summit.pdf

In addition, five state-led and multi-stakeholder initiatives on migration and development were presented. The key messages from these presentations are summarised below.

Migration and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: an interactive tool

- Ms. Marta Foresti, Managing Director, Overseas Development Institute
- Ms. Helen Dempster, Communications Manager, Overseas Development Institute
- Ms. Bettina Etter, Senior Adviser, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation

The relationship between migration and development is increasingly understood, but how migration affects development outcomes remains under-explored. The lack of opportunities and investment in origin countries can drive migration. At the same time, migration can improve investment in origin countries, fill labour gaps and foster innovation in destination countries, and can contribute to development along the journey (or, in transit countries). Therefore, migration can help achieve the goals of the 2030 Agenda. Yet, we also know that migration can negatively impact development.

ODI and Switzerland jointly presented an interactive online tool aimed at better understanding the impact of migration on the achievement of all 17 SDGs and – equally – the impact this achievement will have on future migration patterns.

People on the Move in the Context of Disasters and Climate Change: Addressing their Assistance and Protection Needs in the Global Compact for Migration

- H.E. Shameem Ahsan, PR Permanent Mission of Bangladesh, Geneva
- Prof. Walter Kaelin, Envoy of the Chair of PDD
- Ms. Michele Klein Solomon, Director, Global Compact for Migration, IOM
- Ms. Madeline Garlick, Senior Legal Coordinator and Chief, Protection Policy and Legal Advice Section (PPLA), UNHCR

The presentation explored ways of enhancing the action and scaling up commitments and partnerships aimed at addressing displacements and other forms of human mobility in the context of disasters, environmental degradation, and the adverse effects of climate change, in ways which are consistent with international legal frameworks and standards. More specifically, it focused on disaster and climate change related commitments and policy instruments listed under objectives 2, 5 and 23 of the GCM, and made proposals on how to support their implementation.

Towards Comprehensive Global Guidance on Developing and Implementing Bilateral Labour Migration Arrangements (BLAs) - Unpacking Key Obstacles to Implementation in the African Region

- Ms. Michelle Leighton, Chief of the Labour Migration Branch, ILO
- Ms. Marina Manke, Head, Labour Mobility and Human Development Division, IOM
- Ms. Sara Andegiorgis, Policy Officer, Ministry of Justice, Government of Sweden

The presentation highlighted the results and lessons learned from the joint “ILO-IOM Stocktaking study and recommendations for the development and implementation of BLAs by the African Union Member States.” This joint initiative, supported by the Government of Sweden, aims to provide comprehensive and coordinated global guidance in the area of BLAs. During the PFP special session, the Member States and other partners had the opportunity to learn more on opportunities and challenges, practical tools used in developing, negotiating, and implementing BLAs, as well as to provide their own examples of working with BLAs.

Remittances for Africa: reducing costs and maximising impact for development

- Mr. Pedro De Vasconcelos, Manager of the Financing Facility for Remittances, IFAD
- Ms. Camilla Hagstroem, Deputy Head of Unit, Migration and Employment, DEVCO, European Commission

The European Commission and IFAD presented a new €15 million programme called PRIME (Platform for Remittances, Investments and Migrants' Entrepreneurship), aimed at reducing the costs of remittances and maximising their impact for development in Africa. This initiative responds to the need of addressing both Objective 20 of the new GCM - on promoting faster, safer and cheaper transfer of remittances and foster migrants' financial inclusion - and the achievement of target 10.c of the SDGs, aiming at reducing to less than 3 percent the transaction costs of migrants' remittances while eliminating corridors with costs higher than 5 per 5 by 2030.

African Cities' Initiative on Migration: Towards Fighting against all Forms of Discrimination

- Mr. Abdelkrim Benoutiq, Minister Delegate in charge of Moroccan Living Abroad and Migration Affairs
- Ms. Golda El Khoury, UNESCO Representative for the Maghreb region
- Mr. Driss El Yazami, President of National Human Rights Council
- Mr. Jean-Pierre Elong Mbassi, Secretary-General, United Cities and Local Governments-Africa (UCLG-Africa)

Jointly presented by UNESCO Morocco, the National Human Rights Council and the United Cities and Local Governments-Africa, the African Cities' Initiative on Migration aims to support local authorities - municipal authorities in particular - in the implementation of social inclusion policies for people on the move. The issue of integration and social inclusion of people on the move is becoming a major political and ethical imperative. When people feel distrust and systemic exclusion vis-à-vis institutions, populism and hate speech prosper.

To encourage and institutionalise the participation of migrants in the social, economic and cultural spheres of their transit and destination countries, this continent-wide initiative aims to strengthen the capacity of municipalities to formulate human rights-based social inclusion policies for migrants, produce reliable evidence-based knowledge in this area, and mobilise social actors and the media for systematic sensitisation against discrimination and hate speech. In this presentation, the involved partners highlighted the existing good practices and sketched out further avenues of action for collaboration.

As the GFMD enters 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.

4.7 Closing Plenary Session



The Closing Session of the Eleventh GFMD Summit featured the highlights of the intensive and substantive three-day programme. The session opened with the general rapporteurs synthesising the discussions and recommendations from the six Roundtables sessions, exploring aspects of migration and development related to i) Promoting resilience and recognising migrant women and men as agents of development, ii) Fostering mobility to promote transferable learning and policy coherence, and finally, iii) Good migration governance for sustainable development.

The Reports on Roundtable Sessions were presented by:

- **RT 1.1: Mr. Emeka Obiezu**, Migration Expert, National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons, Nigeria.
- **RT 1.2: Ambassador Evan P. Garcia**, Permanent Representative of the Philippines to the UNOG.
- **RT 2.1: Mr. Guillaume Cassaigneau**, Diplomatic Officer Migration, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Switzerland.
- **RT 2.2: Mr. Bagus H Kobarsyih**, Minister Counsellor of the Embassy of Indonesia in Morocco.
- **RT 3.1: Ms. Sara Andegiorgis**, Desk Officer, Ministry of Justice, Sweden.
- **RT 3.2: Ms. Yessenia Lozano Gallegos**, Director of the Office of International Analysis of Migration, Deputy Ministry for Salvadoran Abroad.

The presentations by the general rapporteurs were followed by a report on the Special Session on the Future of the Forum by **Ambassador Eduard Gnesa** and **Ambassador Esteban Conejos Jr.**, GFMD Review Team Co-Chairs. The Report on the Special Session on the Platform for Partnerships was presented by **Ms. Estrella Lajom**, Head of the GFMD Support Unit. **Ms. Roula Hamati**, Chair of GFMD 2018 Civil Society Days introduced the main conclusions from the Civil Society Days. Furthermore, **Ms. Lynn Shotwell**, Vice Chair of GFMD 2018 Business Mechanism, outlined the importance of the private sector's involvement and presented remarks on the Business Mechanism Meeting.

The Keynote speech was delivered by **Ms. Valérie Plante**, Mayor of Montreal, Canada, who 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.

In his statement, **Ambassador Juan José Gómez Camacho**, Mexican Permanent Representative to the UN in New York and GCM Co-Facilitator, held the view that the current public debate on the Global Compact is a testament to the success of the GCM process. He called upon the GFMD community to actively engage and advocate for GCM support in order to improve the global governance of migration. **Mr. Moussa Oumarou**, Deputy Director-General for Field Operations & Partnerships, ILO;

Mr. Mahmoud Mohieldin, World Bank Senior Vice President for the 2030 Development Agenda, UN Relations and Partnerships, as well as **Mr. Laurence Chandy**, Director for Data, Research & Policy, UNICEF, also delivered statements reflecting their institutional commitment to the GFMD.

In closing the Eleventh Summit, **Ambassador Götz Schmidt-Bremme** 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. Similarly, **Mr. El Habib Nadir**⁵³ 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. Both Co-Chairs warmly thanked all Summit participants for their engagement throughout the past two years and symbolically handed the GFMD Chairmanship over to **Mr. Santiago Javier Chavez Pareja**⁵⁴, Vice Minister for Human Mobility of Ecuador.

In his remarks, the Ecuadorian GFMD Chair vowed to 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 and generating consensus, which would allow for comprehensive consideration of all aspects and challenges posed by human mobility, including its humanitarian, development and human rights dimensions. He also joined the GFMD community to support the GFMD Chairmanship of Ecuador in 2019.

4.8 GFMD 2018 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.

⁵³ The closing remarks addressed by Mr. El Habib Nadir are available here: https://gfmd.org/files/statements/closing_session_-_mr_nadir_english.pdf

⁵⁴ The closing remarks addressed by Mr. Santiago Javier Chavez Pareja are available here: https://gfmd.org/files/statements/closing_session_-_mr_chavez_pareja_spanish.pdf

A summary of the key outcomes of the side events can be found below, and the complete program is attached in Annex D.

Side Event 1 A European-African approach to Migration: how to deliver lasting solutions?

Convened by EuroMedA Foundation

The demographic trend, as well as the economic development challenges south of the Mediterranean Sea, compel the European Union to deliver a more innovative and cooperative solution, together with its southern partners.

By gathering the high-profile members of the EuroMedA Foundation, mostly from a political and academic area, this side event focused on the specificity of migration in the Euro-Africa area and drew recommendation on how to create new Euro-African policies and new Euro-African policy dialogue.

Side Event 2 A Different Way of Working: The GFMD's Migration Laboratory as an innovative way to implement global policy frameworks on migration and development

Convened by Morocco and Germany

The Migration Lab, set up by the Moroccan-German Co-Chairmanship, is an innovative multi-stakeholder partnership based on trust and dialogue. It brings together 33 international thought leaders from governments, civil society and the private sector from 18 different countries in Africa, Europa, Asia, and America. Its goal is to enable new perspectives and to facilitate the co-creation of ideas and innovative practices guided by the core question: “How can we act together across sectors so that migration is beneficial for all actors in society?” Lab participants have developed innovative, cross-sectoral and action-oriented project proposals translating selected objectives of the Global Compact for Migration (GCM) and migration-related goals of the 2030 Agenda into action.

The side event addressed Goal 17 (“Partnership for Goals”) of the 2030 Agenda and explored how the potential of this unique multi-stakeholder initiative can be replicated or scaled up in order to contribute to the successful work of the GFMD and the sustainable implementation of the GCM in the future.

A short movie on the Migration Laboratory captured the main features and results of the Lab and presented the experiences of participants from various sectors contributing to this innovative multi-stakeholder instrument. Lab participants presented concrete and action-oriented project proposals that they have discussed in Sub-Groups with the participants. The Migration Laboratory can serve as a role model for an effective co-creation of innovative ideas and is a successful example of inclusive multi-stakeholder partnerships in the framework of the GFMD and beyond.

Side Event 3 Global Governance of Migration: A Challenge Beyond the North-South Paradigm

Convened by The French Institute of International Relations (Ifri) and OCP Policy Centre

The global dialogue on migration is frequently stalled due to contradictory interests and positions between the countries of the North and the South. However, these positions do not consider changes in migration profiles of countries, which can be departure, transit and receiving countries. The side event addressed two main questions:

- Can multilateralism break with the North-South paradigm?
- What is the added value of non-state actors (diaspora, NGOs, companies) or infra-state actors (local authorities) in the global governance of migration?"

Many of the event participants, which included representatives from states, civil society, and international organisations, insisted on the need for increased cooperation both at the bilateral and global levels in the field of migration management. Furthermore, they stressed the importance of reliable statistics to inform migration policy and measure outcomes. As the leader in the African Union on the issue of migration, Morocco is setting up an African Observatory for Migration and Development which will allow Africans to manage migrations on their own. Based on the triptych “understanding, anticipating and action”, the African Migration Observatory will collect information, promote the exchange of data and facilitate the coordination between African countries.

Migrations need to have an important humanitarian dimension at its core. To avoid social division and populism, panellists insisted on the need to rebuild the narrative and promote a positive image of migrants by showcasing successful examples of migrants’ integration.

Side Event 4 Mutuality and Migrants in Africa

Convened by African Union of Mutuality (AUM)

Coverage extension is not only one of the greatest challenges for social security today, but also one of its most important goals. The African region is one in which there is a need for improved social protection, in particular for migrant workers.

The side-event that the AUM wants to organise will provide a forum for discussing many issues related to the role of Mutuality as one of the courses of action to be explored to achieve more inclusive development that benefits migrants and to create the economic added value in accordance with the principles of solidarity and self-help.

Side Event 5 “What role for capacity building in turning the Global Compact on Migration into action?”

Convened by The Republic of Moldova and the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)

The GCM foresees the establishment of a capacity-building mechanism, building upon existing initiatives that would support the efforts of Member States to implement the GCM. Against this backdrop, ICMPD has been implementing the Joint EU-ICMPD “Migration EU eXpertise” (MIEUX) Initiative that enhances governments’ (central and local levels) and regional organisations’ capacities in all areas of migrations by establishing policy and institutional coherence/synergies and creating local ownership. In the case of the Republic of Moldova, the EU-Moldova Mobility Partnership (MP) serves as a platform to enhance capacity building, strengthen coordination and to generate synergies at the inter and intra-government level.

The side event explored the key elements, success factors and challenges in establishing, delivering and monitoring global capacity building facilities based on the experience of MIEUX and MP. It identified the most suitable approaches to engage with partners and create enabling environments, as well as the role of capacity building in relation to the GCM’s implementation and review.

Side Event 7 Making migration a shared concern – UNESCO’s Initiatives in bridging perspectives of local authorities, academia, CSOs networks, and youth.

Convened by UNESCO (Morocco)

This side event shed a light on the ways in which the academia, CSOs, youth, and local governments have been engaged in making migration a shared concern that calls upon the polarisation of expertise, notably on the African continent. Combining experts and practitioners from different field of work, the panel presented ongoing and upcoming initiatives.

The session was moderated by Mr. Phinith Chanthalangsy, Programme Specialist at UNESCO Morocco. Ms. Golda El-Khoury, UNESCO Representative for the Maghreb presented UNESCO’s Perspectives on Migration, Youth and Social Inclusion. UNESCO is concerned with youth voices on human mobility and migration in the African continent. Despite the many opportunities that may arise from departure, young migrants in the region face an increased risk of exploitation, abuse, trafficking, exclusion, detention, and deportation, as well as indecent jobs and enslavement. Her intervention was followed by the presentation of Ms. Tendayi Achiume, Special Rapporteur on Contemporary forms of Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance at the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. She insisted on the need to break from academic and policy silos to promote cross-pollination and critical consideration on how research on migration and discrimination is generated and employed. Mr. Jean-Pierre Elong Mbassi, Secretary General at the United Cities and Local Governments-Africa (UCLG-Africa) outlined what can be done to improve the work of cities and local governments in the field of migration management. Local authorities in general and municipal authorities, in particular, have to include migration in their territorial development policies at all levels, political, social, cultural, economic, urbanistic, etc. Lastly, Mr. Abdelabasset Ben Hassen, President of the Arab Institute for Human Rights, gave a final intervention on UNESCO’s cooperation with NGO Networks on migration. Indeed, the work of CSOs to defend the rights of migrants, to advocate for their social inclusion, or to rescue those in danger is of utmost importance.

Side Event 8 Migration Policies in Morocco and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

Convened by Morocco

The side event started with a welcome address by Mr. El Habib Nadir, Secretary General of the Ministry Delegate to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation in charge of Moroccans Residing Abroad and Migration Affairs (MDCMREAM) and GFMD Moroccan Co-Chair. This panel offered the chance to present the 2018 National Immigration and Asylum Policy Report and the draft of a national action plan to implement the objectives of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. It was very well attended (around 100 participants) and gathered public institutions, parliamentarians, representatives of civil society associations, the private sector as well as researchers and experts in the field of migration.

All panellists insisted on the efforts deployed by Morocco to promote migration in the African Agenda for Development and consider it as a South-South development vector. In 2014, 23 096 migrants were regularised, and 28 000 applications were submitted in 2017. More than 5000 migrant children are currently enrolled in schools in Morocco, receiving support and benefiting from language classes to ease their integration in the country. Furthermore, Morocco encourages knowledge-sharing, research, capacity building, collaboration with other countries, and regional mechanisms. Morocco has also been promoting the collection of data to foster evidence-based tools and policy-making. A national Migration Observatory as well as an African Observatory for

Migration will be created. Overall, Morocco has all the ingredients to make the implementation of the GCM successful.

Side Event 9 Education and Migration, issues and challenges for Morocco

Convened by The Centre for Studies and research in Social Sciences (CERSS) in Morocco

Migration is a natural phenomenon that requires acceptance and tolerance. Morocco is characterised by openness and constitutes a hub of cultural, civil, religious and spiritual exchange. The side event outlined the definitions, concepts, and historicity of the migratory phenomenon and identified its links with education. It addressed the following questions:

- 1) What are the realities, perspectives and challenges of immigrant education in Morocco?
- 2) What policy, perspectives and challenges of education of Moroccans living abroad in terms of adaptation to the education systems of host countries and how to preserve their identity?
- 3) How to integrate migrants in Morocco and how to ensure the integration of the Moroccan diaspora when they return to their home country?
- 4) What is Morocco's current strategy to limit brain drain?

Participants insisted on the fact that we do not communicate enough on concrete examples of success stories illustrating how migrants managed to integrate into the country of destination through education. This can change public opinion and foster a positive narrative around migrations.

Side Event 10 Tapping into the development potential of migrants in developing countries

Convened by The OECD - Development Centre, European Commission, ILO

The lack of migrant integration can be harmful to social cohesion and reduce the potential for migrants to contribute to the development of their host societies. A 2018 OECD/ILO report argues that the impact of immigrants on the labour markets of host countries, economic growth and public finance is generally positive, although relatively limited in developing countries. Host countries are not sufficiently leveraging the skills and expertise that immigrants bring to their societies. Adequate public policies can improve immigrant integration and play a key role in enhancing the contribution that immigrants bring to their host countries' development.

Drawing from recent OECD Development Centre reports and the lessons learned from several developing countries, the event discussed how host countries can invest in better migrant integration policies. The opening presentation, done by Mr. Jason Gagnon, PGD Coordinator and Economist at the OECD Development Centre, drew on the policy findings from the three OECD Development Centre reports: (1) Interrelations between public policies, migration and development, (2) How migrants contribute to developing countries' economies, and (3) Perspectives on Global Development 2017: International migration in a shifting world.

Side Event 11 From Brain Drain to Brain Gain – A Compact for Skills Development and Mobility

Convened by Bertelsmann Foundation and the German-Moroccan Network of Competencies (DMK e.V.)

The overarching goal of this side event was to formulate actionable recommendations for the implementation of Objective 18 on investing in "skills development and facilitating mutual recognition of skills, qualifications, and competencies". This side event shared positive examples and experiences of skill creation and mobility and identified aspects of these initiatives that may

be suitable for possible designs of future partnerships. Based on a stocktaking of existing transnational initiatives between Morocco and other countries, possible lines of future joint ventures between Germany, Morocco and countries from Sub-Saharan-Africa were explored.

The Keynotes speeches were provided by H.E. Nadir Habib, Moroccan GFMD Co-Chair, and H.E. Götz Schmitt-Bremme, GFMD-Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany. They outlined the opportunities and challenges of transnational skills development under the Objective 18 of the GCM. This was followed by two project presentations linking between vocational training and mobility introduced by Ms. Maja Bernhardt, Head of Triple Win Project at German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), and Susanne Droux, Managing Director Vocational Training at the German Hotel and Restaurant Association (DEHOGA). The last part of this session invited panellists to discuss lessons and perspectives for transnational skill partnerships. Global Skill Partnerships bear the potential to tackle skills shortages in both destination countries and countries of origin while opening new legal pathways for migration. This could play a significant role in raising the global talent pool through bilateral public-private projects linking skill creation and skill mobility in a mutually beneficial and equitable way, based on pre-migration initiatives.

Side Event 12 Safe and Dignified Return and the Economic, Social and Developmental Impact of Sustainable Reintegration

Convened by Egypt, League of Arab States and IOM

Return migration can be defined as the process through which a migrant goes back to his or her country of origin. When return takes place in a safe and dignified manner and is accompanied by comprehensive reintegration support taking into consideration the needs of the individuals, their communities and the structural conditions where the return takes place, it can be a potential driver of development and change in countries of origin. Effective and proactive policies need to be considered as a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach to help promote successful return migration. As such, officials from the origin and destination countries, academia, the UN and the World Bank provided their perspectives in walking through critical issues of concern that impact societies at large today.

The main objective of the side event was to discuss the economic, social and developmental impact of safe and dignified return and sustainable reintegration. The session was conducted in a one-hour panel discussion in Davos style format. Key experts addressed some conceptual and practical questions related to the safe and dignified return and sustainable reintegration through the lenses of political, economic, social, and development impact on countries of origin and destination.

Special Side Event: The Road Ahead: Coordination Challenges of Implementing the GCM

Convened by Germany and the Migration Policy Institute (MPI)

Negotiated in the shadow of the 2015-2016 global migration crises, the promise of the Compact rests on a recognition that addressing the challenges, and capturing the benefits, of migration requires true international cooperation. Achieving real, meaningful action on the commitments agreed to in Marrakesh will thus require a renewed commitment to coordination among countries of origin, destination and transit as well as UN agencies, donors, and implementing partners.

This panel discussion, co-hosted by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the Migration Policy Institute (MPI), identified where coordination was most needed to achieve the commitments laid out in the GCM, and what mechanisms can make coordination at all levels more effective, particularly as IOM enters the UN system.

Workshop on the migration challenges and stakes of Morocco, between Africa and Europe

Convened by Moroccan Researchers on Migration

Morocco has been designated as the African Leader on migration issues. Indeed, the country developed the African Agenda for Migration and will house the headquarters of the future African Observatory for Migration. However, increased responsibilities imply increased challenges.

The workshop was moderated by Pr. Bachir Hamdouch from AMI and by Pr. Abdelkrim Belguendouz from the Informal Collective of Moroccan Migration Researchers. Pr. Bachir Hamdouch introduced the session. His intervention was followed by four presentations. The first presentation was given by Pr. Mehdi Lahlou from the National Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics (INSEA) on promoting migratory approaches that would be both Moroccan and African. The second presentation was given by Pr. Fatima Ait Ben Lmadani from the Institute of African studies in Rabat. She outlined the challenges that the GCM can encounter in dealing with African free movement. Pr. Abdelatif Fekkak from the Higher Institute of Commerce and Business Administration (ISCAE) presented the challenges that a migratory pact between Africa and Europe can encounter. The last presentation was given by Pr. Mohamed Khachani from the University Mohamed V in Rabat, also representing the Moroccan Association for Studies & Research on Migration (AMERM). His intervention showed how the new immigration policy in Morocco moved from a security approach to incorporate human rights considerations.

4.9 GFMD 2018 Exhibitions

In parallel to the different plenary sessions, workshops and side events, the Eleventh GFMD Summit witnessed the organisation of several exhibitions set up by different national and international actors. Indeed, UNICEF, the GIZ, the National Human Rights Council (CNDH) and the Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD) chose art to raise participants' awareness on the importance on international migration issues and the positive linkages between migration and development.

- *Exhibition 1: Displacement Journeys*



Studio Orta
Antarctic World Passport
Bureau

Studio Orta
Antarctic Village
(10 dome tents with embroidery)



5. CHAIR'S SUMMARY

In his summary, Mr. El Habib Nadir, Moroccan GFMD Co-Chair focused on five broad areas, (i) the Roundtable outcomes; (ii) the Global Compact for Migration; (iii) the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development; (iv) the GFMD & Key Partners; and (v) the Future of the Forum.

I. Roundtable Outcomes

This year's annual GFMD Forum Meeting had three broad strands – from vulnerability to resilience, regional mobility and the governance of migration, captured via six Roundtable sessions and a number of thematic meetings that supported the work of the Roundtables.

Roundtable 1.1: Harnessing the capital of migrants to realise their potential

Migrants both bring and acquire capital in a variety of forms, including human, economic, social and cultural, increasing their resilience and capacity to withstand external shocks in their adopted home. Mainstreaming migration at the heart of social policies should start at the community level and create bridges with all actors, including CSOs. Moreover, sharing positive experiences to illustrate how the capital of migrants can be harnessed will play a role in changing the public's perception of migrations.

Roundtable 1.2: Migrants' engagement with public services: from basic access to co-production

Public services can be seen as the foundation for human welfare and economic growth. To successfully deliver integrated basic services to migrants and to the general population, a multilevel governance approach is essential, bringing together a wide variety of policy measures on areas such as education, labour, welfare, health, housing, and urban planning. The migrant should be perceived as a productive and self-empowered agent of development, positively contributing to society.

Roundtable 2.1: South-South mobility: trends, patterns and transferable learning

South-South mobility is a growing phenomenon, given the increasing weight of the global south in the world GDP. The key challenges identified were twofold. First, from a socio-economic perspective, several obstacles remain such as the lack of decent jobs and sustainable employment, the negative impact of foreign and trade policies, internal inequalities, and socio-political destabilisation if the basic needs of the local population are not fulfilled. Second, from a technical dimension, some challenges were pointed out such as the lack of reliable and accessible data, the lack of local capacity at the ministerial level, and finally, the lack of sustained political will and coordination at the regional level.

Roundtable 2.2: Regional mobility and policy coherence to support development

Policy and institutional coherence are fundamental to foster positive developmental impacts and avoid negative side-effects. Turning migration challenges into opportunities for destination countries, origin countries and migrants at the regional level can be achieved by developing stronger cooperation between and within regions, improved data collection and exchange of information, and the development of Regional Skills Development Programmes.

Roundtable 3.1: Aligning governance with contemporary drivers of migration

The challenge for all countries today is developing governance frameworks that can mitigate the risks of forced and irregular migration, and simultaneously generate proactive strategies to respond to peace and development prospects. Migration should be accepted as a constant variable, rather than a problem to solve. To do so, partnerships across origin, transit and destination countries should promote migration governance that considers drivers of migration throughout the entire migratory cycle across the relevant sectors (health, education, employment etc.) for any given migratory context.

Roundtable 3.2: Beyond Remittances: leveraging the development impact and promoting the transnational engagement of diaspora and migrants

Migrants' transnational engagement extends beyond remittances, and includes, among others, nostalgic trade, investment, entrepreneurship, philanthropy, and skills transfer. A migrant-centred and development-oriented approach to leverage the development impact of diaspora and migrants should primarily pass through policies designed to: (i) acquire better knowledge on the magnitude and form of engagement; and (ii) foster an enabling environment through financial and human capital investments, including promoting broader partnerships between governments, local authorities, migrants and diaspora communities, and the private sector.

II. The Global Compact on Migration

A common thread in all the Roundtables was the improvement of migration governance and unlocking the potential of all migrants for development. In fact, this has been the primary focus of the Moroccan GFMD Co-Chairmanship. The New York Declaration, the Global Compact on Migration and the 2018 intergovernmental conference are best seen as key platforms to deliver what has been missing in the world for a long time: a comprehensive framework for the governance of mobility. The assignment is clearly a difficult one, but Roundtable discussions have provided some useful pointers.

A Dialogue with the GCM Co-Facilitators and the UN SRSG was organised to update GFMD stakeholders on the status of the GCM intergovernmental negotiations and prepare for future actions for its implementation. Member states pointed out that the GCM's most powerful element is the collective political buy-in to the text.

Furthermore, a GFMD Dialogue on the implementation of the GCM was organised by the 2017-2018 Co-Chairs in September, in Geneva. This Dialogue provided the first opportunity for over 200 representatives from member states, GFMD observers, civil society and private sector to reflect collectively on how the GFMD could help translate the GCM commitments into action. The GFMD must be leveraged as an open discussion platform that could support the GCM implementation and review, without confining to aspects related to the GCM exclusively.

Role of GFMD

It was reiterated that the GFMD has been instrumental in paving the way for recent advances in international cooperation on migration and development, including the inclusion of migration in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the adoption of the New York Declaration, advances which have helped launch the process of developing the two UN Global Compacts.

With a view towards the implementation of GCM, the GFMD can provide a forum for governments to convene and engage in dialogue on migration and development in a comprehensive way and in a spirit of trust. The GFMD must continue in its current informal, inclusive, multi-stakeholder and non-binding character. Member States must exercise their ownership in shaping the GFMD's attitude towards the GCM, to clearly define its added value as part of a post-GCM architecture that is

adaptable and works on multiple governance levels. As a member of the Troika of the GFMD, Morocco will play its part in ensuring that the GFMD is used as a platform for pushing the boundaries of what is possible and generating consensus around ambitious outcomes for the GFMD.

The UN Migration Network will be the new connexion between the GFMD and the UN. It will support the Member States in the implementation of GCM and is very keen to have the GFMD as an implementation partner. IOM will embrace the role of coordinator and secretariat of the UN Migration Network. Therefore, the current environment, combined with a new role for the GFMD in supporting the implementation of the GCM create space for experimentation and entrepreneurship, for seizing the informal nature of the process to test new formats, initiatives and forms of partnership.

III. Agenda 2030

The first GFMD 2018 thematic workshop focused on the theme “*Migration for Development: a roadmap to achieving the SDGs*” and assessed the interrelationship between human mobility and sustainable development outcomes. Four principles for action were emphasised. First, on data as migrants are often invisible in statistics. Second, appropriate legal frameworks are needed to ensure access to essential services. Third, a governance structure with clear delineation of responsibilities among government actors should be established. Finally, partnerships are crucial, between governments, civil society, and the private sector.

On the margins of the 2018 High-Level Political Forum (HLPF), the GFMD Co-Chairs organised a side event to share and reflect on the findings of the GFMD’s report, “*Recommendations of the GFMD to the 2018 HLPF*”, elaborated by the ad hoc Working Group on the 2030 Agenda and the GCM under the Co-Chairmanship of Germany and Bangladesh. It examined how interventions in the migration context – ranging from small-targeted projects to wider programmes or reforms – have contributed to achieving the goals featured in this year’s HLPF (i.e. Goals 6, 7, 11, 12, 15 and 17).

The GFMD should continue to serve as a catalyst for multi-stakeholder partnerships and engaging more closely with the Agenda 2030, thereby further enriching the dialogue on migration-related SDGs and strengthening international cooperation

IV. GFMD and Key Partners

Civil Society

During 2018, the Moroccan Co-Chairmanship took a bold step in recognition of the important role of civil society in shaping migration policies and for putting emphasis on a rights-based approach to managing migration. For the first time, all registered civil society participants of the Civil Society Days were invited by the Moroccan Co-Chair to participate fully in the Platform for Partnership and the Closing Plenary. This inclusive measure was positively received by most stakeholders who expressed gratitude for the constructive approach during the 2018 Co-Chairmanship.

Business Mechanism

The 2018 GFMD Business Meeting saw the broadest and most diverse representation of the private sector in the GFMD history. Panellists emphasised the need for businesses to come out of the closet, and to be more vocal and visible in promoting transparent, fair and ethical recruitment for all levels of employment that allow for the movement of skills and economic growth. They also called for the strengthening of the public-private partnership on migration issues, beyond the GFMD. They insisted on the need to develop a positive narrative on the impact of international migration.

Mayors Mechanism

The last few years have witnessed an increased awareness and recognition of the role of cities and local governments in addressing global governance challenges and leave no one behind. The German-Moroccan Co-Chairs formalised the relationship between local authorities participating in the Mayoral Forum on Human Mobility, Migration, and Development (“Mayoral Forum”) and the GFMD through the establishment of a “Mayors Mechanism” for the GFMD.

Youth Participation

The Moroccan Co-Chairmanship has recognised the importance of youth participation in GFMD activities. Against this backdrop, a thematic workshop entitled “*Children and Youth on the Move: Implementing Sustainable Solutions*” was organised in partnership with UNICEF. A representative of young migrants was invited to deliver a speech at the Opening Plenary Session of the Eleventh GFMD Summit in December 2018.

V. Future of the Forum

Member States met for the usual consultations about the Future of the Forum and were unanimous in their resolve to maintain the GFMD as a privileged platform for policy exchange. The Forum agreed that it should play an important role in the implementation, follow-up, and review of the Global Compact on Migration. The incoming Chair, Ecuador, will strive to further develop the GFMD as an inclusive and non-normative space that has the capacity and ability to generate a consensus of understanding and action – in particular but not limited to the realisation of objectives and commitments of the Global Compact.

ANNEX

Annex A:

[Address by Mr. El Habib Nadir, Moroccan GFMD Co-Chair](#)
[Address Ambassador Götz Schmidt-Bremme, German GFMD Co-Chair](#)
[Opening Statement by Ms. Louise Arbour, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for International Migration](#)

Annex B:

[Concept Paper: Eleventh Global Forum on Migration and Development – Germany & Morocco 2017-2018](#)

Annex C:

[Background Paper on Roundtable 1.1: Harnessing the capital of migrants to realise their potential](#)
[Background Paper on Roundtable 1.2: Migrants' engagement with public services: from basic access to co-production](#)
[Background Paper on Roundtable 2.1: South – South Mobility: Trends, Patterns and Transferable Learning](#)
[Background Paper on Roundtable 2.2: Regional mobility and policy coherence to support development](#)
[Background Paper on Roundtable 3.1: Aligning governance with contemporary drivers of migration](#)
[Background Paper on Roundtable 3.2: Beyond remittances: leveraging the development impact and promoting the transnational engagement of diaspora and migrants](#)

Annex D:

[Programme of the Summit Meeting](#)

Annex E:

[Programme of the Civil Society Days](#)

Annex F:

[Programme of the Common Space](#)

Annex G:

[Programme of the Business Thematic Meeting](#)

Annex H:

[Programme of the Special Session on the Future of the Forum](#)

Annex I:

[Programme of Session of the Platform for Partnerships](#)

Annex J:

[Overview of Roundtable Teams Composition](#)

Annex K:

[Marrakech Mayors Declaration](#)
[Ten Years of GFMD: Lessons Learnt and Future Perspectives](#)
[GFMD Communications Strategy](#)