Civil Society baselines on implementation, follow up and review of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

As delivered at the Informal Stakeholder Dialogue with the co---facilitators UN HQ New York, 8 June 2018

Three broad concerns relating to implementation, follow up and review of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) have been identified by the below civil society organisations. As we move towards the final round of negotiations, we urge states and the UN System --- in the differing roles and responsibilities of both in the implementation, follow up and review of the Compact--- to take the following concerns into account.

First, the successful implementation of this Compact will ultimately depend on state policies at the national level. At the very least, states should commit to bring their national actions including their SDG national plans, as well as bilateral, regional and multi---lateral cooperation frameworks in line with the commitments of this Compact. As the African group and others mentioned yesterday from the floor, this should be expressed clearly in the implementation section of the Compact. In particular, paragraph 40 needs re---strengthening to bring back the commitment to this effect, which was included in Draft Revision 1. When the final draft reaches consensus, it should be followed by the drafting of national strategies, including national Action Plans, to translate commitments into national and sub---national reality.

The GCM must also specify how these national strategies and action plans will engage stakeholders. We would like to make clear to you that civil society will **not** accept business as usual after this Compact is adopted. We will continue working to ensure that the commitments outlined translate into improved realities for people on the move and for broader society. There should be an explicit reference to multi--stakeholder consultations to develop these national frameworks, and transparency and accountability in their implementation.

Related to this, we are also concerned about the role and space of civil society and relevant stakeholders in the follow---up and review process at the international level, which paragraph 47 indicates will track the progress made on implementation of the Compact. We believe the implementation of the Compact would greatly benefit from the provision of a national review mechanism at both the regional and global level. We are aware that such mechanisms can be particularly burdensome for States. We are also aware that the follow---up and review mechanisms in the GCM are meant to be inter---governmental in nature. Nevertheless, these mechanisms are still an important way to guarantee an evidence---based exchange with relevant stakeholders, particularly civil society.

The inter---governmental nature of this process does not preclude it from being transparent and accountable. If the co---facilitators and states envision another method of review and evaluation on progress made, this needs more clarity in the Compact text, along with clear

language ensuring the meaningful engagement and participation of all stakeholders in these spaces. Our worries are compounded by the lack of clarity on the precise roles of each of the UN agencies, as well as fora both inside and outside the UN to be involved in the support of implementation, follow up and review of the Compact. An effective coordinating mechanism should be put in place within the UN, for global level implementation of the Compact. It should involve the specialized agencies with core competencies in the field of migration, both in its normative and operational aspects: UNHCR, ILO, OHCHR, UNICEF and UN Women. And as the Deputy Secretary General emphasised in her statement yesterday, full transparency and the participation of all stakeholders is key. This needs to come out much more clearly in para 44 of the Compact.
If the GFMD is to have an important role in the review process, it is also crucial to include explicit reference in paragraph 50 to civil society participation and engagement in this space.

As Brazil, Nepal, Uruguay, the Holy See and others highlighted from the floor in the negotiations yesterday, given the many questions that could remain unanswered after July, States should consider requesting the President of the General Assembly to make arrangements for the determination of the modalities, timeline and other practical matters relating to the implementation, follow up and review of this Compact. If these arrangements are made, they must happen in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, upholding the same transparency standards of the negotiation of this Compact.

Some of the undersigned organizations have circulated, or will be doing so shortly, language suggestions based on these shared concerns.

Signatories as of 20 June 2018

- ACT Alliance
- Alianza Americas
- Bloque Latinoamericano
- Caritas Internationalis
- Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales (CELS)
- Civil Society Network on Migration and Development
- Comision Argentina para los Refugiados y Migrantes (CAREF)
- Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd
- Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women (GAATW)
- Hope Border Institute/Instituto Fronterizo Esperanza
- Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary---Loreto Generalate
- International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC)
- International Presentation Association
- International Youth Association For Training and Inter-employment Programs (TIP)
- Major Group for Children and Youth (MGCY)

- Migrant Forum in Asia (MFA)
- Migration Working Group, Malaysia
- National Network for Immigration and Refugee Rights (USA)
- NGO Committee on Migration
- Pan African Network in Defense of Migrants Rights (PANiDMR)
- Partnership for Global Justice
- Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM)
- POURAKHI Nepal
- Poverty Elimination and Community Education (PEACE)
- RSMMS (Trade Union Mediterranean Sub---Saharan Migration Network)
- Servicio Jesuita a Migrantes (SJM) Chile
- Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur (SNDdeN)
- Society of Catholic Medical Missionaries
- Solidarity Centre
- Soroptimist International
- Swedish Djiboutian Development Agency
- VIVAT International