Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations and the World Trade Organization



Mission permanente du Canada auprès des Nations Unies et de l'Organisation mondiale du commerce

GLOBAL COMPACT ON MIGRATION: THEMATIC CONSULTATION ON HUMAN RIGHTS, INCLUSION AND INTEGRATION GENEVA, MAY 8-9, 2017 Check Against Delivery

Panel 4

Looking back on the last 2 days, my delegation would like to make the following observations and recommendations:

1- Canada re-iterates its view that a state's duty to uphold the human rights of migrants is not incompatible with its duty to ensure the safety and security of its citizens. Nevertheless, we recognize that there may be complex trade-offs inherent in balancing rights and entitlements, especially in the context of irregular or undocumented migration. Canada also welcomes the evident consensus on the importance of concrete integration initiatives to support the social inclusion of migrants through partnerships with all actors of society, and the practical examples of approaches that were shared to counter discrimination and xenophobia.

2-We encourage the co-facilitators to continue working with Member States towards making these consultations more action-oriented, with the goal of identifying potential commitments that could shape the zero draft later this year. Further, Canada believes that the GCM should include a Program of Action with clear goals, targets, and indicators that in turn would help the international community measure progress towards the migration-related goals under Agenda 2030.

3- Going forward, it will be important that sufficient time is provided for all voices to be heard. In order to allow more time for interactive dialogue, future sessions should include fewer separate panels. The participation of migration practitioners as panelists would allow for a more inclusive dialogue that would reflect the experience of those who have had to reconcile complex policy challenges. We also suggest reserving a certain number of speaking slots for civil society at future sessions, in order to ensure effective participation.

Thank you

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