GLOBAL COMPACT ON MIGRATION: THEMATIC CONSULTATION ON INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND GOVERNANCE OF MIGRATION

GENEVA, JUNE 19-20, 2017

PANEL 4: Summary Panel

Canada would like to thank the Co-Facilitators, Special Representative Arbour, the moderators and panelists for their work in preparing and supporting this Third Thematic Consultation. We would also like to thank Dr. Koser for his very helpful overview of the two days.

We found this third consultation to be constructive overall. We encourage participants to continue to bring even more concrete, practical, actionable ideas to these consultations; this will help shape the Compact into a more constructive document which better reflects the intention to develop new and innovative approaches to facilitate safe, orderly, regular migration.

At the end of the first thematic, we called for the panel participation of those who have had to balance complex policy challenges. We remain hopeful that the final three consultations will be characterized by well-balanced panels and increasingly interactive dialogue. Canada would like to suggest an idea for consideration for the remaining thematics: we could think about breaking out into smaller cross-regional groups to identify concrete items which can then be reported back for comment by panelists and member states.

We are convinced that regional and multilateral cooperation must be founded on effective national governance. This should include legal structures with policies and programmes for facilitating regular migration; managing entry, stay and return; integration and reintegration; as well as addressing irregular migration. Crucially, these must be implemented by well-managed administrative systems and appropriate investments, and evaluated to understand impacts and results. In this regard, we would like to underline, as we have at previous thematics, the value of putting in place national action plans to improve or build comprehensive national migration systems. We would also recommend that developing countries prioritize migration capacity in their national development plans so donors can take those needs into account.

There has been some discussion regarding the GFMD over the past two days. Canada appreciates its informal, state-led nature and potential to bring together migration and development decision-makers. We also find its broad network of civil society stakeholders, including its business mechanism, to be useful. With respect to its future focus and direction, we believe this discussion should take place within the GFMD.

Many states have also noted the role of IOM in many key initiatives, and as the lead migration agency. Indeed, while numerous bodies address migration issues, IOM is the only international organization with a mandate exclusively focused on migration in all its dimensions and is

therefore well-positioned to support the SRSG in her leadership of the process to develop the Compact. IOM's global operational footprint and its policy expertise, including with respect to migration governance and data collection, its leadership in the regional consultative processes, and its role in the GMG, should be capitalized on and used to full benefit throughout the Compact's implementation. It can, for example, bring together existing instruments of migration governance and analyze them to determine policy gaps, develop clear ways of measuring progress against short, medium and long terms goals identified through the compact process, and work regionally with individual states and other stakeholders to support implementation and reporting against these goals.