

## **UN Women Intervention in Panel 3, First Thematic Session, 9 May**

Thank you Mr. Chairman,

To ensure access to safe, orderly and regular migration, we need to tackle discriminatory laws and practices. The experiences of migrant women and girls, in countries of origin, transit and destination, differ from that of migrant men and boys. This is well documented.

To address this in the global compact for migration, UN Women, together with leading experts from a number of relevant treaty bodies, UN agencies and civil society organisations, has developed a set of concrete recommendations for gender-specific considerations in the formulation of migration policies and governance, including the global compact on safe, orderly and regular migration.

Some of these recommendations are:

- **The obvious one: to eliminate all direct and indirect forms of discrimination against women at all stages of migration.**
- **For Governments to develop gender-responsive, human rights-based migration policies without delay**, which recognizes the agency of women in migration and promotes their empowerment and leadership. These gender-responsive policies and programmes also need to be adequately resourced.
- **Women must be provided access to migration pathways that promote the empowerment of women, and protect their rights.**
- **Migrant women and girls must also be provided access to human rights-based, gender-responsive services such as comprehensive health care, social services and access to justice.**
- **The labour rights of migrant women and their access to decent work and to social protection must be effectively promoted and protected.**
- **There is also a recommendation on taking measures to ensure women's right to live free from any form of violence.**

These recommendations - and I only gave you a few examples - are a 'one-stop shop' at your disposal on UN Women's website. We encourage you all to apply them in international negotiations as well as in regional and national deliberations. UN Women stands ready to support member states in the development of gender-responsive policies and frameworks, including the global compact for migration, to ensure it works for all migrants, and in particular for migrant women and girls.

**Thank you**