

**1<sup>st</sup> Meeting with the co-facilitators and multi-stakeholders  
to provide input into the zero-draft of the outcome document  
for the Summit on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants**

Statement by ICMC / [MADE Network](#)

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Thank you very much co-facilitators for this opportunity, and for your open approach so far working with civil society towards the Summit and on the outcome document.

Congratulations for putting out this zero-draft. I think I can speak on behalf of many civil society organizations that we were pleasantly surprised about the scope and the breadth of the zero-draft; and the fact that it is grounded in existing rights and frameworks; including the nine core human rights conventions, international humanitarian and refugee law, and also the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. We support this, and would urge you to keep the document as robust as it is in this regards, and will not be watered down. But what is really needed is that these frameworks are translated into reality for people on the ground; and thus are translated into policy, practice and action at the soonest.

In that regard one of our biggest worries for the draft outcome-document, and in particular the Global Compact on responsibility-sharing for refugees; it is not specific and actionable enough. We would have expected the Compact to be more of a response framework/mechanism for UNHCR and states to call upon in current and future refugee crises. We are a little confused by the differences in status between the Compact and the political declaration, and the value of having these two separate documents, if the Compact will not be more operational.

We agree and support the interventions that have already been made by various civil society colleagues. In addition we would like to lift up four priorities from a document that we have been working on as ICMC, together with the Action Committee of 22 organizations working in the field of refugees and migration; and that we will separately submit (see attached "*1st Consolidated civil society feedback on the zero-draft of the outcome document*"; and the "*New deal for refugees, migrants and societies*").

**1. Joint commitments for refugees and migrants up front**

We very much welcome the inclusion of joint commitments for refugees and migrants. A while this might be a cosmetic suggestion, we would like this to be put up front. Migrants, refugees and displaced persons, are all first and foremost human beings, with needs that need to be addressed and rights to be upheld. Before people are referred to as separate categories, it is important to do justice to shared commitments, shared challenges, needs and rights. (also see page 2 of the "[New deal for refugees, migrants and societies](#)")

## **2. Civil society at the table**

it is critical that civil society, and in particular refugees, migrants, displaced persons and diaspora themselves, are at the table every step of the way, informing the plans, helping to monitor progress, and continuing the discussion about how to create a world that protects and provides opportunity to refugees, migrants and societies. This is not sufficiently reflected in the zero-draft and we would like to see this included in the section with principles. (also see page 1 of the "[New deal for refugees, migrants and societies](#)")

## **3. Guidelines for migrants in vulnerable situations: *as a formal part of the Global Compact on Safe Migration, multi-stakeholder and with commitments***

We welcome the reference to the guidelines on vulnerable migrants or migrants in vulnerable situation. While we would support this initiative, we have a question on how the process of making those guidelines would link to the drafting of the Global Compact on Safe Migration, and would urge that there is a link in terms of time-line and that the guidelines becoming a formal part of the Compact including commitments, no later than 2018. It should also be a truly multi-stakeholder initiative, in which civil society, UN agencies, and the private sector are involved from the beginning. (also see page 2 of the "[New deal for refugees, migrants and societies](#)")

## **4. Missing element: social inclusion of migrants and refugees, and creating welcoming communities in addition to combatting xenophobia and racism.**

We are supportive of the bold references to combat xenophobia and racism, as well as the UN-led global campaign, and its translation into national and local campaigns. However what we feel is largely missing from the document is the broader question of the social inclusion of migrants and refugees to ensure that newcomers are welcomed and included in societies, into workplaces, into schools, that there language-training, access to justice, access to health care. How do you create welcoming communities for refugees and migrants? That is going to be so important for anything that is in the outcome document to be translated into reality, there needs to be public support. But it is not only a question of changing perceptions and campaigns, there also need to be solid policies in place for the inclusion of migrants and refugees. (also see page 5 of the "[New deal for refugees, migrants and societies](#)")

Thank you very much. /