

Check Against Delivery

**Rede des Leiters der Abteilung für Krisenprävention,
Stabilisierung, Konfliktnachsorge und Humanitäre**

Hilfe im Auswärtigen Amt,

Rüdiger König,

bei dem High-level Side-Event „Road to Marrakesh“

am Rande der 73. VN-GV

New York

26. September 2018

Mr. Secretary General,

Madame President of the General Assembly,

Madame Special Representative of the Secretary General,

Excellencies,

Distinguished colleagues,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Migration is a phenomenon that has always existed. It is as old as our planet and it will continue to challenge countries of origin, of transit and of destination equally.

The discussion on how to deal with migration threatens to divide our societies and challenges our democracies. We currently experience an alarming degree of contention

between different political camps - in Germany as well as in the European Union and beyond. Migration is used by some to generate negative perceptions, to polarize and to stoke fears!

However, we must not allow the issue of migration to divide our societies, neither nationally nor on a regional or global scale.

Instead, we have to live up to the values that we stand for.

Yes, migration is very complex. It is multidimensional and closely linked to global issues of development, climate change, health, conflict and trade. Therefore, we need fair and balanced responsibility-sharing among countries of origin, of transit and of destination

now more than ever. To think that one country alone would be able to deal with these complex issues in a satisfactory manner – to me, this seems rather naïve. We need multilaterally agreed concepts and international co-operation to successfully deal with this global-scaled challenge.

Against this backdrop the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants was a groundbreaking achievement, and so is the successful conclusion of the negotiations on the text of the Global Compact for Migration of July 13th.

This remarkable success shows that the multilateral system is capable of tackling highly

complex and contested global issues, that it can deliver even at times where the value of multilateralism is increasingly questioned.

In Marrakech in December, for the first time in history, we will adopt a comprehensive multilateral framework for the international management of migration. It is the world's chance to set an example of political determination, solidarity and unity!

That is why we highly appreciate the overarching objective of today's event: to build up momentum for the Morocco conference.

It is also an opportunity to share best practices, to exchange innovative ideas and to

build partnerships in order to give the Global Compact for Migration substantial impact in practice.

Effective implementation of the provisions we agreed upon in the Global Compact for Migration will be key! The German Government is aware of its responsibility and already strongly engaged in putting the Global Compact for Migration into practice. We foster the approach of “global skills partnerships”, generating triple-win impacts for countries of destination and origin, and the migrants themselves and thereby enhancing pathways for regular migration.

Moreover, we significantly support data initiatives of IOM and the Worldbank to achieve more evidence-based and coherent migration data.

Last but not least, we work towards faster, cheaper and safer transfer of remittances in close collaboration with diaspora organizations.

Let me conclude by stating that we all have to push in the same direction in order to achieve real change and make a global migration policy a success.

As a co-chair of the Global Forum on Migration and Development, Germany has played a

central role in the negotiations of the Global Compact for Migration. Germany will continue to engage constructively in the further implementation and follow-up of the Global Compact for Migration. Our engagement will not end with its adoption.

Thank you.