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البعثة الدائمة لدولة إريتريا لدى  
الأمم المتحدة  
نيويورك

**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE STATE OF ERITREA TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
NEW YORK**

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**STATEMENT BY MR. NEBIL SAID, COUNSELLOR, PERMANENT MISSION OF  
ERITREA TO THE UNITED NATIONS, AT THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL  
CONFERENCE TO ADOPT THE GLOBAL COMPACT FOR SAFE, ORDERLY AND  
REGULAR MIGRATION  
MARRAKECH, MOROCCO  
11 DECEMBER 2018**

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Mr. President,  
Excellencies,  
Distinguished delegates,

Let me start by conveying the gratitude of my delegation to the people and government of the Kingdom of Morocco for the excellent organisation and their warm hospitality.

Eritrea welcomes the adoption of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration.

The Compact provides us with a historic opportunity to address migration comprehensively...to make human mobility safe, reduce its negative impacts for migrants and countries as well as maximise its benefits for all.

A framework for global governance of human mobility is crucial and long overdue.

Mr. President,

Migration creates and reproduces our common human heritage. Centuries of human mobility molded today's world.

Despite much talk about its negative impacts, much of the economic, technological and cultural progress and dynamism of our world would have not been possible without migration.

Migration is here to stay with us due to demographic transformation, growing global inequalities, improved international communications; and, more importantly, the mere human desire to move. .

It is unfortunate in an era when the international community has made advances in facilitating cross-border movements of commodities, services and finance, a non-binding agreement on migration is still firmly resisted by some.

We cannot continue to turn our eyes away from an issue of immense consequence for public policy and hope for it to go away.

Every state has a right to legislate and implement national immigration policy. Nevertheless, no country on its own can address the complexity of migration without an international cooperation.

The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration is not an advocacy for more migration, as some are portraying it. In fact, every government desires to create conditions that allow its people to live and thrive in their respective countries.

Nothing in this Global Compact infringes on sovereignty nor authority of the state over its immigration policy.

It aims to maximise the benefits of human mobility for all—to migrants as well as countries of origin, transit and destinations through international partnership.

The success of the Compact is in its implementation. Indeed, how far we implement the objectives of the Global Compact will determine success of our future efforts on global migration governance.

If we fail to deliver, it will be a setback to our future efforts and would reinforce and entrench the position of doubters of the Global Compact.

Let us make the most of this historic opportunity.

Mr. President,  
Excellencies;

Eritrea, as a country with a proportionally large, well-connected and active diaspora community, recognises the significant role and contribution of a conscious and organised migrant community both for destination and origin countries.

Migrants are not objects, but as agents human progress.

We should harness the capacities of migrant and diaspora communities towards the implementation of the objectives of the Global Compact and other internationally agreed development goals. For that, we need remove the administrative and legal impediments migrants and diaspora communities from becoming part of the solution to global challenges.

Let me conclude by reiterating Eritrea's readiness to expand partnerships, work with all nations bilaterally and within the framework of the Global Compact to make migration a choice, safe and beneficial for all peoples and nations.

I thank you Mr. President.