

## Speech

**Mevludin Nuhodžić, Minister of the Interior of Montenegro**

**Inter-governmental Conference to adopt the Global Compact for Safe,  
Orderly, and Regular Migrations**

**Marrakesh, Morocco, December 10&11, 2018**

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delivery*

Mister Chair,  
General Secretary,  
Excellences,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great privilege for me to address you on behalf of Montenegro. I would like to use this opportunity to thank the Kingdom of Morocco for organizing this important Conference and for its hospitality.

Montenegro is fully committed to international community efforts in terms of securing efficient migration management in different domains, for the benefit of all countries and communities, as well as migrants. Within the context, we greet the establishment of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migrations, which represents a clear political signal for unified activities and clearly divided responsibilities of countries of origin, transit, and final destination, when facing this phenomenon. At the same time, establishment of the Global Compact is yet another confirmation of importance of efficient multilateralism in addressing growing challenges facing the world.

Bearing in mind the fact that, globally, in the last several years, the number of migrants has increased rapidly, we believe that adoption of the Global Compact will contribute to more effective management and addressing of migration related issues, as well as enhance the contribution of migrants and migrations to achieving sustainable development and implementing Agenda 2030. In order for the Global Compact to be implemented fully, we underline the importance of acknowledging different national realities, capacities, and development levels, when developing national migration policies. In addition, addressing the causes of migration, through investments in development and creation of new economic opportunities, as well as enhancing the rule of law and respect of human rights, must be a priority.

Mister chair,

The Government of Montenegro is very active in different areas, aiming to better regulate migration processes, especially when it comes to control of entry



to our country's territory. As a responsible country, we have taken all the necessary measures to be able to accommodate migrants and refugees in case of their eventual inflow, in line with all international standards in this area.

With the adoption of 'Integrated Border Management Strategy' 2017-2020, and 'Strategy for Reintegration of Persons Returned Based on Readmission Agreements' 2016-2020, with related action plans, we are trying to strengthen the existing institutional framework, but also to develop and align our legal framework in this area.

We have adopted the 'Law on International and Temporary Protection of Foreigners' and 'Law on Foreigners', which are regulating the treatment of migrants, their rights, integration or readmission, i.e. return to the countries of origin. By doing so, Montenegro managed to fully align its legislation with the European and international standards in the area of asylum. We also adopted Contingency Plan in case of mass influx of migrants and refugees, and we have nominated Operational Team in charge of its implementation.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Montenegro is strongly committed to regional cooperation and enhancing the stability of the region. We believe that responsible approach in addressing migration related challenges requires joint activities of all countries in order to be able to cope with the very complex task of securing our borders while, at the same time, providing better future to those facing suffering. Within that context, it is of extreme importance that all Western Balkan countries align their national legislations in area of migration and asylum, as well as to harmonize their normative frameworks with EU Directives and standards, and in particular to develop human resources and technical capacities within their systems for control of movement of foreigners. The migrant crisis that has affected Europe, pointed to numerous deficiencies of national systems, underlining the need for regional cooperation, sharing of experiences, information, data, as well as sharing of missing resources, thus developing a joint response to this challenge.

Mister chair,

Allow me to close by confirming full support of Montenegro to the Global Compact for Migrations, as we believe that its implementation will contribute to more effective migration management, in all of its aspects, but at the same time allow all of us to reap benefits from these migrations in terms of achieving Sustainable Development Goals.

Thank you for your attention.