



**THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
OF THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND**

**Statement**

**By**

**H.E. Mr. Chaisiri Anamarn,**

**Advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand,**

**Head of Delegation to Intergovernmental Conference to Adopt  
the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM),**

**10-11 December 2018,**

**Bab Ighli Conference Center, Marrakech, Morocco**

**Please check against delivery**

**Excellencies,  
Secretary-General of the United Nations,  
Distinguished Delegates,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

1. At the outset, on behalf of the Royal Thai Government, I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the Moroccan Government for hosting this Intergovernmental Conference to adopt the GCM.
2. I would also like to thank the Co-Facilitators, as well as Special Representative of the Secretary-General Mrs. Louise Arbour for their hard work and contributions all through the GCM process.
3. Thailand has supported the GCM process from the very beginning; and we have taken a whole-of-government, whole-of-society approach throughout this whole process. Three GCM National Consultations had been done to help us reflect and review our migration policy, and identify gaps and remaining challenges that need to be addressed. As a result, we have come up with country position which is to support and contribute to this important process.
4. Thailand joins the international community in adopting this historic Compact. We are also committed to working with all stakeholders to take forward and concretize the aspirations and objectives contained within this document.

**Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

5. This year marks the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It has also been three years after our Leaders concluded the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Migrants too are entitled to basic human rights. They too are the group not to be left behind if we are going to truly achieve sustainable development.
6. Though as we adopted the GCM today, some may still have doubts. Despite its voluntary nature, some are still questioning if it is the right timing.
7. It, therefore, becomes even more important for all of us here to prove the GCM work. That is why the Implementation and Follow-up are keys. Our way forward will be to put the GCM to practice and the outcomes themselves will be the testament of its usefulness.

8. Thailand supports the establishment of the UN Network on Migration with the IOM playing a central role as Coordinator and Secretariat to support Member States and relevant stakeholders in implementing this GCM. As the Network will be an important mechanism that deals with one of the greatest global challenges today, Member States and also the UN need to render their support to the Network including in the context of the on-going process of the UN Development System Repositioning to ensure effective and concrete implementation at all levels. We also have to utilize other future high-level fora including HLPF, High-Level Meeting on Decent Work, among others, to echo and galvanize international community's continued support for robust implementation of the GCM.
9. As for Thailand, we are committed to the implementation of the GCM taking a balanced approach between security, development and human rights. We will continue to strengthen the existing national and regional mechanisms to advance the Objectives set forth in the Compact.

**Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

10. Thailand believes that we have come this far and today we have achieved a lot. We will start implementation of this Compact with high hope and expectation. When we meet again in the next four years in the First International Migration Review Forum, we expect to see significant progress and many good examples of how migration will be better managed with wider participation. After all, only when there is political will and good spirit of international cooperation, we can make migration work for all.

**Thank you.**