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**Madam President,  
Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Tuvalu / Samuelu Lalou  
Permanent Representative of Tuvalu  
to the United Nations

1. It is for me an enormous pleasure to congratulate you and all of our distinguished representatives to celebrate, if I may say, the fruitful outcome of the intergovernmental negotiation on the Global Compact for Migration.
2. I like to thank the Kingdom of Morocco for hosting this important meeting.
3. Let me also take this opportunity to pay special tribute to the Co-Facilitators – Ambassador Lauber of Switzerland, and Ambassador Gomez Camacho of Mexico, and the Special Representative of the UNSG Louse Arbour. Your tireless efforts were absolutely essential for the common success in this process.

**Madam President,**

4. We are inspired by specific objectives of the GCM that recognized slow and sudden onset environmental degradation and climate change impacts as drivers of migration. We believe the adoption of the GCM offers us an opportunity to step up concrete action in supporting States and its people, particularly vulnerable situations to climate change.
5. Sea-level rise and the adverse impacts of climate change are already prompting the migration of people from the Pacific and my own country Tuvalu. As provided by the 2018 IPCC Special Report on the impacts of global warming, it is with clear evidence that global warming is likely to reach 1.5°C between 2030 and 2052. At this rate, appropriate protection measures must be taken to address climate change displacement.

6. The Compact provides a framework to develop a comprehensive regime for people compelled to leave their countries because of the adverse impacts of climate change. Nevertheless, GCM should not be deemed as an isolated instrument and implemented separately. We must ensure policy coherence between GCM and other global instruments related to climate change, disaster and environmental governance.

**Madam President,**

7. We have never been more pertinent to a timeline in addressing climate displacement. We must build up knowledge base and research capacity on environmental migration to support comprehensive climate displacement policies and regimes to tackle the impacts of climate change. Technical and operational capacities to support climate-vulnerable populations and promote effective migration management in the context of climate changes are needed for the GCM implementation.
8. Most importantly, we must bear in mind that GCM is rooted in the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. That is to say, the implementation of the GCM and the development of the climate-displacement regime should be well-managed as an opportunity for sustainable development to States and climate displaced people. We must recognize and respect knowledge, cultures and traditional practices of counties of origin. In doing so, the GCM implementation should be fundamentally ingrained in sustainable development processes and respect of the human rights of migrants.



**Madam President,**

9. We have come a long way. Finally, the historic July 13 Agreement on the text of the Global Compact for Migration was adopted after some 18 months of consultations and negotiations. Now is the critical moment for us to put aside our political differences and to work together on how to best implement the GCM and to provide an integrated solution in addressing climate displacement.

10. I wish to reiterate that evidence shows climate change is already dislocating vulnerable communities, and the fact that the future effects of climate change will undoubtedly have a far greater impact on displacement.

**In conclusion, Madam President,**

11. We will continue to count on your support as we now move into what the Secretary-General has called the “era of implementation”. It is also the time for all nations and all migrants to live up to the words of the universal human rights provided by the GCM, that is with inherent dignity and without the fears of life threatening scenarios, in particular for those being displaced by the adverse impacts of the climate change.

**I thank you.**