Conference to Adopt the Global Compact for Safe, Regular and Orderly Migration – Plenary Session

Statement by H.E. the UAE Minister of Human Resources and Emiratisation

Allow me to thank the Co-Chairs for giving the UAE the opportunity to speak.

The UAE affirms its commitment to the Global Compact for Safe, Regular and Orderly Migration, and extends its thanks and congratulations to the Co-Chairs for their extraordinary determination, dedication and commitment over the last three years. This is a landmark in international cooperation and the Co-Chairs should be proud of what they have managed to achieve.

As the host of the largest per-capita population of temporary migrants in the world, the UAE is committed to continuing to improve migration governance standards in the years ahead. The Global Compact provides a framework for guiding Member States in identifying priorities and building international cooperation. It provides global objectives, but also allows space for regional variation and national context to play their part.

The principles underlying the Global Compact – its structure as a non-binding, state-led framework for cooperation – are the basis, we believe, for its ongoing success. Those principles foster trust between governments, which is very important for tackling the cross-border challenges of international migration.

It is important to note that although the Global Compact is a significant achievement, it is the start of a process, and not the end. If the underlying principles continue to be upheld, then we believe that the goal of safe, regular and orderly migration around the world can be achieved.

Looking to the future, the UAE intends to be fully engaged in the implementation, follow up and review of the Global Compact. In our national capacity, we are
committed to enhancing our labour migration governance consistent with the GCM’s objectives. At a regional level, we will continue to support regional initiatives that facilitate greater international cooperation and integration. And at the global level, we will be full partners in gatherings including GFMD and the IMRF, to further dialogue and the sharing of best practice.

Thank you.