HEPR|১ জুলাই 2016

Bangladesh Permanent Mission
to the United Nations in New York

(Please check against delivery)

Statement by H.E. Masud Bin Momen, Ambassador & Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations on the outcome (1st informal) of the high-level meeting to address the large movements of refugees and migrants on 19 September 2016. *(1 July ,2016; Trusteeship Council ;10 am)*

Dear Co-facilitators,

I thank you for convening this informal and for distributing zero draft of outcome document for 19 September High-level meeting and the zero draft of global compact on responsibility sharing for the refugee. Since the later was circulated only last night, we are not being able to comment on that now. Today we would like to comment on the outcome document only. This draft outcome is a good basis to start with. However, we would like to share some specific points for your consideration:

- First of all, there should be mention of implementation of these compacts specially at the field or ground level. How will these be implemented at the field level? by whom? In **para 1.11**, what is meant by new global consensus? And what is its implication with regard to normal movement?
- Second, when this is addressing the large movement, what will be the implication of these compacts in normal movements of refugees and migrants? How would these interface with individual movements?
- When this is explaining large movement, we need to be more clear on the "Geographical context", as this is a global phenomenon and needs global solution.
- the forwarding letter accompanying the zero draft outcome mentioned that the declaration would be "issued" on 19 September. Our understanding is that the declaration should be "adopted" by the world leaders not merely "issued" on 19 September.
- The chapeaux before the introduction say that the leaders are meeting on 19 September " to address the questions of large movement of refugees and migrants". It is bearing a negative connotation regarding migrants. We suggest that in the second line "... address the questions of" needs to be replaced by "discuss on" and hence the sentence would read "We, the Heads of State and Government and High Representatives, meeting at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on 19 September 2016 to **discuss on** large movements of refugees and migrants, have adopted the following Declaration."

- The developmental aspect of migration and the positive narrative of migration has somewhat been compromised in some places in the zero draft. The pull factors like labour market demand for the migrants should also be highlighted in the outcome, particularly in the context of aging population and labour shortage in some of the

destination countries.

- We suggest to add in the **second line of para 1.5** after migrants "**for development**". We emphasize that the goal of our discussion should not be to prevent or restrict migration, rather promoting orderly migration. Again, **second to last sentence in the para 1.9** mentions that "would reduce the need for migrants to leave their home in the first place." We cannot reduce one's aspiration for migration, as migration does not entirely depend on need but also on personal socio-economic choices. That's why we see in the same family or household one brother is migrating while the other is not. So we cannot and should not try to reduce movement.

- In many instances the draft refers migrants as "vulnerable migrants". Migrants are themselves not vulnerable. Migrants are agents for development, as agreed in the HLD 2 and Agenda 2030. So we propose to use "Migrants in vulnerable situation" instead of vulnerable migrants at **3.vii** and **3. viii**.

- We appreciate that the draft has highlighted large movements of people as a global phenomenon and called on for global approaches and global solutions and human rights, safety and dignity of migrants and refugees are to be protected irrespective of status. We think it would be better to have the commitments for migrants and refugees jointly first and then the commitments separately for migrants and refugees.

- The complementarity and cohesion, which is very important, has been mentioned only once in the **para 4.2**. It has to be emphasized throughout the text and should be clearly mentioned **at the beginning under 2.1**. "*both the compacts should be coherent with and complement each other*".

- The title of **section 3** does not adequately reflect migrants and should revert to the title of the event: "refugees and migrants". Displaced persons do not necessarily reflect large movements of migrants. Migrants are not always displaced.

- There is a typo in **3.1**, it should be "we agreed".
- Paragraph **3.vii** focuses solely on the displaced, yet the WHS also raised the issue of the need to incorporate migrants in humanitarian planning and response.

- Paragraph **3.xiii** could be broader to reference RCPs and regional initiatives more generally (i.e. beyond the two mechanisms referenced).
- **Section 4** on "Commitments for migrants" is mainly focused on governance or development issues, and is missing humanitarian issues related to large movements of migrants. The developmental aspect also needs to be more visible.
- Preference for **v, vi, vii** to be higher in this section than after **i**.
- Also preference for human rights issues raised in **ix** and **x** to be higher in this section than the current **ii** and **iii** points respectively.
- Propose to add "disorderly" before large movements in the first and second lines of **3.iii**. Reason is, we have to address the disorderly movements.
- Paragraph **3.xiv** on guidelines should change the focus to protection of migrants in vulnerable situations as not all migrants are vulnerable and also we need to know more on this proposed guidelines, its scope and how will it be developed.
- **Paragraph 4.2** on the Global Compact should not restrict itself to the global

governance of migration, but also include humanitarian and development aspects of migration. The migration compact has to be broader and governance on migration being one of its important elements. Also there should be mention of the leading coordinating or supporting agency for the process, and we understand it would be IOM.

- Inclusion of adequate and reliable data in the migration section is necessary.
- We welcome the mention of the GFMD and SRSG's report. However, GFMD's work need to be taken into account where we are mentioning other stakeholders.
- **Section 5** "Commitments for migrants and refugees jointly" As mentioned earlier, to move this section after **Section 3**, in order to better mirror the Secretary-General's report. The ideas in this section blend both the humanitarian and development concerns for both groups.
- There are some elements in the refugee part in **Section 6** that could be incorporated here, including paragraphs **viii, xxii** and **xxiii**.
- Some of the humanitarian elements in **Section 6** "Commitments for refugees" only refers to refugees and overlooks the existing humanitarian architecture, which responds to needs first and has moved away from status.
- In **paragraph 6.vi**, the comprehensive response needs to address mixed flows of movements, not just refugees. IOM and OCHA should also be considered in this comprehensive response.
- In **para 6.viii**, change the focus to protection of migrants in vulnerable situations as all migrants are not vulnerable, and also temporary protection against return of migrants in vulnerable situations ---this could either appear only in the joint migrant/refugee section, or also appear in the migration section.
- We believe coherence is needed in case of implementation. However, the "nexus between humanitarian and development actors" is not an agreed concept, rather "smooth transition from relief to development" is an agreed formulation.

- In **paragraph 6. xxiii** – The gaps in humanitarian funding are an issue for the entire humanitarian community, and many humanitarian actors provide assistance to affected populations and the scope should therefore be broadened and moved to the joint refugee/migrant section.
- **Section 7** "Follow up on Review of our Commitments" identifies the process going forward, which calls for an annual assessment through the HLPF. Because of the nature of the HLPF, the issue of responding to these large movements may only be focused on development issues, excluding humanitarian concerns. This could be given some consideration in the selection of an appropriate follow-up and review forum, including in the ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Session.

- It is unclear if **Section 7** should indicate the modalities for beginning the intergovernmental process towards a Global Compact on Migration being adopted at the 2018 international conference. We believe, it is very important to mention about the modalities for the proposed 2018 conference and appointment of two co-facilitators for this by the PGA also needs to be clearly mentioned in the outcome.

- In conclusion, distinguished co-facilitators, our preference would be to have more focused, concrete and short outcome.

- I thank you all.