

High-Level Side Event

Human Security, Resilience and Dignity in Migration: Translating the Global Compact into Action

9 December 2018

15:30 – 17:15

**Salle Diamant, Palmeraie Palace Resort
Marrakech, Morocco**

Background

The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) is the first intergovernmental agreement, prepared under the auspices of the United Nations, to cover all dimensions of international migration in a holistic and comprehensive manner. It recognizes that migration can be a positive and empowering experience, and a source of prosperity and innovation for migrants as well as communities and countries of origin, transit and destination. And, in doing so, it presents a significant opportunity to improve the governance of migration through a comprehensive approach that optimizes “the overall benefits of migration, while addressing the risks and challenges for individuals and communities.” It is anticipated that 191 countries will formally sign and adopt the GCM in Marrakech, Morocco in December 2018, charting a new path for international cooperation and national policymaking on migration.

Objectives of the side event

Reflecting the principles of human security, the GCM introduces a people-centred, inclusive and comprehensive approach towards migration that considers the safety, opportunity and dignity for both migrants and host communities at all stages of migration. To support the effective translation of the GCM into concrete actions, the side event will discuss and propose ways in which the human security approach can further enhance and inform implementation of the GCM across diverse contexts. It will bring into focus the importance of reducing risks, building migrants’ resilience, and responding to the physical, economic, social and political factors that create and compound migrant vulnerabilities. In addition, it will underline the critical consideration of the needs of host communities, the impact of migratory patterns on the local context, and ways to promote the positive benefits of migration.

Drawing on the experiences of national governments, regional entities, the United Nations system, academic research, and civil society organizations, the event will provide concrete examples of multidimensional and integrated responses to reduce vulnerability, expand opportunities, and safeguard the dignity of migrants and host communities. In particular, presentations will highlight notable national examples from Morocco and Thailand, the value of regional perspectives and responses from Africa, and global research in Europe and Latin America. The examples will represent a variety of situations – from unaccompanied or separated children and youth, migrants in situations of ‘permanent transience,’ and migrants compelled to move because of climate change, environmental degradation and abject poverty – to underscore the positive impact of placing people at the heart of international action to realize the GCM and the benefits of migration for all.