11 March 2019

Excellency,

I have the honour to transmit a letter dated 8 March 2019 from H.E. Mr. Masud Bin Momen, Permanent Representative of Bangladesh and H.E. Mr. Agustin Santos Maraver, Permanent Representatives of Spain, co-facilitators for the intergovernmental consultations and negotiations to determine the modalities and organizational aspects of the International Migration Review Forums.

The next informal consultation will take place on 20 March at 10:15 a.m. in Trusteeship Council Chamber.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Maria Fernanda Espinosa Garcés

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York
New York, 8th March 2019

Excellency,

We write to you in our capacity as co-facilitators to the intergovernmental consultations and negotiations to determine the precise modalities and organizational aspects of the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) and articulate how the contributions of the regional review and other relevant processes will inform the Forums, as a means to strengthen the overall effectiveness and the consistency of the follow-up and review outlined in the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. Paragraph-49 of the same Compact further envisioned IMRF as a global platform where Member States would be able to review its implementation progress and guide the direction of the United Nation's work.

We already had a successful first informal consultation with the Member States last month. Moreover, we also met civil society representatives in the margins of the UN Migration Week. The inputs we gathered from these two meetings will enrich our understanding and help us to frame the zero draft.

We would like to convene the second informal inter-governmental consultations at the United Nations Headquarters to engage with the Member States. This will be taking place on Wednesday, 20th March 2019, 10:15 am – 13:00 pm at Trusteeship Council Chamber.

With a view to having a focused interaction, we propose the following opening questions to feed the discussions:

(I) What could be the preferred structure for the IMRF? (duration/general debate + panels)
(II) How could the inputs from regional review forums and GFMD best feed into IMRF?
(III) How could civil society and other stakeholders effectively contribute to the IMRF? What should be the preferred format?
(IV) What are Member States views on the ‘progress declaration’ and how could it best feed into the HLPF?

Just like previous edition, these opening questions are suggestions from our side to kick-off a more structured discussion on IMRF modalities. But our consultation should not be limited to finding the answers of these questions. We would appreciate receiving written inputs from you in timely manner throughout this process.

We look forward to working closely with you to ensure constructive intergovernmental negotiations and a positive outcome, while we remain at your disposal for any clarification on the process.

Ambassador H.E. Mr. Masud Bin Momen
(Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations in New York)

Ambassador H.E. Mr. Agustin Santos Maraver
(Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations in New York)

All Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations New York