



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

5 July 2019

Excellency,

I have the honour to transmit a letter dated 5 July 2019 from H.E. Mr. Masud Bin Momen, Permanent Representative of Bangladesh and H.E. Mr. Agustín 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 Forum (IMRF).

In this regard, I have the further honour to share the final draft of the resolution “Format and organizational aspects of the international migration review forum” under silence procedure until Tuesday 9 July at 9:00 a.m. (New York time).

I would like to take this opportunity to express my, and that of my Office’s, sincere appreciation to the co-facilitators for their leadership in facilitating the consultation as well as to all delegations for their constructive engagement throughout the process.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. F. Espinosa Garcés', written in a cursive style.

María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés

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



PERMANENT MISSION OF BANGLADESH TO THE UNITED NATIONS



PERMANENT MISSION OF SPAIN TO THE UNITED NATIONS

New York, 05th July 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.

We have the honor to inform you that the final draft is now being put under **silence procedure until Tuesday, 9th July 2019 9:00 am.**

Once again, we have done our best to accommodate comments from delegations, while trying to keep the overall balance. Therefore, for instance, OP 7 has been adjusted to the verbatim language of the original source, OP 8 has been softened and some other slight changes have been introduced, as requested, to improve clarity.

Furthermore, delegations will observe that we have reshuffled the sessions of the IMRF in order to improve the arrangements: in the new proposal the plenary will take place on the third and fourth days so that high level participation can be enhanced.

We hope the changes we introduced are acceptable to you and we sincerely look forward to achieving consensus on this final draft.

Last but not least, we want to warmly thank you for the constructive spirit, as well the interactive and enriching discussions throughout the process that paved the way to a successful negotiation. We hope this will set precedent for the future.

Please accept Excellency, assurance of your highest consideration.

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

Format and organizational aspects of the international migration review forums

The General Assembly,

PP1. *Recalling* its resolution 71/1 of 19 September 2016, entitled “New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants”, and its resolution 73/195 of 19 December 2018, by which it endorsed the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, also known as the Marrakesh Compact on Migration,

PP2. *Recalling also* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development¹, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development², and the Declaration of the High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development³,

PP3. *Reaffirming* that the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (Global Compact) presents a non-legally binding, cooperative framework, fostering international cooperation among all relevant actors on migration, acknowledging that no State can address migration alone, and upholding the sovereignty of States and their obligations under international law,

PP4. *Reaffirming* that the Global Compact is based on the following set of cross-cutting and interdependent guiding principles: people-centered, international cooperation, national sovereignty, rule of law and due process, sustainable development, human rights, gender-responsive, child-sensitive, whole-of-government approach and whole-of-society approach,

PP5. *Reaffirming also* that the Global Compact will be implemented through enhanced bilateral, regional and multilateral cooperation and a revitalized global partnership in a spirit of solidarity, building on existing mechanisms, platforms and frameworks to address migration in all its dimensions,

PP6. *Recalling* paragraph 49 of resolution 73/195 on the establishment of the International Migration Review Forum (the forum), which shall serve as the primary intergovernmental global platform for Member States to discuss and share progress on the implementation of all aspects of the Global Compact, including as it relates to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and with the participation of all relevant stakeholders,

1. *Decides* that the forums:

(a) Shall be convened under the auspices of the General Assembly and be chaired by the President of the General Assembly;

¹ Resolution 70/1.

² Resolution 69/313, annex.

³ Resolution 68/4

(b) Shall operate under the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, as applicable, unless otherwise provided in the present resolution;

(c) Shall take place during the first semester of the year 2022, and thereafter every four years at the United Nations Headquarters in New York;

(d) Shall last for four days⁴;

(e) Shall be held at the highest possible political level, including Heads of State or Government;

2. *Also decides* that the forums shall be open to participation by all States Members of the United Nations and all members of specialized agencies that have observer status with the General Assembly;

3. *Invites* intergovernmental organizations and other entities having received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the work of the General Assembly and organizations and bodies of the United Nations to participate as observers in the forums;

4. *Reiterates* the importance of the effective participation of all relevant stakeholders in the forums and *invites* non-governmental organizations that are in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, as well as all stakeholders that were accredited to the preparatory process of the intergovernmental consultations of the Global Compact or that were accredited to participate in the Intergovernmental Conference to adopt the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, and *encourages* them to register with the Secretariat in order to participate in the forums;

5. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to draw up a list of other representatives of relevant non-governmental organizations, academic, scientific and knowledge-based institutions, the private sector, trade unions, faith-based, migrant and youth organizations, diaspora communities and other relevant stakeholders, who may attend and participate in each forum, taking into account the principles of transparency and of equitable geographical representation, with due regard to the meaningful participation of women, and to submit to Member States for their consideration on a non-objection basis, no later than three months before the forums⁵;

6. *Invites* national human rights institutions compliant with the Paris Principles⁶ to register with the Secretariat in order to participate in the forums, including the informal interactive

⁴ The forums shall be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. each day.

⁵ The list of proposed as well as final names will be brought to the attention of the General Assembly. Where a name is objected to, the objecting Member State will, on a voluntary basis, make known to the Office of the President of the General Assembly the general basis of its objections and the Office will share any information received with any Member State upon its request.

⁶ Resolution 48/134, annex.

multi-stakeholder hearings described in paragraph 15 below, and invites the institutions, as well as the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions and regional human rights institution networks, to submit inputs prior to the forums;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the expertise of the United Nations system as a whole, including specialized agencies, funds and programmes, related organizations and regional economic commissions, as well as all relevant special procedures mandate holders and treaty bodies, in accordance with their respective mandates, giving due regard to Geneva-based expertise, is coordinated to support the State-led forums and to facilitate their participation therein;

8. *Encourages* Member States to take into account, to the extent possible, a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach when composing their delegations to the forums;

9. *Requests* the Director-General of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), as Coordinator of the United Nations Network on Migration (the network), to assist, upon request by Member States, in the preparation and organization of regional reviews of the implementation of the Global Compact;

10. *Invites* relevant sub-regional, regional and cross-regional processes, platforms and organizations, including the United Nations Regional Economic Commissions and regional consultative processes on migration, to review the implementation of the Global Compact, within their respective regions, and to contribute to the work of the forums, with the involvement of all relevant stakeholders;

11. *Invites also* the Global Forum on Migration and Development, including its civil society, business and mayoral mechanisms, to provide a space for informal exchanges on the implementation of the Global Compact, and report the findings, best practices and innovative approaches to the forums;

12. *Invites* forums such as the IOM International Dialogue on Migration, regional consultative processes on migration and others to contribute to each forum by providing relevant data, evidence, best practices, innovative approaches and recommendations as they relate to the implementation of the Global Compact;

13. *Requests* the network, in preparation for the forums, to collect all inputs received from local, national, regional and global levels and to develop, as part of the global knowledge platform, within existing resources, a dedicated website featuring inputs submitted by Member States and other relevant stakeholders to the forums;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General, as part of the biennial report preceding each forum, drawing on the network, to provide guidance for the deliberations during the forum, including the envisaged roundtables and policy debate, and to make the report available at least twelve weeks ahead of each forum;

15. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to organize and to preside over one day of informal interactive multi-stakeholder hearings one day prior to each forum with all relevant stakeholders, as listed in paragraphs 4 to 7, and also requests the President of the General Assembly to invite the representative of civil society to present a summary of the hearings during the opening segment of the plenary;

16. *Takes note of* the establishment of the Start-Up Fund for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration as part of the capacity building mechanism;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to facilitate the participation of representatives of developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, and other relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, in the work of the forums, and in this regard invites Member States, financial institutions and other organizations to make financial contributions;

18. *Decides* that:

(a) Each forum, to be held within existing resources, shall consist of four interactive multi-stakeholder roundtables during the first day and the morning of the second day, followed by a policy debate in the afternoon of the second day, at the beginning of which the technical summaries of the roundtables will be presented. The plenary will be held during the third and the fourth day;

(b) The plenary shall be divided into an opening segment, a general debate and a closing segment;

(c) The opening segment of the plenary shall feature statements from the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General, the Director General of the International Organization for Migration, as the Coordinator of the network, one representative from the migrant community, and the representative from civil society;

19. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly to deliver remarks during the closing segment;

20. *Encourages* Member States to consider presenting the result of their reviews of progress in implementing the Global Compact, on a voluntary basis, drawing on contributions from all relevant stakeholders, as a part of their national statements;

21. *Decides* that:

(a) The four roundtables will offer space for discussion covering all 23 objectives of the Global Compact with the aim of reviewing the progress made in its implementation at all levels, bearing in mind that the Global Compact is based on a set of cross-cutting and interdependent guiding principles;

(b) All 23 objectives of the Global Compact shall be covered in the following indicative way:

(i) Roundtable one: objectives 2,5,6,12 and 18;

(ii) Roundtable two: objectives 4,8,9,10,11,13 and 21;

(iii) Roundtable three: objectives to be included; 14,15,16,19,20 and 22;

(iv) Roundtable four: objectives 1,3,7,17 and 23;

(c) Each roundtable will be co-chaired by two Member State representatives, to be appointed by the President of the General Assembly, with due regard for geographical and gender balance, in consultation with regional groups;

(d) Adequate space should be reserved during each roundtable for participation of non-governmental stakeholders and representatives of local authorities, as well as of regional processes, platforms and organizations;

(e) Each roundtable may include a keynote speaker to guide the interactive debate;

(f) Each roundtable shall result in a technical summary to be prepared by the co-chairs;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with input from the network, to prepare a background note for each roundtable to be circulated at least six weeks prior to each forum;

23. *Requests* the Director General of the IOM, as Coordinator of the network, to facilitate the policy debate focusing on challenges in the implementation of the Global Compact, including links with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the capacity building mechanism and contemporary and emerging issues related to migration. The policy debate will also consider possible guidance for the United Nations System to strengthen its efforts in improving the system-wide effectiveness and coherence and in supporting Member States in implementing the Global Compact, upon the request of Member States, based on their national policies and priorities;

24. *Decides* that:

(a) The roundtables and the policy debate shall be interactive, evidence based, and action oriented in nature, with participation of all relevant stakeholders;

(b) The summaries of the plenary, roundtables and policy debate shall be distributed by the President of the General Assembly within 10 working days following the conclusion of each forum;

25. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to appoint two co-facilitators no later than two months ahead of each forum to conduct open, transparent and inclusive intergovernmental consultations with a view to agreeing on the Progress Declaration;

26. *Decides* that:

(a) All inputs to each forum along with the reports of the Secretary-General may inform the Progress Declaration;

(b) The Progress Declaration shall be brief, concise, evidence based and action oriented and may contain:

(i) An evaluation of the overall progress made with respect to the implementation of the 23 objectives of the Global Compact at all levels;

(ii) An identification of the key challenges, opportunities and emerging issues related to the implementation of the Global Compact, and the scope for further international cooperation on international migration;

(iii) Recommendations on the implementation of the Global Compact, as appropriate;

(c) The Progress Declaration shall be adopted during the closing segment of each forum;

27. *Decides also* to review, after the second forum, its format and organizational aspects, unless otherwise decided;