

STATEMENT: Third informal thematic session on international cooperation and governance of migration in all its dimensions, including at borders, transit, entry, return readmission, integration and reintegration (Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration) – 19-20 June 2017

Panel 2: International cooperation and governance of migration in transit, on entry and at borders

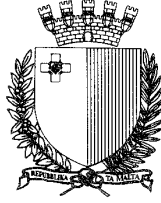
Thank you, Moderator, for giving me the floor, and the panellists, for their insightful remarks.

Malta aligns itself with the statement delivered earlier by the Delegation of the European Union.

Malta believes that the Global Compact needs to build upon and reinforce the principles of solidarity and shared responsibility among countries of origin, transit and destination, as agreed upon in the New York Declaration.

It is a priority for Malta that policies pertaining to transit migration, the entry of migrants, and border management address the issue of migrant smuggling and human trafficking, in accordance with the commitments that States have made to streamline a human rights-based approach in the Global Compact.

Countering migrant smuggling requires concerted and coordinated efforts, by and between States and relevant stakeholders, in enhancing States' law enforcement capacities to detect and disrupt the business model of these criminal networks.



As action-oriented commitments for the Global Compact, Malta would suggest the following:

- Criminalisation of migrant smugglers is imperative. In line with international legal standards, States should establish or upgrade national and regional anti-smuggling and anti-trafficking legislation and action plans. Other measures would include the establishment of mechanisms that favour international cooperation among judicial authorities and border control agencies in order to share information, and coordinate prosecution efforts.
- Border management procedures and information systems should be enhanced to facilitate intelligence gathering, and to ensure that fraudulent documents are flagged at the point of entry. This would require, amongst others, the training of frontline border officials on the detection of document fraud.
- Malta also encourages the development and strengthening of communication networks between countries of origin, transit and destination, to support maritime and border surveillance.
- To this end, the Global Compact should encourage States to work together and share their resources, technical equipment, expertise and assets, so as to support affected countries in protecting all migrants in vulnerable situations, and in saving lives along migratory routes.
- Finally, States should work together to ensure easy and continuous access to adequate and credible information for migrants and potential migrants in countries of origin and transit on the dangers of engaging in irregular migration.

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PERMANENT MISSION OF THE
REPUBLIC OF MALTA

Thank you.