

**Statement at Concluding Session
GCM Mexico 6 December 2017**

- Thank you for giving UNDP the opportunity to contribute to this debate. UNDP intervenes also on behalf of many members of the Global Migration Group, (in particular the FAO, UNFPA, UNIDO, UNWomen and WHO), that collectively stand ready, according to their individual mandates, to support the intergovernmental process and follow-up and implementation of the Global Compact for Migration.

- The 2030 Agenda provides the common basis for us to come together around new and integrated approaches. The SDGs, to which we have all committed, represent a universal, comprehensive framework that enables us to jointly tackle the drivers of migration and to ensure that “no one is left behind”. The critical focus on the “furthest behind” which includes migrants and their host communities, must remain our priority. The Agenda 2030 challenges us to work in partnership through integrated approaches that achieve the ambition of leaving no one behind. Working together, we can find sustainable solutions for migrants wherever they are. For UNDP, addressing the drivers of migration, is to improve people’s lives in countries of origin, transit and destination. We can only achieve this through partnership and collaboration with Member States, UN partners, the Private Sector, and civil society organizations. Other existing frameworks, such as international human rights standards, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Paris Agreement can also guide and help us to accelerate a successful implementation of the GCM,

- From a development perspective, we know that poverty, unemployment, weak governance, inequality and discrimination, climate change and environmental degradation, and violent conflicts are some of the major drivers of migration. Addressing these drivers requires a sustained and integrated approach to sustainable development. It is therefore essential that migration and its effects on people and communities are not addressed as a stand-alone concern but rather are integrated into local and national development plans that are gender-responsive and human-rights based.

- Based on our practices, we would like to make some observations to support the efforts of the Global Compact for Migration and the international community:
 - Focus on sustaining peace and building resilience, conflict prevention and mediation, together with early warning and response systems to foster reconciliation that enables people to enjoy their human rights, freedom, security and economic opportunities in countries of origin.
 - Strengthen good governance and the rule of law, address structural inequalities, promote inclusive growth, employment, sustainable industrialization, livelihoods and agriculture, health, as well as climate mitigation and adaptation. These are long-term investments that are critical in people's decisions to migrate.
 - Assist governments to improve data collection and analysis on the drivers of migration. This helps in designing sustainable evidence-based responses that leave no-one behind.
- We have also heard that more attention needs to be given to local administration's share of the effort and support municipalities' capacities to cope with the impact of large migration movements on their labour markets, housing needs, health systems, education, institutions, food and nutrition needs, and other services strongly affected by voluminous departures, transits or arrivals. The GCM is encouraged to further involve local governments and promote vertical policy coherence.
- In conclusion, we believe that good migration policies are development policies and that governments can create enabling frameworks at origin and destination countries to maximize the contribution of migrants to national and local development. This is an area of importance for the global compact for migration. UN entities, individually and collectively through the Global Migration Group, stand ready to assist.