

Fourth informal thematic session of the Global Compact for Safe, Regular and Orderly Migration

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Statement delivered by Brazil

PANEL 3: REMITTANCES AND PORTABILITY OF EARNED BENEFITS

Commitments made in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development regarding the reduction of the transaction costs of remittances corroborate their importance to recipient countries and households. The Global Compact should include actionable measures that will produce effective results in reducing these costs.

We coincide with the view presented in this Session's issue brief that financial inclusion, as well as improving transparency and fostering informed choices in the usage of remittances and remittances-linked services, can help reduce costs and boost their impact. Simple measures, such as listing companies that offer remittances-related services and their rates, may also provide important information to countries' diasporas.

The GCM should also address the issue of portability of entitlements and earned benefits, given its socioeconomic impacts, especially regarding migrants' social protection. Social security conditions are essential to the promotion of decent work and, in light of human mobility, it is crucial to count on instruments able to promote the effective coordination of national legislations, so as to guarantee that migrants receive equal treatment and earned benefits.

In this respect, the promotion of bilateral or multilateral agreements which provide social security coverage is an efficient measure to guarantee migrant workers the social security rights provided in national legislations. Responding to the request of Brazilian communities abroad, Brazil has sought to give priority to the establishment of bilateral and multilateral agreement of portability of pensions. Agreements in the context of MERCOSUR and the Ibero American countries have been established along with other bilateral agreements.

In addition to promoting such agreements, attention should also be drawn to the need of informing migrants about the ratification of new instruments, as well as clarifying their functioning and the benefits derived there from.