



## High-level side event

### “Road to Marrakech”

Conference Room 2  
26 September 2018, 2-4pm

#### 1. Background & Significance

In Marrakech, Morocco, on 10-11 December 2018, Member States will gather at the highest political level to adopt the text of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (the Global Compact). Marrakech will also be an opportunity to begin the collective project of breathing life into the Global Compact, bringing together all actors to outline initiatives for its implementation.

Firmly rooted in the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and the commitments made in the New York Declaration, the Global Compact will be the first global agreement designed to better manage international migration in all its dimensions, for the benefit of all States and communities, and with the rights of all migrants at the fore.

#### 2. Format & Focus Area

On 26 September (14:00-16:00), during the high-level week of the General Assembly, the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for International Migration (SRSG) is organizing a side event on the Global Compact, titled “**Road to Marrakech**”.

The Permanent Missions of Bahrain, Brazil, Canada, Germany, Indonesia, Mexico, Philippines, Rwanda and Turkey have agreed to co-sponsor the event, along with the conference host, Morocco.

Secretary-General António Guterres will participate in this event, as will the incoming President of the General Assembly, H.E. Ms. María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés. Mr. William Lacy Swing, the Director General of the International Organization for Migration will also be in attendance.

#### 3. Objectives

The side event will serve to galvanize participation at the Intergovernmental Conference at the highest political level and build a bridge between the end of the negotiations in July and the conference in December.

Importantly, the event will provide an opportunity for governments to highlight initiatives already in place as well as the types of actions, partnerships and innovative ideas they foresee in coming years as means of implementing the Global Compact, particularly at the regional and national levels.

The aim is to mobilize Member States and other concerned actors to come to Marrakech ready to think creatively, share initiatives, and make commitments, including through partnerships, in the spirit of international cooperation which is at the heart of the Global Compact.



#### 4. Envisioned Program

The event, which will be livestreamed on UN Web TV, will be moderated by the SRSG. The Secretary-General will deliver the opening remarks, followed by the President of the General Assembly.

The SRSG will outline, in her capacity as Secretary-General of the Intergovernmental Conference, the major steps in the process leading to the gathering in Morocco.

As host of the Intergovernmental Conference, Morocco will deliver key messages followed by remarks from Ms. Mónica Ramírez, a leading voice on migrants' rights and migrant representation.

The event's co-sponsors will take the lead to share their respective countries' actions and innovative approaches to implementing the Global Compact. The moderator will then open the floor to other Member States and stakeholders to participate in the conversation and share their perspectives and priorities on international migration.

#### 5. Participants

The event is targeted at Member States, intergovernmental organizations, representatives of the UN system, civil society and private sector institutions.

The deadline for all registration is **Wednesday 19 September**. Kindly note that registration is now closed.

Please send any questions to Nicole Lai ([laim@un.org](mailto:laim@un.org)), Nora Sturm ([sturm@un.org](mailto:sturm@un.org)) or Mathilde Verstraete ([mverstraete@iom.int](mailto:mverstraete@iom.int)).