

Global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration

Third Informal Thematic Session:

“Contributions of migrants and diaspora to all dimensions of sustainable development, including remittances and portability of earned benefits”

NYC, 24-25 July 2017

United Nations Headquarters

PANEL 3 – Remittances and portability of earned benefits Intervention (3 min.)

Ladies and gentlemen,

Germany aligns itself with the EU statement.

With regards to the issue of Remittances, Germany strongly recommends for the migration compact to strive to contribute to the attainment of SDG 10.c.; to this end it should focus on the following elements:

- Reducing transaction costs for remittances of migrants to below 3 percent until 2030 while ensuring the quality of remittances services and service delivery.
- Establishing a supportive policy and regulatory environment for competitive remittance markets.
- Increasing transparency on the remittances market as well as security of remittances.
- The issue of de-risking and the worldwide reduction of correspondent banking, as well as its consequences for migrants' families financial security shall be put forward.
- Remittances are an important policy issue because they can increase migrants' contributions to both host and origin countries, and affirm their rights and their human dignity. This was also underlined during the discussions at the Tenth GFMD in Berlin last month.
- The Migration Compact should acknowledge that remittances can empower all migrants' family members in countries of origin to fully tap their economic potential and improve their wellbeing. It should state principles on how to improve framework conditions for productive use of remittances.
- It is also of vital importance to promote financial inclusion and financial literacy of regular migrants and their families in both host countries and countries of origin.

In addition to remittances costs, Germany recommends to address other migration related costs:

- In many cases migrants contribute to the economic productivity and social welfare in countries where they acquire social security benefits. The Migration Compact should promote access to and portability of those earned benefits, including pensions.
- Reducing high costs of labour migration, including recruitment fees.

Thank you.