

## **Global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration**

### **Sixth Informal Thematic Session:**

**“Irregular migration and regular pathways, including decent work, labour mobility, recognition of skills and qualifications and other relevant measures”**

**Geneva, 12-13 October 2017**

**Palais des Nations, Conference room XIX**

### **PANEL 1 – Irregular migration and regular pathways Intervention (3 min.)**

Ladies and gentlemen,

Germany aligns itself with the EU statement.

- Germany reiterates that it welcomes the paradigm shift in the public debate in recent years: from migration as a challenge for development and the situation in host societies towards migration bearing large potential *for* development of countries of origin as well as host countries. This paradigm shift is implemented through the SDGs. It can also be seen in the New York Declaration’s focus on a whole-of-society approach in promoting development through migration.
- The Global Compact should develop operational instruments for fair and effective migration governance for all migrants promoting synergies of migration and state sovereignty. Germany perceives not political isolationism or nationalism, but mutual understanding and international cooperation as prerequisites to achieve this.
- Germany acknowledges that in the complex field of migration there is a nexus between regular pathways of migration and irregular migration in a way that the one determines to a certain degree the other. To discourage irregular migration, there is a need of a shared global responsibility to foster opportunities for safe, regular and orderly migration.
- On a very basic note, Germany would like to reiterate that states must protect the human rights of all migrants, regardless of their status and nationality. This counts especially for vulnerable groups. In addition and as already addressed in the fifth informal session, trafficking in human beings and modern forms of slavery is a reality for migrants. These extreme forms of human exploitation stem also from the vulnerable situation of persons in the migration process and need counteraction.
- The Global Compact should also address the situation of migrants in global supply chains. Governments are responsible to enforce labour laws and ILO standards to address poor occupational safety and health, low pay and excessive overtime. In addition, the Global Compact should underline the responsibility of businesses to respect human and labour rights in their supply chains. This includes their field of operation and exercise due diligence in line with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

- We would like to conclude with the statement that Germany is very much supportive of the development of a global policy framework for migration. Regarding labour migration, Germany is, however, in favor to make better use of existing legal pathways rather than creating new ones. We will address this issue in more detail in the following Panel on labour migration and decent work.
- As there exist different approaches on how to address irregular migration, Germany is therefore very much interested in the panel discussions and its outcomes.

Thank you.