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
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PANEL 2 – Decent work and labour mobility
Intervention (3 min.)

Ladies and gentlemen,

Germany aligns itself with the EU statement.

• Germany would like to reiterate that the Global Compact should develop operational instruments for fair and effective labour migration governance. It should especially be based on the following core elements:
  o Labour migration governance should pursue decent work for all and address specifically and complementary means to combat trafficking in human beings.
  o Human rights of all migrants must be protected, irrespective of their status.
  o The needs of countries of destination and the interests of countries of origin have to be taken into account.

• Germany holds the position that the Global Compact should focus on existing legal pathways rather than developing new ones. To make a better use of existing legal pathways, the Global Compact should clearly promote:
  o Information on employment opportunities in countries of destination for skilled workers looking to migrate, living conditions and entry and residence requirements.
  o Training for skilled workers in the context of international training partnerships within the existing regulatory framework.
  o Access to general education, vocational training and employment counselling, especially with increased cooperation between origin and destination countries.

• Decent work entails sufficient remuneration of the work performed, also in order to encourage social participation and strengthen social cohesion. Germany supports therefore operational instruments to promote the social and economic inclusion of migrants who are legally staying in host societies. This requires first and foremost the integration into the labour with the strict enforcement of fair working conditions to avoid exploitation.

• The Global Compact should especially underline the important role of women as income generators. It should address the needs women who have migrated face in the host
society in order to overcome stereotypes, improve women’s employment, reduce gender pay gaps and combat other forms of discriminatory practices in the field of work.

- Germany underlines the need to pursue efforts to ensure fair recruitment. This can be achieved through the commitment to reduce recruitment costs in line with target 10.7 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and implementing the ILO’s General principles and operational guidelines for fair recruitment. It is important to define recruitment fees and related costs.

- Germany would very much appreciate to hear the experts’ opinion on its position to make better use of the existing legal pathways.

Thank you.