GCM tematisk konsultation 6, Panel 3: Recognition of skills and qualifications and relevant measures

- Sweden aligns itself with the statement by the EU Delegation on behalf of the EU and its Member States.

- Facilitating skills mobility is a key component of more effective labour markets, nationally, regionally as well as internationally.

- Public employment services play an important role in this regard, as they establish and publicise the demands and available skills on the labour market.

- In the case of Europe for example, partnership between public employment services in the EU Member States, forms a fundamental part of facilitating regional labour mobility.

- For this to function, we need effective public employment services at a national level as well as effective partnerships between such services.

- The Swedish Public Employment Service supports capacity-building of public employment services in a number of partner countries in primarily Africa and Asia. This can contribute to more effective labour markets nationally, regionally as well as internationally.

- A recent OECD study called Making integration work highlights a number of important lessons in the assessment and recognition of foreign qualifications that could be of relevance as we elaborate this point in the Global compact on Migration.
- The Swedish Public Employment Service supports job seekers including newly arrived immigrants to ease their way to work or studying. Identification and validation of skills are two examples of support that is offered.

- We have a fast-track system for sectors with skills-shortages. Through this system, immigrants can have their skills validated, be offered complementary education and training where this is required and offered internships to gain a foothold on the labour market.

- This system relies on a public-private partnership, whereby branch associations provide guidance on competencies required for their respective fields of work. This forms a basis for assessing potential areas of complementary education or training required for immigrants to enter the labour market.

- Such complementary education can be offered to job seekers with foreign qualifications in order to have their degrees fully recognized in Sweden.

- The Swedish Public Employment Service has also developed a digital tool for asylum seekers who want to prepare for work by presenting their skills and competences to employers in Sweden. Such tools could also be suitable for newly arrived migrants more generally.

- This shows us the potential for how operational tools developed for refugees may be relevant for migrants and vice-versa.

Thank you!