

## The Global Compacts on Refugees and Migrants

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**Initiation:** In the pretext of increasing grievances of migrant community across the globe, the UN General Assembly hosted a high-level summit on 19th Sept, 2016 where the Heads of State and Government came together to discuss, at the global level the issues related to migration and refugees. This sent an important message that migration and refugee matters have become major issues in the international agenda. In adopting the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, the 193 UN Member States recognized the need for a comprehensive approach to human mobility and enhanced cooperation at the global level to address issues associated with migration.

**Consultation:** In line with this, under the initiation of the United Nations, series of consultations were organized with effective participation of potential stakeholders (government, civil society, private sector etc.) through an open, transparent and inclusive process that eventually finalized a document called Global Compact for Migration (GCM). Indeed, it is a non-legally binding agreement grounded with cooperative approach to optimize the overall benefits of migration, while addressing its risks and challenges for individuals and communities in countries of origin, transit and destination. The document is scheduled to be adopted by intergovernmental conference in Morocco in December, 2018.

**Promises:** The Global Compact for Migration is basically focused on better managing migration at local, national, regional and global level. It is framed in consistent with target 10.7 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in which Member States have committed to cooperate internationally to facilitate safe, orderly and regular migration by protecting safety, dignity and human rights of all migrants, regardless of their migratory status. It also emphasizes on collective efforts of countries for rescuing, receiving and hosting refugees and migrants in their complicated situations.

**Paradoxes:** Although Global Compact for Migration is a common will of almost all UN member states, the developed countries tend to concentrate more on immigration and refugee issues and they see it as a threat to their national security and economic order. Quite contrarily, developing countries and countries of origin take migration as natural phenomena contributing to the economy and development of receiving countries; and these countries want their citizens to be treated based on the principal of human rights and justice whether they travel as migrant workers or refugees. Due to this variation at understanding the issues and conflicting interest, there exists large doubt regarding 100% adoption of GCM by all UN member states.

**Need for New Global, Regional and National Responses:** So as to hold all UN member states accountable for the adoption of GCM, the potential stakeholders and partners especially civil society, migrant and diaspora organizations, private sector, trade unions, parliamentarians, National Human Rights Institutions, academia, and media need to put collective efforts at global, regional, national and subnational levels, including United Nations system playing their interventional role with all technical and political preparation for convincing members states to adopt the compact, the harbinger of hope for all migrants and refugees.

