

**CLOSURE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE GANHRI  
ENSURING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GLOBAL COMPACT  
FOR MIGRATION, BASED ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND WITH A  
GENDER PERSPECTIVE: THE ROLE OF NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS  
INSTITUTIONS**

**Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019  
Room XVIII, Palais des Nations, Geneva  
10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

Ladies and Gentlemen

State Delegations

Colleagues from Nations Human Rights Institutions

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

I am grateful for the opportunity of being here today, as Chairperson of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions - GANHRI, to give closure to this International Conference, in which we have been able to analyze and discuss about the implementation of the Global Compact for Migration and our important role to achieve these objectives.

Migration continues to be one of the biggest concerns of our times. We have seen and experienced consequences, difficulties, challenges, opportunities and benefits in our countries. This is why, the panorama on global migration must be understood as the addition of diverse components that have been modified in accordance to the historic moment and global context we are living in.

Therefore, the answer that States give to this phenomenon, should adapt to the world's requirements, which today, demand solutions linked to cooperation and routed to the common good.

This is how the Global Compact for Migration emerges as a result of the understanding between States, routed to implement one of the first attempts to manage the migratory flows in a comprehensive manner on an international scale.

I would like to mention the words of the United Nations Secretary – General, Antonio Guterres, who affirmed that “The Global Compact for Migration is a tribute to the will of the Member States to listen to one another and approach the complexities that migration brings, in an open and comprehensive manner”.

The States that are part of this Global Compact have committed to increase the legal migration channels and to strengthen the tools that allow the protection of migrant's rights, with a special approach on international cooperation mechanisms, which allow to expand and facilitate the positive impact of migration. We are aware that this is not a minor challenge, nevertheless, we should aim for these type of structural solutions in order to achieve our major goal which is to guarantee the rights of this population.

The success of The Global Compact for Migration relapses in the capacity that we, as diverse actors have, to work jointly in the search of a common objective. This is where I want to highlight the work and participation of National Human Rights Institutions. We have to adopt

a significant role to aim for guaranteeing and protecting migrant's human rights, and to create the necessary paths in order for the Global Compact for Migration to be inclusive, and thought in terms of a gender approach, and specific necessities of each community, maintaining of course, the 2030 Agenda approach on Sustainable Development.

We as National Human Rights Institutions have the responsibility to create action plans, monitor and track the implementation of what has been agreed, to strengthen the international cooperation mechanisms for a safe migration, order and regulate, assemble information in each of the phases that migrants go through during their mobility process, and also facilitate the access to basic services, and to social dynamics of the community which receives them, and generate the necessary educational tools to eliminate all forms of discrimination.

Between the pillars that the Global Compact for Migration is based, we find a very important one which brings us here today: an approach to an implementation with a gender perspective, in which women's and girls' human rights are protected and guaranteed, and all their special necessities are attended in all stages of migration.

Global migration has become significantly feminized as more women migrate on their own and not as a dependent member of a family.

Nowadays feminine migration represents approximately 50% of the total global migration, and one of the factors that stands up the most in this tendency, is that gender based discrimination exists in origin and destination countries, as well as during the migratory transit, which is why it is vital to recognize their vulnerability in the processes of human mobility.

The conditions that exist both in society in general and in the design of policies for the protection of the female population have an impact on the way women and girls migrate. Therefore, as part of the objectives of the Global Compact for Migration, the States Parties, with our participation as National Human Rights Institutions, must generate the alternatives and the relevant action plans to protect the human rights of migrant women.

As stated in Article 3 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, all measures must be taken "in all spheres, and in particular in the political, social, economic and cultural spheres. All the appropriate measures, including legislative, to ensure the full development and advancement of women, in order to guarantee the exercise and enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms on equal terms with men."

This is how we as National Human Rights Institutions, should count with sufficient tools to attend migrant women in order to avoid any infringement to their rights and to maintain this gender approach that allows us to recognize the differentiated necessities that migrant women and girls have.

In order to direct our efforts towards a gender approach, we must emphasize the promotion of equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, recognizing their independence and leadership.

Therefore, this International Conference has been an ideal space for sharing experiences, good practices, initiatives and perspectives about our role as human rights defenders and as the channel to implement the Global Compact for Migration in a sustainable and

inclusive manner. The results obtained during this day are a further step towards the effective implementation of this Pact with a gender focus.

To conclude, I must say that the human rights of migrant women and girls must be a priority in each of our countries. The participation of each member present here represents a great contribution to strengthening the mechanisms of protection of rights for the migrant population on an international scale, for which I thank you for your presence today.

As Chairperson of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions, I invite you to continue working together in the creation of strategies and principles that allow us to fully defend the human rights of the population, especially those that require greater attention.

Thank you very much.