



Inter-Parliamentary Union

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Senator Gabriela Cuevas Barrón IPU President

Concluding remarks

Parliamentary conference on the occasion of the adoption of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

Rabat, 6-7 December 2018

Dear President of the House of Representatives of the Kingdom of Morocco,
Dear President of the House of Councillors of the Kingdom of Morocco,
Honorable members of parliament,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The discussions of the last two days have shown that parliamentarians, along with other stakeholders at the international, regional and local levels, are already taking concrete action to implement what is in the Global Compact. This is a very heartening and inspiring message that we can all take away from here.

Participants have repeatedly underscored that only by working together in solidarity can we meet the objectives laid out in the Global Compact. It is my hope that this conference will encourage all of us to put this cooperation and solidarity into practice. Indeed, at a time when some countries are retreating behind their borders in the illusion that they can shield themselves from the rest of the world, it is all the more essential that we join hands and that everyone makes their contribution.

The summary presented by Mr. Echaniz, the Rapporteur for the meeting, presents in broad strokes the discussions that you have had yesterday and today. As he said, this summary is preliminary and therefore not complete. In the coming days, we will work to finalize this text and make it available for comments on the IPU website along with the final list of participants and copies of the presentations that were made during the conference.

Ladies and gentlemen,

As I mentioned at the start of this conference, the Inter-Parliamentary Union has been intimately associated with the process leading to the Global Compact. The IPU organized a series of consultations and awareness-raising activities for parliaments and their members. Moreover, in the course of this year, the IPU has adopted clear and strong positions on the main, including contentious, issues of the Global Compact, most recently at the IPU held in Geneva two months ago.

The Declaration that was presented to you this morning by Mr. Echaniz builds on this vision and attests to our joint commitment to implement the Global Compact. The Inter-Parliamentary Union will remain engaged in this process by mobilizing parliaments across the world and by assisting them, whenever necessary, to meet their responsibilities to ensure that migration is truly safe, orderly and regular. Indeed, the next important step for parliaments is to help devise concrete national migration action plans with clear objectives.

As a final remark, I wish to thank once more our Moroccan hosts for the excellent organization of the conference and the hospitality to which all of us were treated during our stay. As always, it is a pleasure to come here. I am deeply appreciative of your commitment to move the migration agenda forward. I look forward to continue our work together in support of strong parliamentary action in the implementation of the Global Compact.

Thank you.