

## TOWARDS A GLOBAL COMPACT ON REFUGEES

Fourth formal consultations, 8-10 May 2018

### Statement of the Republic of Slovenia

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- Thank the UNHCR for preparing a new draft of the Global compact and for the inclusive and transparent process of its preparation so far.
- Slovenia aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the EU and its Member States.
- In addition, allow me to outline four key messages (directed to Parts 1 and 2):

First:

- full respect for international law and international obligations is key. This is important in all areas but even more in the area of human rights and the protection of the most vulnerable. Slovenia therefore supports enhanced emphasis and reference on the implementation of international legal instruments in the area of refugee protection.

Second:

- In order to achieve our goals, cooperation at all levels is crucial. As previous experience shows, cooperation within the region and beyond could complement national legislative, policy-making and operational activities.
- Cooperation, when carried out in the spirit of solidarity and mutual assistance, could contribute to reduction of burden on host countries, the creation of pre-conditions for a safe and dignified return to the country of origin, and provides the possibility of finding sustainable solutions in third countries. Countries that host a large number of refugees should be provided with all support for building capacity.
- Slovenia has repeatedly demonstrated its commitment to solidarity (namely by taking part in the EUREMA project, relocation project from Italy and Greece and resettlement from Turkey).

Third:

- Main objective of the framework of the GCR should be to reduce illegal migration flows. In this regard, even more attention should be devoted to resolving the root causes for migration, cooperate with countries of origin and eliminate factors that cause mass migration and secondary migration. We welcome all activities and measures that aim to achieve this goal, including the provision of additional legal pathways for orderly and organised migration.

Forth/last:

- I wish to bring to your attention one element that is in our opinion currently missing - in recent years, examples of the mass influx of displaced people who cannot return to their home country have become increasingly numerous. In such cases, extraordinary mechanisms need to be created in order to provide them with instant prima facie temporary protection. Slovenia advocates for the creation of such emergency mechanism (temporary protection) in one of the global compacts.