''Towards a global compact on refugees''

Formal consultation 2

Geneva, 20 - 21 March 2018

Agenda item 1
Intervention by MONTENEGRO

Mr. Chairman,

Let me thank Assistant High Commissioner Turk for the presentation of the first draft of the global compact on refugees.

Montenegro welcomes this advanced new draft version of the GCR. We are happy to see that large number of suggestions raised by states during the first round of consultation have been reflected in this new text. The level of participation and constructiveness are really encouraging. And, we believe that we are on the right way towards our main goal.

With regards to Agenda item 1, let me briefly highlight few important elements from our perspective:

➢ We very much welcome the strengthening of the introductory part. In particular paragraphs related to the international legal framework and principles have been significantly improved. And the legally non-binding nature of the document is clearly stated, as this was articulated as an important element by a number of delegations.

➢ Montenegro especially welcomes the inclusion of ''serious human rights violations'' as one of the main causes of refugees flee.

➢ We are glad to see stronger correlation between the GCR and the Agenda 2030.

➢ We support the advanced text elaborating the goals of the global compact on refugees. We highlight the inclusion of political will in para 7, as it was proposed by the delegation of Canada. It is an important element in addressing refugee challenges.

➢ Important role of prevention and addressing root causes, including the compatibility of the global compact and the ongoing UN reforms in the areas prevention, peace, security, development and peacebuilding, are also very well reflected.

➢ What we would like to see is slightly improved language with reference to specific or most vulnerable groups within refugees and host communities. Apart from women and girls, we would like to include children and older people as well.

Thank you.