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**Statement of H.E. Mr. DUONG Chi Dung**  
**Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Viet Nam,**

**at the Global Refugee Forum**

*(17-18/12/2019, Geneva, Switzerland)*

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*Your Excellency, Mr. Filippo Grandi, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,*

*Distinguished delegates,*

Let me first express Viet Nam high appreciation to the UNHCR, the government of the Confederation of Switzerland and the co-convenors for organizing the very first Global Refugee Forum exactly one year after the adoption of the Global Compact on Refugees.

We sincerely wish that the Forum will be a great success in providing a useful platform for cooperation and dialogue among member states and all other stakeholders towards sustainable solutions to overcome refugees challenge and effectively implement the Global compact on refugees.

*High Commissioner,*

The adoption of the GCR and its implementation are of great importance - first for refugees themselves and their communities and then for member states and other relevant stakeholders in order to raise the issues of protecting the rights of refugees, sharing burden and responsibility among nations at the global and regional level.

Viet Nam highly value the leading role of UNHCR in developing the GCR, accelerating the consensus on the Compact's content as well as its efforts during this year in establishing a platform to share ideas and initiatives on the effective implementation of the GCR. We strongly believe that the Global Forum on Refugees will be a good opportunity for the United Nations, member states and stakeholder to cooperate and share best practices, lessons learnt to help implement the GCR effectively.

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In 2020, as the Chair of ASEAN and a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, Viet Nam commits to actively and responsibly cooperating with other UN member states in the effective implementation of the GCR. In this spirit, we would like to highlight the following:

*First*, it's necessary for countries to prevent conflicts and further sustain peace, stability, implement measures to achieve sustainable economic growth, enhance dialogues and promote global partnership for development so as to effectively address the root causes for refugees plight.

*Second*, the international community should put in place burden and responsibility sharing mechanisms to support refugees and host countries more effectively. The implementation of the Global Compact should be based on each country's specific condition and capacity.

*Third*, we should ensure transparency in granting refugee status for asylum seekers and clearly distinguish between refugees and irregular migrants for economic purposes, especially in the context of increasing non-traditional security challenges such as epidemics, natural disasters and climate change.

*High Commissioner,*

We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to the UNHCR for supporting Viet Nam in our efforts towards eliminating statelessness and its close cooperation in regional and international fora such as the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime and the Global Forum on Migration and Development. Viet Nam particularly appreciates the UNHCR's positive assessments of our achievements in the #IBELONG global campaign and believes that this campaign will result in reducing and eradicating statelessness globally by 2024.

In conclusion, Viet Nam look forward to further strengthening the close cooperation with UNHCR and other stakeholders in the dissemination and successful implementation of GCR in Viet Nam.

I thank you.