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Intergovernmental Conference to adopt the “Global Compact for Safe, orderly and Regular Migration”

**Remarks by H.E. Mr. Karlo Sikharulidze, Ambassador at Large of the
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia**

Marrakech, 11 December 2018

Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset I would like to thank the Secretary General of the Intergovernmental Conference, UN Special Representative for International Migration, the co-facilitators of the intergovernmental negotiations, International Organization for Migration, all stakeholders involved in the process, as well as German and Moroccan Chairmanship of GFMD, which did its utmost for the preparation of the Compact, for bringing long-lasting negotiations on the “Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration” to its final phase.

In today’s globalized and interdependent world, the better management of migration at all levels attains crucial importance. The international community should be capable to adequately address this complex and often contested global phenomenon with the aim to harness its positive benefits and reduce potential challenges, guarantee the protection of fundamental rights of migrants and members of communities in the countries of origin, transit and destination. Thus, let me underline that we consider GCM as an expression of willingness and goodwill of the states to prevent irregular migration and reinforce collective actions to achieve the above objectives through the balanced approach based on national interests, abilities of the states and existing needs.

Distinguished delegates,

While touching upon the essence and approaches the Global Compact on Migration has, let me underline two main factors that made Georgia able to join the compact:

First of all, number of measures envisaged by the GCM's cooperative framework and its 23 objectives, have already been put in place or implemented by Georgia, aiming at improving the migration management in accordance with the contemporary environment. The implementation of those measures is steadily underway with the assistance of the EU, UN and other partner organizations and states.

Last but not least, the non-legally binding nature of the Compact provides with the strong basis to review the text by considering both – the national interests of our country and the modern challenges we all face globally.

Thank you for your attention.