



AUSTRALIA



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GLOBAL COMPACT FOR SAFE, ORDERLY AND REGULAR MIGRATION

13 July 2018

Australian statement on the final draft of the Global Compact for Migration

**Statement at the closing of negotiations by H.E. Gillian Bird,
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Australia to the
United Nations**

(Check against delivery)

Madam/Mr Chair, your Excellencies,

The formulation of a Compact on global migration to reflect the different positions of Member States was always going to be a difficult task. We wish to acknowledge and thank the co-facilitators, Mexico and Switzerland for their efforts.

Australia has engaged in good spirit during these negotiations because we recognise – and have been well-served by – the significant social and economic benefits of migration.

Our consistent position has reflected our national experience: only through a balance of strong border controls, lawful and well-managed migration programs, and considered and coordinated humanitarian responses can the full benefits of migration be realised, and the interests of migrants and States be protected.

Madam/Mr Chair,

In this regard, the outcome of these negotiations will be referred to the Australian Government for consideration on whether we join the Compact. We will convey our decision prior to the intergovernmental Conference in Morocco.

Thank you.