

**Remarks by Mónica Ramírez for the High-Level Side Conversation on Global Compact for Safe, Regular and Orderly Migration, September 26, 2018
United Nations, New York, NY**

Dolores is a migrant woman who fled her country after years of suffering gender-based violence by her husband and who would later experience sexual harassment and abuses in her new destination country. Marisol was given the opportunity to migrate on a temporary work visa that promised good pay and work conditions, only to find herself a victim of human trafficking without the option of visa portability to a different employer in the country where she was working. Edith

Migrants like Dolores, Marisol and Edith offer so much to the cultural and social fabric of the nations where they have migrated, not to mention their significant contributions to those economies. Without shared goals and norms, there will continue to be a disparity in the treatment of migrants. Individuals will be at risk of violence, human trafficking, and exploitation, including the estimated 50 million migrant children who are vulnerable to abuse. Additionally, countries will be deprived of the positive contributions that these individuals have the potential to make.

I applaud the creation this robust Compact. But, we all know that for this Compact to have its intended effect, each UN Member State must do the hard work to create laws and conditions that are safe and equitable for everyone who enters its borders. We must all wto