

Your excellencies, ladies and gentlemen..

The kingdom of Bahrain, has always been on migratory pathways, we have built a historic civilization, as well as a modern vibrant economy based on the movement of goods, investment, and of course, people.

We partake in today's event to bring a unique perspective to this distinguished panel; our country has a labour migrant population that exceeds 50% of its demographic. We are an embodiment of how migration works to the advantage of countries of Origin and Destination, and of course, migrants themselves.

Having such a high percentage of migrants within our society, Bahrain has long embarked on a ground breaking reform initiative lead by HRH the Crown Prince and First Deputy Prime Minister

the aim of “leaving no one behind”. We are showcasing this project in a co-sponsored side event in Marrakesh, and look forward to seeing you all there.

The Kingdom of Bahrain welcomes the prominent role set for the IOM in the Compact, we have worked closely with them on the areas of capacity building and technical assistance in the field of combating trafficking in persons, they are a valuable asset to the cause. In this regard, I would like to recognize the tremendous leadership of the IOM’s Director General Ambassador William-Lacy Swing, who will step down at the end of this month after 10 years at the helm of this