The General Secretariat of the League of Arab States’
Declaration on the occasion of
“The International Migrant’s Day”
2019

The World marked 18th December of each year, as the International Migrant’s Day, to shed light on various migration issues, and contributions made by migrants in the countries of origin and destination. As well as to avail the opportunity to call upon all concerned parties to exert further efforts in harnessing the benefits of migration.

Migration is considered one of the pivotal issues in the Arab region, especially after the region has witnessed significant increase in migration flows. Out of its belief in the linked relationship between migration and development, and in the key role of migration in achieving sustainable development at both regional and national levels, and in line with the global agenda; the League of Arab States works to support its Member States in their efforts to translate the migration related goals in the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda to policies that can be implemented at the national level. The League of Arab States is also keen to promote regional dialogue between its Member States to exchange efforts and best practices, as well as challenges they face in the implementation of these goals.

The celebration of International Migrant’s Day this year coincides with the celebration of the first anniversary of the adoption of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, which is considered as a road map for countries to benefit from the potentials provided by linking between migration and development, and a historic step forward to
mobilize international efforts and cooperation, as well as global partnerships for better migration governance. Recognizing the importance of the Global Compact and the joint efforts required from various parties for its implementation, the League of Arab States convened in cooperation with the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) within the framework of the Working Group on International Migration in the Arab Region, A Regional Conference on “the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration: Implementation and Policy Implications for the Arab region” on 3–4 December 2019 in Cairo, during which mechanisms for follow-up and review of the Global Compact on Migration were discussed at both regional and international levels. The opportunity was provided for various parties, including representatives of Arab States, international and regional organizations, as well as representatives of civil society organizations, academia and experts in the field of migration to exchange visions, best practices and priorities regarding the Global Compact.

On this important occasion, the Assistant Secretary-General and Head of Social Affairs Sector Ambassador Dr. Haifa Abu Ghazaleh stated that the League of Arab States appreciates the contribution of Arab migrants in the development of their countries of origin and destination; and also recognizes the efforts exerted by the Arab countries to advance migration policies at the national level, to encourage organized migration and combat irregular migration as well as human trafficking; in addition to that, she hailed different measures taken by countries to protect the rights and interests of migrants and strengthen their relationship with their home countries. Dr. Abu Ghazaleh also emphasized that the League of Arab States will continue its efforts to enhance cooperation with its member states, regional and international organizations and all stakeholders to make migration work for all.