

Excellency,

I wish to refer to resolution A/RES/71/1 of 19 September 2016, by which the General Assembly adopted the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants.

In this regard and in connection with the decision of the General Assembly to launch in 2016 a process of intergovernmental negotiations leading to the adoption of a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration to be presented at an intergovernmental conference on international migration in 2018, I have the honour to inform you that I have appointed H.E. Mr. Jürg Lauber, Permanent Representative of Switzerland, and H.E. Mr. Juan José Gómez Camacho, Permanent Representative of Mexico as co-facilitators to lead open, transparent and inclusive consultations with States with a view to the determination of modalities, a timeline, the possible holding of preparatory conferences and other practicalities relating to the intergovernmental negotiations, including the integration of the Geneva-based migration expertise.

To ensure the timely initiation of the intergovernmental negotiations for the global compact, I would be grateful for your efforts in finalizing the modalities resolution no later than 31 January 2017. To this end, I have requested the co-facilitators to undertake the necessary consultations and conduct the required engagements to achieve this deadline.

I would like to thank Ambassador Lauber and Ambassador Gómez Camacho for accepting this very important responsibility. To ensure that they have the needed assistance to carry out their responsibility in a timely manner, I have requested my Office to extend the necessary secretariat and expert support to the co-facilitators and coordinate the contribution and engagement of all relevant stakeholders as well as the UN system. I trust that you will also extend your full support and cooperation to them.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Peter Thomson

To All Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations New York