

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

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**MESASAGE ON INTERNATONAL MIGRANTS DAY
18 December 2017**

On International Migrants Day, we recognize the contributions and celebrate the vitality of the world's 258 million migrants.

Evidence overwhelmingly shows that migrants generate economic, social and cultural benefits for societies everywhere. Yet hostility towards migrants is unfortunately growing around the world. Solidarity with migrants has never been more urgent.

Migration has always been with us. From time immemorial, people have moved in search of new opportunities and better lives. Climate change, demographics, instability, growing inequalities and aspirations for a better life . as well as unmet needs in labour markets . mean it is here to stay.

We need effective international cooperation in managing migration to ensure that its benefits are most widely distributed and that human rights of all concerned are properly protected . as recognized by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Last year, world leaders committed to adopting a Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in 2018. As we look ahead, let us commit to making migration work for all.