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Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families Fifteenth session

Summary record of the second part (public)\* of the 184th meeting\*\*
Held at the Palais Wilson, Geneva, on Friday, 23 September 2011, at 10 a.m.

Chairperson: Mr. El Jamri

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<sup>\*</sup> No summary was prepared for the first part (closed) of the meeting.

<sup>\*\*</sup> No summary record was prepared for the 178th, 179th, 180th, 181st, 182nd and 183rd meetings.

The second part (public) of the meeting was called to order at 12.35 p.m.

## Organizational and other matters (agenda item 8)

- 1. **The Chairperson** welcomed the fact that the Committee on Migrant Workers had achieved the objectives it had set itself for its fifteenth session: thus, it had adopted concluding observations on three countries (Argentina, Chile and Guatemala) and the lists of issues pertaining to Tajikistan and Paraguay.
- 2. The day of general discussion on the rights of migrant workers in an irregular situation had been highly productive, both in terms of the exchanges that had taken place and in terms of the quality of the contributions by the diverse participants, namely representatives of NGOs, States parties, non-States parties, United Nations specialized agencies such as the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and trade unions. However, it constituted just one stage in the process leading to the adoption of a general comment on the protection of migrant workers in an irregular situation. A record of the discussion day would be prepared later in November 2011 which would serve as a basis for reflection on the forthcoming Global Forum on Migration and Development and for preparatory work on the high-level dialogue that the United Nations would organize in 2013 on "migration and development".
- 3. The Committee had forged closer contacts with numerous regional and international trade unions with a view to creating a platform in Geneva, comparable to the existing NGO platform, that would enable them to keep abreast of its proceedings.
- 4. The Committee had also reviewed its working methods and decided that, with effect from its sixteenth session, States that had already submitted their initial report would reply to a list of issues drawn up for the purpose instead of submitting a second periodic report. The Committee would adopt a new timetable that would allow it to plan its dialogue with States parties well in advance in order to reduce the cumulative delay in the submission of reports.
- 5. During the current session, the members of the Committee had engaged in numerous discussions with representatives of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) on the latter's strategy and activities pertaining to migrant workers and on other shared priority issues, such as that of the children of migrants who had remained in their parents' countries of origin or of transit. The Committee stressed its concern over contemporary developments in migrants' rights throughout the world, especially in troubled regions such as North Africa, including, in particular, Libya.

## Closure of the session

After the customary exchange of courtesies, the Chairperson declared the fifteenth session closed.

The meeting rose at 12.45 p.m.

**2** GE.11-45849